

AUGUST 2025

# WMTA NEWSLETTER



“There is  
music in  
every  
child. The  
teacher's  
job is to  
find it and  
nurture it.”  
– Frances  
Clark



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear WMTA Members,

I have important news to share with you. A Youth Protection Policy was approved by the Executive Board at the June 2025 meeting: *WMTA requires that a parent or guardian be present (in the room) for any audition performance.*

Let me identify the objectives:

- it helps WMTA more efficiently adhere to legal and institution policies that govern the protection of minors.
- it provides a safeguard by ensuring that any interaction between the performer and judge is observable; and
- it limits the assumption of liability by WMTA and host venues if there is an inappropriate incident.

Additionally, volunteers will no longer need to submit sensitive personal data, such as Social Security Numbers, to third-party screening platforms, and audition chairs/teachers no longer must track and verify CBC completion for volunteers.

As you read this new policy, I know it may come as a surprise, and some of you might feel anxious. This change impacts not only you but also your students and parents. That is why I wanted to address it now in the August newsletter, ahead of the 2026 spring auditions. Taking this time allows us to reflect on the policy, engage in discussions, and provide further clarifications in the December and February newsletters, as well as at the State Conference Annual Business Meeting.

Earlier this spring, there were a couple of tense situations where audition chairs and officers were scrambling to resolve youth protection paperwork just 72 hours before an event, with the risk of the auditions being canceled (fortunately, both situations were resolved). To avoid similar issues moving forward, the best solution is for WMTA to implement a policy that creates awareness to all WMTA members, volunteers, and parents that youth protection is a requirement and must be respected.

I understand this policy feels different, especially with the added presence of an additional person in the room during auditions. However, please remember that these measures are in place to protect everyone, particularly the children. This policy is not about fairness or equity in performances, nor is it about the technicalities of music preparation (like numbering measures or original scores) or parents interacting with judges. The sole purpose of this policy is to ensure the safety and protection of our youth, guided by established protocols to foster greater awareness of youth protection within our organization. Failure to comply with this official policy does not penalize the performer but will result in the parent or guardian relinquishing the right to hold WMTA accountable in the event of an incident.

While it is impossible to foresee every potential scenario of non-compliance with a policy, I am asking every WMTA member to rely on common sense and mutual understanding. The goal is never to penalize individuals for their actions, but rather to highlight the broader impact those actions have on auditions—on volunteers, teachers, parents and student performers. Non-compliance is not simply a rule violation; it is an opportunity for reflection and growth, fostering a shared responsibility for the well-being of everyone involved.

The draft of the WMTA Youth Protection Policy is at the end of this newsletter. I anticipate I will be adding clarifications and additional language, and I plan to bring questions and answers about the policy to the WMTA State Conference. Publishing on the WMTA website will be ideal to be at the same time as the December 1 newsletter. I hope this message was helpful and provides time for you to digest this change and to reflect on the best way to communicate this new policy to parents. My email is below, and I look forward to receiving your questions and thoughts that will help for future clarifications published communicated at the State Conference and through newsletters.

With appreciation for your continued support,  
Mary

**Mary Tollefson**

President, Wisconsin Music Teachers Association / [marytollefsonwmta@gmail.com](mailto:marytollefsonwmta@gmail.com)



## Wisconsin Music Teachers Association

Part of Music Teachers National Association



## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

### 2025 WMTA Membership Survey Results

WMTA Leadership reviewed the compiled results from the 2025 membership survey in May and June in advance of their June meetings in Waunakee. Member feedback included ideas about communication, how to serve, what you'd like to learn, opportunities for students, conference topics, and leadership. The 2025-26 newsletters will be highlighting some topics of the survey that were designated as most important to receive supplementary attention. We appreciate everyone who took the time to answer the survey and especially those who offered more insight and opinions about new ideas, changes, and other suggestions for improving the organization.

[Here are the charts of the survey results.](#)

Mickey Lytle, NCTM  
Immediate Past President

27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

Richard Record

# RISING STARS

Concerto  
Competition



**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:**

DECEMBER 15, 2025

**CLOSED  
PRELIMINARIES:**

JANUARY 17, 2026,  
8:30-2:00 PM

**OPEN FINALS:**

JANUARY 17, 2026,  
3:30 PM

Location: Viterbo Fine Arts Center, 929 Jackson Street, La Crosse, WI 54601

### Contestants:

high school students from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa

Over \$5000 in prizes are awarded for this prestigious event. Previous winners have gone on to win international competitions and have flourishing musical careers.

