

# QUAVERS

## Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

*April 2018 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website,  
[kitsapmusicteachers.org](http://kitsapmusicteachers.org).*



### President's Message

Happy Spring!! This teaching year sure is going fast! By now we should all be working on final preparations for the Music Carnival. This is always a highlight each year for students. I hope that many of you have registered students and that ALL of you will be participating. I love to see all those bright smiles as students move from one activity to another. I'm also looking forward this month to seeing our members back from the national MTNA conference at the Disney resort in Florida. I hope we can persuade them into sharing special memories from their trip and conference tidbits at our April meeting.

This past week I started a new piano student. He's 5 years old and so excited to learn about music. Several years ago if you had asked me to teach a 5 year old I would have recommended waiting about 2 years, until he was 7. Recently however, I've been reading quite a few articles about starting music lessons with the preschool and kindergarten ages, and they've convinced me to give it a try. This will be my second student who is so young. Their enthusiasm is delightful. We focus on the foundations of music as opposed to strictly studying piano. We listen, sing, work on rhythms, dance, even draw, and we ever so slowly learn about the piano. Foundations are important. Without them, any structure crumbles. I'll bet most of you still shore up your foundations regularly, practicing scales and etudes to keep your fingers and minds nimble. I know I do. We work on them each week with our students too, much to their chagrin sometimes. Foundations are also strengthened intellectually, by questioning, listening, and learning at concerts, lectures, and even KMTA monthly meetings! With the year winding down, it's easy to feel tired and think "I need a break. I'll skip this month's meeting". Instead, I urge you to press on and finish strong, as my husband used to say to the kids he coached. We still have events coming up in these final months, students and peers to support and encourage, and our own foundations to strengthen. Let's keep the 'spring' in our step and our fingers, and celebrate every step of the way!

**Diane Layton**

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

### From the VP: Meeting News



Our April meeting is always jam-packed! On Friday the 13th at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church, we'll have our Music Carnival pre-meeting-meeting at 9 a.m. to go over our assignments for the Music Carnival and WSMTA Music Literacy Program (formerly Musicianship Exams) on April 28. All teachers who registered students for the Carnival should be volunteering with some aspect of the event to make it all work out smoothly. Even if this is your (insert large number here) year of working the Carnival, COME ANYWAY to refresh your memory and see if any procedures have changed. If you still need an assignment, or just want to be a floater/helper-at-large, COME ALSO at 9:00 on the 13th so Debra Florian and Melanie Stroud can show you the ropes.

Traditionally in April we also have a guest artist, a benefit concert, a masterclass, or some combination of all the above to inspire us and engage our students. This year our scheduled visitors have had to cancel, so we are going to take this opportunity to spend some time on the 13th to talk amongst ourselves. The aim will be to fulfill one of our main goals in KMTA: gaining ideas to improve our teaching and studio practices. Your board officers are coming up with a slate of topics to toss out. Here's our opportunity to share insights gained from the National Conference; talk about studio management and marketing, practice incentives and end-of-year motivation; favorite piano techs, tuners and CPAs (it's tax time too!); and anything else that the group would like to explore. Bring your nagging questions to benefit from the group's combined years of experience. This is why we're in an association, together.

See you soon,

**Jane Melin**

Vice-President & Technology Chair

## State Conference Registration (and gift certificates!)

Hi Everybody,

We're all set to register for the WSMTA conference, June 20 - 23 (read all about it at [wsmta.org](http://wsmta.org))! This is a very special joint conference with Oregon state, featuring an extra measure of everything, and it is being held at the beautiful Heathman Lodge in Vancouver Washington. Best of all, KMTA is offering \$100 gift certificates to KMTA members when they register for the conference (or \$50 to to any student of a KMTA member). There's no paper registration or gift certificate — you just register online, and claim your discount during the process.

Here's what to do:

1. Go to [wsmta.org](http://wsmta.org) and click on "Conference Registration"
2. Under the heading, "Do you have a coupon or conference waiver?" choose "Yes, I have a coupon or gift certificate for \$50 or \$100..."
3. Under the heading, "Registration Fee", choose the appropriate box (e.g. "Three days, with \$100 gift certificate or coupon, before May 15..." or "One day, with \$100 gift certificate..." etc.).

That's all there is to it! WSMTA will bill KMTA for the total amount used when registration closes. KMTA has not set a limit on how many of our members can receive the discount, so please take advantage of this awesome deal!

If you have students who are registering, they should follow the instructions above. The appropriate discount will automatically come up for student registrants.

Contact me ([mary@marygrantpiano.com](mailto:mary@marygrantpiano.com)) or Kirsten Carlson (her link is on the registration page) if you have any questions or problems claiming your discount.

Hope to see you there!

Mary

## SENIOR CELEBRATION

Yes, it's happening! KMTA will honor its graduating seniors on **Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**. Program will begin at 6:30 pm, at Huney Hall/Waterfront Park Community Center on Bainbridge Island (370 Brien Dr. SW). Students may choose to perform or not, and there will be a reception where the senior awards are presented. Family is invited to join us.

