

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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# QUAVERS

## Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

*May 2017 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website,  
[kitsapmusicteachers.org](http://kitsapmusicteachers.org)*



### President's Message

Here we are in May already and our KMTA year is winding down. This is the time I begin reflecting on the past year to gauge what was successful and what needs work. The theory exams from our Music Carnival always expose the holes in my teaching and help me plan improvement for next year. The end of the year recital helps me relive and celebrate my studio successes. Recently a word has been in my thoughts quite frequently – ‘elevate’. I’ve been wondering about how I personally have elevated music in my studio and community, and how KMTA has elevated music in our organization and in our community. I have to say, I feel very encouraged. As an organization I believe we have really reached out in an inclusive way to our community to promote music. The monster concert was such a success and so inspiring to see such a variety of musicians. The expansion of our scholarship program took a huge leap into elevating music by including all instruments and adding two new levels. Most recently, the Music Carnival extended its reach into the community by inviting outside groups to be showcased on the stage in the gym. I so enjoyed listening to the marimba ensemble while I graded theory tests. They were perfect! And the musicianship exams are opening up to wind instrumentalists.

As we open our doors wide to allow others in we truly elevate music to a larger audience. I’m excited about our future and am looking forward to how we will continue to raise awareness and elevate music and the arts. Your Board

of Directors has been looking forward too and we would love to hear from you when you have ideas that elevate. Please share them with us!

One little P.S. - Ira Langlois has downsized his business and has graciously offered all of his print music to us. We made this announcement a couple months ago, that anyone interested could peruse his vast music library and take what they wanted. I know some of us took advantage of that, but some of you may not have had the opportunity to partake. So, I will be bringing what is left (a lot!) to you, at our May meeting. Bring some bags and 'shop' while we meet!

### **Diane Layton**

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association



## **From the VP: Meeting News**

*There's a sad sort of clanging from the clock in the hall  
And the bells in the steeple too.*

*And up in the nursery, an absurd little bird*

*Is popping up to say, "Cuckoo! cuckoo!"*

*Regretfully they tell us but firmly they compel us*

*To say goodbye to you. (UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN)*

The May chapter meeting is always one of my favorites, because instead of looking forward at all the work to be done to produce the next events, we get to look back at the **Year In Review** and reminisce about all the great times we've shared! *Do you remember?* Kitsap Young Musicians Festival – Christmas at the Mall – Monster Concert – Adjudications – Competitions – Honors Recitals – Community Concert – Carnival – Workshops and membership meetings?? Time for a well-deserved pat on the back ... AND some careful scrutiny too, to see if we can make them EVEN BETTER next year! Please come to our final monthly meeting of the academic year, on **Friday May 12th** at Ted Brown Music (10am!) to share your feedback about what worked and what could be improved as we look forward to next year.

And if you can't bear to say Farewell to your KMTA friends just yet, you can look forward to the [WSMTA State Conference](#) just across the water in Shoreline on June 22-24. Our own Darden Burns, Joann Richardson and Kristine

Richman are among the distinguished presenters. I am particularly looking forward to sessions from Bonnie Blanchard, flute teacher extraordinaire and a very funny lady! Remember that there are **gift certificates** available to offset the registration cost – check your recent emails or contact Mary Grant for details.

Then along comes our annual planning session and lunch, on July 14th at Dianne Johnston's Poulsbo home with a view. We'll be brainstorming about the activities to come in the 2017-18 year. It's where plans for the Movie Music Monster Concert were hatched last year. Come and bring your ideas, and get in on the ground floor of making things happen in the fall!

Until then, *Adieu, adieu, to yieu and yieu and yieu...*

### **Jane Melin**

Vice-President & Technology Chair

## **KMTA MUSIC CARNIVAL REPORT!**

The sixth annual KMTA Music Carnival was a resounding success! I heard great things from students, parents and teachers alike throughout the day—many already looking forward to next year's Carnival. Carnival and Musicianship Exams required a great effort on the part of our teachers, and the teamwork was exhilarating. The mood of the day was one of fun and camaraderie. Personally I think you all look absolutely fabulous in your festive Carnival attire!

We had 220 students registered this year, representing 19 studios! So many teachers, parents and students pitched in to make the day run smoothly. A quick rundown of our wonderful team with **our huge heartfelt thanks to:**

**\*Jane Melin** (and her husband, Glen) for creating and constructing the "Carnival" with even more fun games and awesome decorations. Jane also designed the publicity posters and some on-site signage, and hand-crafted the colorful student name badges and lanyards.

**\*Jane Melin** and **Laura Meredith**, for quick and reliable responses in putting out group email communications, publishing our Quavers articles, and posting information to the website.