Application and  
Repertoire List:

[www.lacrossesymphony.org/rising-stars/](http://www.lacrossesymphony.org/rising-stars/)



FIND YOURSELF AT  
THE SYMPHONY



(608) 783-2121

[LaCrosseSymphony.org](http://LaCrosseSymphony.org)

*La Crosse Symphony Orchestra*

ALEXANDER PLATT | MUSIC DIRECTOR



## WMTA Treasurer Report – August 2025

Thank you to everyone for your patience as I learned new process and a new to me accounting software. June 30, 2025 will mark a full year of using Xero for WMTA finances. This is great as many of the contacts will now be entered for use next year. Using this software will allow WMTA to change its W-9 collection as this information will now be able to be collected directly to Xero. There is no need to use separate software for this.

There were no applicants for the Collegiate Study grant this year.

This year WMTA passed a budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rachel Fritz  
WMTA Treasurer

[Link for 2026 Budget](#)

### NOTES ON FY 2026 Budget

Across the top are the account names and then the years. FY 2024 is last year's expenses. FY 2025 5.31.2025 is this current year. On the left are the areas for Income and Expense. Notes on the individual lines are below:

#### INCOME

There is income still to come in this year:

April and May Membership income is yet to come in.

Interest income from the year will be posted on June 30.

#### EXPENSES

This is the part that has the most changes for the budget

Currently mileage, lodging, and meals for judges has all been recorded in Account 501 - Contractor Expenses. Starting July 1 it will be broken out to mileage, lodging, and meals.

510 - Facilities - in the past all facilities cost for the conference including meals have been listed here.

Moving forward this will only contain facility fees. The Meals will be recorded in the meals line.

511 - Technology - this has been the cost of developing the database which has been suspended.

516 - Background checks - Based on changes to audition processes this cost will not continue to be incurred by WMTA.

530 - Meetings and Travel - this will be included in the new accounts of mileage, lodging and meals.

Presidential expenses - this is a new add for the registration for the MTNA national conference for the President.





## Conference Details:

October 24-25, 2025

The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake

Theme: Get WILD about teaching!

Registration is open and early bird pricing goes until August 15.

This year's conference has an amazing line up; you don't want to miss it! More information can be found [HERE](#).

We have as our featured guest Dr. Christopher Fisher from Ohio University. Read his impressive bio [HERE](#). Christopher will be giving a master class as well. If that wasn't enough, his wife Katherine Fisher is presenting about rote teaching. Piano Safari is also sponsoring a showcase of their methods. Learn more about Katherine [HERE](#).

Master class students needed!

We will need 4 students, one at each of the following levels:

- Elementary
- Late elementary/early intermediate
- Mid-late intermediate
- Early-mid advanced

If you have a student that would be able to attend at 10 am on Saturday, October 25, please contact Stacey at [sakraus2@gmail.com](mailto:sakraus2@gmail.com)

Musically yours,  
Stacey

**Registration Rates (Now Open!)** - [Click Here to Register](#)

\$145 for Current MTNA members registering BEFORE August 15

\$155 for MTNA members registering AFTER August 15

\$125 for one day participation (*Friday or Saturday*)

\$125 for First Time Attendee (*members who has never attended a WMTA State Conference*)

\$95 Collegiate Members (*must be full-time college student registered this term*)

\$175 for Non Members of WMTA/MTNA

\$45 for Each Guest for the Friday Dinner and Concert

**Hotel Reservations**—Details about reservations can be found on our [website](#).

**Exhibitors and Advertisers**—Information can be found [HERE](#).



## Conference Details:

October 24-25, 2025

The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake

Theme: Get WILD about teaching!

Registration is open and early bird pricing goes until August 15.

## Sessions

- The Adaptable Teacher: Approaching Every Music Student According to Their Learning Temperament-Drea Wagner
- Getting Over the Hump: Preparing Students for Advance Repertoire - Michael Rector
- UpBeat! The Power Within - Matthew Arrau
- Beyond The Right Turn of Phrase: Listening More Objectively - Shad Ryan Wenzlaff
- Rote Teaching - A New Paradigm-Katherine Fisher
- Lessons Learned from a Tiger (and the Research): The Role of Parental Support in Music Study - Christopher Fisher
- Helping your Middle/High School Piano students in the Jazz Band - Marty Robinson

## Special Opportunities

- Masterclass: With Christopher Fisher
- Showcase: Piano Safari Showcase with Katherine Fisher - Sponsored by Piano Safari
- Conference Concert - The Fisher Piano Duo, featuring Christopher Fisher and Katherine Fisher
- Collegiate Presentations by WMTA's College Members
- Networking Activity: Lightning Games!

## Catch Up with Colleagues and WMTA!

- WMTA Dinner
- WMTA Awards Ceremony
- WMTA Annual Business Meeting
- Local Association Presidents Meeting
- District Chair Meeting





## FOUNDATION FELLOW



WMTA is excited to announce that our Foundation Fellows for 2026 will be WMTA members Martha Fischer and Bill Lutes. They will be recognized at the 2026 MTNA National Conference.

**Martha Fischer** is Emeritus Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Mead Witter School of Music. A pedagogue and a singer as well as pianist, Fischer performs frequently with her husband Bill Lutes and can be heard in numerous recordings including their recent release of *Four Hand Works* by Robert Schumann on the Centaur Label.

**Bill Lutes** is a pianist and independent piano teacher in Madison where his students have won many prestigious competitions and awards. He served as opera coach for UW-Madison and as a popular classical music host on WI Public Radio. For the past 14 years, he curated, hosted and performed with his wife, Martha Fischer on the annual *Schubertiade* at the Mead Witter School of Music.

They have performed for WMTA a number of times. We are excited to be able to honor these musicians. Because WMTA has decided to honor both Martha and Bill for 2026, WMTA will need to raise \$3000 for them to be honored. Please help us do so by going to the MTNA fellow website, where you can donate.

Shannon Whaples  
Foundation Fellow Chair

[Donation Link](#)



## DISTRICT AUDITIONS

The 2025 District Audition season is complete. Congratulations to all the students, teachers, and parents who were involved in this year's auditions. A special thank you to all the District Chairs who spent hours coordinating schedules, hiring judges, printing certificates, judge's sheets, theory tests, and nametags, and arranging background checks to name just a few of the tasks they take care of.

There are a few updates I would like to make you aware of. First, the Indemnification Agreement form will cover self-published composer's music.

Secondly, there will be a change coming for 2026 auditions. For more information, please read President Mary Tollefson's newsletter article at the beginning of this issue.

Lastly, for the purposes of entering auditions, renewing members need to have paid their dues by October 15 and non-members need to have paid their \$200 non-member fee in advance of their district's audition deadline. New WMTA members who join after October 15th are allowed to enter students for auditions. New Members are those individuals who have not been a previous MTNA/WMTA member. They need to have paid their dues in advance of their district's audition deadline and have contacted their District Chair.

I am updating the District Chair handbook this summer and will distribute once this is completed.

I am looking forward to meeting all of you at the WMTA conference in October. It is a great time for the District Chairs to talk and pickup up certificates and awards for the 2026 audition season. This is a hint for the District Chairs to give me your best estimate of certificates, 22-point plaques, and point bars by October 1.

The list of 2026 district auditions dates and registration deadlines are listed on the next page.

See you at the conference!