**\*Parent volunteer Tess Doornink** for organizing our lunch and snack program. With the help of parent volunteer **Laurene Ross**, their cheerful demeanor kept the lunch line flowing. Thanks to **Patti Ray** for arranging for face-painting—a big hit with the kids and such fun. **Leslie Devine** and **Laura**

**Meredith** provided very welcome and necessary technical support preparing registration cards, master lists and scoring sheets. Thanks to **Marilyn Karr** for ordering and organizing ribbons. Our appreciation again to **Dianne Johnston** as our liaison with Gateway. Thanks to **Laura Meredith** for organizing and supervising all of our student volunteers.

\*The lunchtime improvisation activity was very well received—it ran for a full 60 minutes with students taking advantage of the opportunity to improvise on stage with a teacher. They loved it! I personally spoke to 3 different students who, after being strongly encouraged to give it a try, came away from the experience with triumphant smiles. Many thanks to **Leslie Devine** and **Melanie Harris** for facilitating.

\* All of our teachers who worked the different events and exams did a tremendous job, getting all those students through efficiently and in a cheerful manner. Huge thanks to **Jane Melin, Marilyn Karr, Leslie Devine, Diana Lundgaard, Georgene Corey, Diane Layton, Mary Grant, Chris Kastanopoulos, Dianne Johnston, Krista Seely, Julie Mandery, Megan Hennings, Joann Richardson, Patti Ray, Anita Rose, Sally Carey, Meta Newlin, Melanie Harris, Melanie Kurtzbein, and Laura Meredith.**

\*Our wonderful parent/adult volunteers ran registration and assisted checking students in for exams and writing the ribbons. Tremendous gratitude to **Michelle Knott, Tarra Forsythe, Asia Wolfe, Karin Westernen, Sarah White, Dick Roeme, Leigh Lewis, Jamie Johnson, Amber Binsfield, Penny Koons, Mary McAvoy, Molly Hurda, Jenn Hoyle, TJ Jorgenson, and Julia Reydell.** Also special thanks to **Bruce Grant** and **Madison Hennings**, our official photographers; **Mike Florian, Jim Johnston, Glen Melin** and **Scott Corey** for help with setup, cleanup and keyboard transportation (and Mike for pizza delivery).

\*Kudos and thanks to our many student volunteers who ran the Carnival games, Theory games, assisted with the lunch line and ribbon writing: **Elizabeth Simmons, Maddison Gallagher, Serena Stageberg, Thomas Brown, Meghan Schmidt, Natalie Haws, Rachel Doornink, Annika Hald, Hannah Meehan, Matthew Doornink, Greta Reydell, Natalie Sokol, Sam Ross, Hannah Knott, Charlie Reydell, Sharaia Stageberg, Abby Peterson, Andrew Adams, Blake Ross, Hailey Knott, William Zacher, Elora Wetherby, Emma Binsfield, Paige Lamar, Gina Cartwright, Nicole Forsythe, Ellie Peterson, Claire Ross** and **Camilla Rumsey.**

\*New to the Carnival this year was live music on the stage: special thanks to **Cyndi Gilman** and her **Marimba Ensemble from Poulsbo Elementary**, and to **Megan Hennings** and her **Advanced Home School Strings Ensemble.** The music provided a festive addition to the atmosphere of the Carnival! Bravo!

\*There was a lot of setup and decorating to do on Friday—special thanks to those who came out and made quick work of transforming the Gateway School Gym

for our Carnival. We also appreciated everyone who pitched in to take down decorations and put everything back to order. So many hands, so many smiling, cheerful faces—it was great to have so many actively involved, and definitely lightened the load for all of us. I apologize if I have overlooked anyone who helped out!

\*We are most sincerely and deeply grateful to **Gateway Fellowship** for opening their facility for our use for this event. The staff were so gracious and helpful, and generously willing to accommodate our needs.

Tests will be available at the May 12 KMTA meeting. Teachers will be able to take them home and go over them with their students. All tests will need to be returned to Dianne Johnston by May 30 to be shredded, but that will hopefully provide ample time. The WSMTA Musicianship Examinations certificates and honors seals will hopefully also be available at that meeting so teachers will have them in time for recitals. We plan to have a debrief session with opportunity for suggesting further changes or additions for next year's Carnival, so please jot down your thoughts in preparation for that meeting.

To sum up, Dianne and I are so thankful for our KMTA colleagues, for your willing, helpful attitudes and professionalism. We are blessed to have each other! We hope you all had as much fun as we did! If you weren't involved this year, we encourage you to check out the handbook on the WSMTA website and consider participating next year. **The more the merrier!!**

**Debra Florian**, KMTA Music Carnival Chair

**Dianne Johnston**, KMTA Musicianship Exams Chair

A round of Carnival thank-you's would be sorely incomplete without a huge THANK YOU to Debra and Dianne! We are all so grateful for the immense amount of hard work that you have put in to make the carnival phenomenal success! \*Hats off\* to you!