Roberta Grube  
District Audition Chair



DISTRICT	SITE	AUDITIONS DATE	ENTRY DEADLINE
Appleton	Lawrence University	Saturday, March 21, 2026	Saturday, February 21, 2026
Eau Claire	UW-Eau Claire Haas Fine Arts Center	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Saturday, February 14, 2026
Kenosha	UW-Parkside	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Saturday, February 14, 2026
La Crosse	First Presbyterian Church	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Friday, February 13, 2026
Madison	UW-Madison School of Music	Saturday, March 28, 2026	Friday, February 27, 2026
Merrill	Our Savior's Lutheran	Saturday, March 7, 2026	Saturday, February 14, 2026
Oshkosh	UW-Oshkosh	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Saturday, February 21, 2026
River Falls	UW-River Falls	Saturday, March 28, 2026	Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Sheboygan / West Bend	Lakeland University	Saturday, March 7, 2026	Saturday, February 7, 2026
Stevens Point	UW-Stevens Point Noel Fine Arts Center	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Saturday, February 21, 2026
Superior	UW-Superior	Sunday, March 1, 2026	Monday, February 3, 2025
Milwaukee	UW-Milwaukee	Sunday, March 8, 2026	Saturday, February 7, 2026
Wausau	Wausau Conservatory	Saturday, March 14, 2026	Monday, February 23, 2026
Whitewater	UW-Whitewater Center of the Arts	Saturday, March 21, 2026	Saturday, February 14, 2026
DISTRICT	CHAIR(S)	EMAIL	PHONE
STATE CHAIR	Roberta Grube	rfrinkman@gmail.com	715-364-2537 / 218-349-6419
Appleton	Catherine Walby	catherine.walby@lawrence.e	920-832-7448
Eau Claire	Joe Krause	josephkrause771@gmail.com	715-797-0692
Kenosha	Flora Lim	floralim_piano@yahoo.com	262-945-3934 (Flora)
	Anna Kojovic-Frodl	annakrmta@gmail.com	262-880-8586 (Anna)
La Crosse	Lori Lawson	lajtla@yahoo.com	608-799-3346
Madison	John Scoville	johnharrisonscoville@gmail.c	913-488-1693 (John)
	Denise Taylor	dtaylorpiano@gmail.com	608-438-2754 (Denise)
Merrill	Katie Livingston	katzpianostudio@msn.com	715-218-6894
	Carolyn O'Brien	cobrienpiano@gmail.com	715-966-2592
Oshkosh	Dr. Kirstin Ihde	ihdek@uwosh.edu	319-830-3264 (Kirstin)
	Annemarie Birschbach	abirschbachmusic@icloud.co	920-379-1968 (Annemarie)
River Falls	Teresa Lindahl	btbjgf@gmail.com	715-690-4282
Sheboygan / West Bend	Louise Mann , Sarah Hikade, Shelba DeMaster	louisemannpiano@gmail.com	920-912-2106 (Louise)
Stevens Point	Rachel Snyder-Turney Gail Heywood	rsnyder131@hotmail.com gailheywood@gmail.com	715--254-5649 (Rachel) 715-459-8180 (Gail)
Superior	Roberta Grube	rfrinkman@gmail.com	715-364-2537 / 218-349-6419
Milwaukee	Jennifer Kottke	jen.wmta.dc@gmail.com	262-622-5092
Wausau	Mona Grote	monagrote@yahoo.com	715-721-5122
Whitewater	Christine Groth	cgroth47@outlook.com	414-491-3102 (Christine)
	Julie Hilderbrandt	julie.hilderbrandt@gmail.com	920-988-1794 (Julie)



## REGIONAL KEYBOARD

### **2026 WMTA REGIONAL KEYBOARD COMPETITIONS**

#### **S REGIONAL**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026  
UW-Parkside  
The Rita Center for the Arts  
(Parking, Lot B, C)  
900 Wood Road, Kenosha**

#### **NE REGIONAL**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026  
UW-Stevens Point  
Noel Fine Arts Center  
1800 Portage, Stevens Point**

#### **NW REGIONAL**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026  
UW-La Crosse  
Lowe Center for the Arts  
333 North 16th Street, La Crosse**

**Deadline: Postmarked by Monday, April 6, 2026  
Registration fees are \$30 for each student entered.**

Send fee summary sheet and check, made payable to WMTA, to:  
Mary Anne Olvera, 664 Louise Lane, Hudson 54016

#### **NEW THIS YEAR!!!**

**Effective 2026, WMTA requires that a parent or guardian be present (*in the audition room*)  
for any audition performance.**

#### **REMEMBER:**

Students advancing to the Regional Keyboard Competition must compete in the region associated with their home district. Students preparing both solo (for Regional Keyboard) and duet (V/I/E) may participate in the Regional Keyboard Competition at the venue/location of the State V/I/E for full award consideration in the Regional Keyboard Competition. (*For 2026, this venue is UWSP*)

Questions may be addressed to:

Mary Anne Olvera - [maryanneolvera@gmail.com](mailto:maryanneolvera@gmail.com)  
*Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM, WMTA Regional and State Keyboard Competition Chair*



# STATE KEYBOARD

## **2026 WMTA STATE KEYBOARD COMPETITION**

Saturday, May 16, 2026

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

Noel Fine Arts Center / 1800 Portage St.

WMTA offers students the opportunity to advance beyond Regional events and compete with their Regional grade level counterparts, determining one grade level winner for the state. Eligible participants for this competition are the designated Regional winners - S, NE, and NW - at grades 7-12.

This year, in addition to the grade level winner, the Judge's Choice Award was given. This award is given at the full discretion of the judging panel, and may not be given out every year. Students in grades 7-12 are eligible. Winners are not considered for this award.

Examples of possible consideration for the Judge's Choice may include, but are not limited to:

An outstanding performance, with program/repertoire choices less weighty than the winner's program/  
repertoire choices

An overall program combination that creates an imaginative and unique blend

Any other distinctive elements that moved the panel to award this recognition

POINTS: Winner = 15 Judge's Choice = 13

**Registration Deadline:** Tuesday May 12, 2026. Forms and Fees are mailed to:

Mary Anne Olvera, 664 Louise Lane, Hudson, WI 54016

### **CONGRATULATIONS 2025 STATE KEYBOARD COMPETITION WINNERS!**

Leela Fang, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Serena Hernke, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Bryant Yu, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Mei Dryer, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Leon Cao, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Junho Chung, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Winner

Julia Hixon, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Judge's Choice Award Winner

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO PARTICIPATING TEACHERS:**

Shu-Ching Chuang

Margarita Kontorovsky

Tatyana Smith

Denise Taylor, NCTM

Eric Tran

Catherine Walby, NCTM

*Questions should be addressed to:*

Mary Anne Olvera, [maryanneolvera@gmail.com](mailto:maryanneolvera@gmail.com)

Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM, WMTA Regional and State Keyboard Competition Chair



### **FVMTA News**

Members and friends of FVMTA participated in Make Music Day at Heid Music, Appleton on June 21. Part of a world-wide celebration in 120 countries, it involves promoting any kind of music - playing, singing, dancing - on or near the summer solstice, an event that began 43 years ago in France as "Fête De La Musique."

Billed as "Roomful of Pianos", the following professional pianists collaborated in a diverse program held in the piano showroom of Appleton's Heid Music: Mari Card, Jody Gawron, Bruce Koestner, Justin Krueger, Jennifer Mitchell, Margaret Murray, Lynn Orlando and Catherine Walby.

The program of arrangements for two or four players spanned classical to jazz and included living composer Libby Larsen.

### **FVMTA Young Artist Festival**

Despite near-blizzard conditions on Saturday, February 15, nearly all prior registrants participated in the Fox Valley Music Teachers Association 24th **Young Artist Festival!** Neither did Mother Nature deter the intrepid and dedicated piano judge and clinician, Diana Shapiro who made the two-hour drive both ways in the storm!

The festival encompassed prize-winning piano concerto competitions, string concerto and solo competitions, an ensemble competition as well as a memorization clinic. A winners recital culminated the event which was held at Lawrence Conservatory of Music, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI. For a list of winners, literature, teachers and prizes, see [FVMTA.org/Programs](http://FVMTA.org/Programs).

The next *Young Artist Festival* is planned for winter 2027, alternating years with a Monster Concert production.





## IN MEMORY

Jim Norden, MTNA Past National President 1993-1995, passed away on June 25. Many of you will remember that he was the National Coordinator, and at one point also a sponsor, for the MTNA Chamber Music Competitions. He was the one with the vision to separate them into two categories (wind and string) and stepped up to personally provide the additional money for sponsorship. He was also responsible for the growth in numbers that we experienced in the competition with his ongoing outreach to college faculty.

I know you join me in sending good wishes to his loved ones who, like all of us, will miss him tremendously. Cheers to his life lived in service of MTNA and the music teaching profession.

Take care,

Brian Shepard  
Chief Executive Officer  
Music Teachers National Association

His obituary is linked [here](#).



### WMTA Youth Protection Policy June 2025

#### Policy Statement:

WMTA requires that a parent or guardian be present (in the room) for any audition performance.

---

#### Purpose of the Policy

This policy has been established to prioritize the safety and well-being of minor participants by ensuring compliance with legal requirements and best practices for youth protection, as outlined in the [Universities of Wisconsin System's Youth Protection and Compliance guidelines](#), as well as the [Access to Vulnerable Population Criminal Background Check protocol](#).

Key objectives for this policy include:

**Legal and Institutional Compliance:** Ensures WMTA adheres to [UWSA Policy 625](#) and relevant laws governing the protection of minors.