To view more pictures from Carnival (courtesy of Madison Hennings) go [here](#).

## Musicianship exam high honors

The following students achieved high Honors, which is 98% or better on their theory tests. Congratulations students and teachers!!

**Georgene Corey:** Sean Johnson (3)

**Leslie Devine:** Bethany Batchelor (3) Robin Gitch (2)

**Debra Florian:** Winston Block (3) Alex Brindle (1) Olivia Lewis (6) Lucan Gutierrez (2) Hannah Meehan (6) Reed Sanders (4) Ryan Stanford (2) Addison Uffens (1)

**Melanie Harris:** Jessica Radford (7)

**Megan Hennings:** Ella Mandeville (1) Alec Rodriguez (5)

**Dianne Johnston:** Daisy Gemmer (3) Danielle Gemmer (1) Coral Marsh (1) Noah Misuda (3) Jezreel Newlin (1) Jubilee Newlin (3)

**Melanie Kurtzbein:** (*Strings*) Piper Pocus (1) Isabela Topham (2) Yesenia Topham (1)

**Diane Layton:** Sarah Bailey (2)

**Julie Mandery:** Alyssa Hawkins (5) Victoria Smith (2) Olivia Stojack (2) Halle Sundell (6)

**Laura Meredith:** Peter Meredith (1)

**Jane Melin:** (*Strings*) Marlie Carey (1) Jack Green (2) Annaliese Nordberg (3) McKenna Twigg (1)

**Patti Ray:** Charlie Benkert (3) Gabriel Fee (2)

**Joann Richardson:** May-Lin Zhang (2)

## Summer strings program

This summer Elisha Rose organizing a summer music program called Summer Strings 2017. It's a community string orchestra that will be open to both students and community string players.

Cost to participate in this orchestra program is \$25 per player (family discounts available), and the program will be held from June 6<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup> in Bremerton, WA. Click [here](#) for the flyer with more details.

## Tacoma chapter workshop

The Tacoma chapter has invited us to a workshop with Jill Timmons on May 13th. She's an arts mentor, so she's an expert in what she calls *The Musician's Journey* (also the name of her book.) Her workshop for our chapter is entitled - **“Choosing the Best College or University—What Every High School Musician (and their teacher) Needs to Know!”**

The cost is \$25/person and we are also inviting parents and students as a 2 for 1. This is a great topic for any of your high school students that are going to college or looking for direction as to what to do with their music. Click [here](#) for the flyer with more details.

## ARTS NEWS

**Bremerton Symphony Association** presents "Lux Aeterna" with the Bremerton Symphony Orchestra and Chorale on Saturday, May 13 at 7:30pm. Featured work is Respighi's "Church Windows." Young Artists Competition Winners Luke Arnold (student of Debra Florian), David Forman and Sarah Jung will perform movements from the Delius Piano Concerto, Walton Viola Concerto and Glazunov Violin Concerto respectively.

### **Olympic College musical performances:**

#### **OC Opera program presents "Princess Ida" by Gilbert & Sullivan (\$10)**

Description: A fully-staged comic operetta under the direction of Susan Trainer & Andrew Etherington

Location: OC Theater

Dates: June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 PM and June 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM

Time: 7:30 PM

#### **Instrumental Spring Concert 2017 (free)**

Description: Jazz Band I & Wind Ensemble

Location: Old Music Building, Room 122

Date: June 7th, 2017

Time: 7:30 PM

#### **Choral Spring Concert 2017 (free)**

Description: Chamber Choir presents a program of Choral Music - "Of Things to Come."

Location: Lincoln Avenue Bible Church

Date: June 8th, 2017

Time: 7:30 PM

#### **Voice Recital Spring 2017 (free)**

Description: Arias and Art Songs presented by the Voice Studios of Susan Trainer & Andrew Etherington

Location: Lincoln Avenue Bible Church

Date: June 9th, 2017

Time: 12:00 PM

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Check for registration deadlines, instructions, documents, contacts and more at the linked pages.*

Membership meeting

May 12, 10a.m., Ted Brown

**WSMTA State Conference**

June 22-24, Shoreline Community College

Annual Planning Meeting

July 14, 10a.m., Dianne Johnston's (6341 NE Early

Dawn Lane, Poulsbo)

**MORE FROM KMTA**

*For the latest information on upcoming events, watch for email alerts to items posted on our [News](#) page.*

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