- **Supervision by a Responsible Adult:** Mandates that minors remain under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian during the audition process. For the purposes of this policy, a “guardian” may also refer to a family member as defined in UWSA Policy 625—such as a parent, stepparent, legal guardian, grandparent, or adult sibling (18 years or older and not participating in auditions).
  - **Transparency in Adult-Minor Interactions:** Provides a safeguard by ensuring that any interaction between the performer and judge is observable by a third party.
  - **Liability Mitigation:** Limits the assumption of liability by WMTA and the host venue in the event of an incident involving a minor.
- 

#### Additional Outcomes

This policy yields several operational and financial benefits, including:

- **Enhanced Protection for Minors:** All minor participants are accompanied by a chaperone throughout the audition process.
  - **Cost Savings:** Eliminates the need for criminal background checks (CBCs) for volunteers, resulting in direct budgetary savings. (In 2025, the CBC expense totaled \$861, but this is an ongoing expense due to new volunteers, teachers and CBC renewals).
  - **Privacy Safeguards:** Removes the requirement for volunteers to submit sensitive personal data, such as Social Security Numbers, to third-party screening platforms.
  - **Administrative Streamlining:** Audition chairs and educators are relieved from the obligation to track and verify CBC completion for volunteers and judges.
- 

#### Addressing Concerns that might arise for WMTA Auditions Chairs

##### What if a minor does not want a chaperone in the audition room?

Compliance with this policy is mandatory. WMTA encourage teachers and parents to prepare students in advance for this requirement. While change may be challenging, particularly at first, the policy is in place to protect all involved.

##### Possible Recommendations for Compliance:

- The chaperone *may* use noise-cancelling devices while remaining present for supervision purposes. (Thinking of the child who does not want the chaperone to “listen” to the audition).
- If the room is small (such as a faculty office) the chaperone *may* stand discreetly near the door or sit in a designated area within the audition space—ideally away from both judge and performer. If the audition room is isolated, the door *may* remain ajar to maintain visibility. However, this option should be used sparingly as it may introduce external noise.

Continues on Next Page



Continued from Previous Page

### **What if the audition room is too small to accommodate a chaperone?**

Audition rooms must be selected and arranged to comfortably accommodate three individuals: the performer, the judge, and the chaperone.

#### **Best Practices for Audition Chairs:**

- Secure the audition venue early and confirm the necessary documents, such as a Facility Use Agreement (FUA) which might require signatures, the MTNA General Liability Insurance for MTNA-affiliated State and Local Associations (which may take up to two weeks to process) and WMTA's additional liability coverage (Physical or Sexual Abuse or Sexual Molestation Liability Coverage-available upon request from the WMTA Treasurer).
- Designate a clear, specific space within the room for chaperones. This will be helpful to door monitors and will prepare judges for the third person in the room.
- Provide guidance to door monitors and judges on where chaperones should be seated or positioned.

---

### **Non-Compliance and Consequences**

- The intent of this policy is to observe and, if necessary, intervene in adult-minor interactions to protect all parties. ***It is the responsibility of the teachers to communicate this WMTA policy*** and notify parents of this change.
  - ***It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to acknowledge this WMTA policy and adhere to the requirement.*** Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the right to hold WMTA liable for incidents occurring during the audition.
  - Non-compliance of this policy will not penalize the minor performer. However, a formal notification will be issued by the WMTA Office after the audition.
- Non-compliance of the policy by parents and teachers will necessitate the introduction of an additional waiver process for all auditions, requiring signed consent forms (like field trip permission slips) for each minor participant prior to every audition event.

## Executive Board

**PRESIDENT:** Dr. Mary Tollefson, NCTM [marytollefsonwmta@gmail.com](mailto:marytollefsonwmta@gmail.com)

**IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT:** Mickey Lytle, NCTM [MickeyWMTA@gmail.com](mailto:MickeyWMTA@gmail.com)

**1ST VP-CONFERENCE:** Stacey Kraus, NCTM [sakraus2@gmail.com](mailto:sakraus2@gmail.com)

**2ND VP-MEMBERSHIP:** Dr. Justin Krueger, NCTM [justind.krueger@gmail.com](mailto:justind.krueger@gmail.com)

**TREASURER:** Rachel Fritz [wmtatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:wmtatreasurer@gmail.com)

**REGIONAL AND STATE KEYBOARD COMPETITION CHAIR:**

Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM [Maryanneolvera@gmail.com](mailto:Maryanneolvera@gmail.com)

**VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL/ENSEMBLE STATE COMPETITION CHAIR:**

Opala Bilhorn, NCTM [opalas.music.studio@gmail.com](mailto:opalas.music.studio@gmail.com)

**COLLEGIATE FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE:** Dr. Nick Phillips, NCTM [phillins@uwec.edu](mailto:phillins@uwec.edu)

**DISTRICT AUDITIONS CHAIR:** Roberta Grube [rfrinkman@gmail.com](mailto:rfrinkman@gmail.com)

**INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM:** Margaret Burton [wmta.margaretb@gmail.com](mailto:wmta.margaretb@gmail.com)

**LOCAL ASSOCIATION CHAIR:** Catherine Walby, NCTM [Catherine.walby@lawrence.edu](mailto:Catherine.walby@lawrence.edu)

## Administrative Council

**COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE FORUM:** Dr. Shuk-ki (Suki) Wong [skwongpiano@gmail.com](mailto:skwongpiano@gmail.com)

**MEDIA CHAIR:** Ashley Jehn [hanke.ashl32@gmail.com](mailto:hanke.ashl32@gmail.com)

**MTNA CERTIFICATION:** Sandra Statz, NCTM [sandra.statz2@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.statz2@gmail.com)

**MTNA COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR:** Dr. Diana Shapiro [shapirod@uww.edu](mailto:shapirod@uww.edu)

**MTNA COMPOSER COMMISSIONING:** Dr. Michael Mizrahi [michael.d.mizrahi@lawrence.edu](mailto:michael.d.mizrahi@lawrence.edu)

**MTNA FOUNDATION CHAIR:** Shannon Whaples, NCTM [shannonspianostudio@hotmail.com](mailto:shannonspianostudio@hotmail.com)

**MTNA STUDENT COMPOSITION COMPETITION:** Dr. Kaju Lee, NCTM [leekaju@uwplatt.edu](mailto:leekaju@uwplatt.edu)

**MTNA JR. /SR. COMPETITIONS:** Dr. Anthony Padilla [anthony.p.padilla@lawrence.edu](mailto:anthony.p.padilla@lawrence.edu)

**MTNA YOUNG ARTIST/CHAMBER MUSIC:** Dr. Kaju Lee, NCTM [leekaju@uwplatt.edu](mailto:leekaju@uwplatt.edu)

**TEACHER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:** Sandra Statz, NCTM [sandra.statz2@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.statz2@gmail.com)

**THEORY CHAIR:** Sydney Rinkleff [wmtatheory@gmail.com](mailto:wmtatheory@gmail.com)

**WELLNESS FORUM CHAIR:** Jennifer Lohmann [jenlohmann@gmail.com](mailto:jenlohmann@gmail.com)

**WMTA YOUNG COMPOSER FESTIVAL:** Amber Bruns, NCTM [amber@bluemaplemusic.com](mailto:amber@bluemaplemusic.com)

The WMTA Administrative Council also includes all Local Association Presidents and District Chairpersons.





## LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

### [CVMTA Chippewa Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Esther Pedigo, [esther.pedigo@gmail.com](mailto:esther.pedigo@gmail.com)

### [FVMTA Fox Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Margaret Burton, [margnet25@gmail.com](mailto:margnet25@gmail.com)

### [GMC WMTA Greater Milwaukee Chapter](#)

President: Chrissy Deal, [chrissy.deal@gmail.com](mailto:chrissy.deal@gmail.com)

### [KRMTA Kenosha Racine Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Deborah Masloski, [dmasloski@gmail.com](mailto:dmasloski@gmail.com)

### [LAMTA La Crosse Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Reene Sampson, [reene.ann.sampson@gmail.com](mailto:reene.ann.sampson@gmail.com)

### [MAME Madison Area Music Educators](#)

President: Lisa Allred, [lisaallredmusic@gmail.com](mailto:lisaallredmusic@gmail.com)

### [MMTA Michibago Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Tricia Marton, NCTM, [tm@martonmusicstudio.com](mailto:tm@martonmusicstudio.com)

### [OAMTA Oshkosh Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Annemarie Birschbach, [ajbach@att.net](mailto:ajbach@att.net)

### [RRMTA Rock River Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Julie Hildebrandt, [davidh53@frontier.com](mailto:davidh53@frontier.com)

### [SAMTA Superior Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Roberta Grube, [rfrinkman@gmail.com](mailto:rfrinkman@gmail.com)

### [SCVMTA St. Croix Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM, [maryanneolvera@gmail.com](mailto:maryanneolvera@gmail.com)

### [SPAMTA Stevens Point Music Teachers Association](#)

President: open

### [WAMTA Wausau Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Open