Senior biographies should include name, school they are graduating from, future plans, and give credit to the teacher(s) that have worked with them. If they are performing, repertoire should be listed to go on the program. Photos are encouraged. Please email to Patti Ray at [onahappynote@comcast.net](mailto:onahappynote@comcast.net).

**Teachers:** -if you would like to send me an anecdote/special memory of your student(s), we can include it in the presentaions!

-please get an indication of how many guests your student(s) will be bringing, so I can plan appropriately for refreshments.

[Here](#) is a flyer to distribute if you wish. If any of you are available at 5:30 on day of, I could use some hands for set up and take down when we are finished. Thanks in advance!

Patti Ray

## KMTA MUSIC CARNIVAL

The KMTA Music Carnival is just a few weeks away—April 28! Registrations are in—thank you all for your prompt responses. We have 17 teachers and 205 students signed up this year! It's going to be an exciting day!

Some details leading up to Carnival Day:

1. **Prepare your students.** Practice rhythm tapping with them, check their scales, go over theory and ear training items with them. Make use of all of the great resources in the Music Literacy Program handbook.

2. Email the **scale keys** each student is preparing to Melanie Kurtzbein ( [kurtzbein4@gmail.com](mailto:kurtzbein4@gmail.com) ), so that this info can be included on their registration cards.

3. You will receive a KMTA email on or near April 10 with more details. It will also contain a **letter to be printed off and sent home and/or emailed to your registered students**. The letter will explain the time frame of the day, their registration time, lunch options, parking and registration directions, as well as give them more detail about the carnival activities.

4. **Student Helpers** will be receiving a schedule and job assignment directly from Laura Meredith, and **adult volunteers** will hear directly from Debra. If you have **student helpers or adult volunteers** that you would like to have working with you in your exam room, please let Debra know ASAP so that the job assignments

are made accordingly.

5. **Examiners will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 13 at CK Presbyterian**, in advance of our regular meeting to go over testing and scoring procedures. More details coming via email. This is an important meeting—if you cannot make it, you will need to arrange to meet separately with Dianne.

6. **Setup and decorating** will be taking place primarily on Friday, April 27. We will meet at the school gym beginning at 5:00 (parking lot is across the street from the Poulsbo Library). We have much to do to transform the gym into a carnival! Jane Melin, our decorations and games chair, has lots of great ideas and will be bringing all the supplies. We just need willing volunteers! (We will be putting up signage throughout the facility beginning at 4:00 and could use a few helpers—let Debra know if you are available.) There will also be final set-up at 8 a.m. on Saturday, particularly in exam rooms.

7. **Take-Down** will be immediately after the Carnival is over (around 3 p.m.). We will need all hands on deck, so please plan to stay and help until approximately 4:00.

As you have read, you will need to be checking your email and the website regularly for updates. All of the information for you and your students will be available either via website and/or email. **YOU are responsible to be sure your students and families are informed.**

We want teachers to get the most benefit from the examinations as possible. Tests will be available at our May 11 KMTA meeting, or you may arrange to pick them up from Dianne before that date. You may go over the tests with your students. *All tests must be returned to Dianne by **May 30** for shredding.*

A huge thanks to **ALL** who have helped thus far, and to all of you who will be involved in making our sixth annual KMTA Music Carnival a great success!

**Schedule:**

<b>Friday, April 27</b>	5:00-? p.m.	Set-up and decorating gym, main building and west wing
<b>Saturday, April 28</b>	8:00 a.m.	Final set-up
	8:30 a.m.	All examiners on site (report to school gym)
	9:00 a.m.	Student & adult volunteers on site (report to gym for hats and assignments)
	9:45 a.m.	Registration begins
	10 a.m.-3 p.m.	Carnival Hours
	3:00-4:00? p.m.	Take-Down

See you at the Carnival! Happy Faces on!!

Questions? Volunteers?

Debra Florian, NCTM  
KMTA Music Carnival Chair  
360-434-8684  
[flostudio@comcast.net](mailto:flostudio@comcast.net)

Dianne Johnston, WSCTM  
KMTA Music Literacy Program Chair  
360-930-0168  
[diannej23@comcast.net](mailto:diannej23@comcast.net)

Melanie Stroud, NCTM  
KMTA Carnival Co-Chair  
[melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com](mailto:melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com)  
360-434-2117

Diane Layton, NCTM  
Music Literacy Program Co-Chair  
[mrsboxL1@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsboxL1@yahoo.com)  
360-613-2917

## KMTA Competitions and Awards, 2018: Congratulations and Thanks!!!

Congratulations to all the wonderful students who competed in the second year of our expanded competition. Ricardo de la Torre, our judge, heard 14 pianist and 1 violinist in the Junior Division, 21 pianists and 1 soprano in

the High School Division, coming from 8 studios and including 6 high school seniors. It's worth noting that all 8 participating studios had at least one of its students honored with a win or an honorable mention. It was an exciting and inspiring day for all, and we could not be more proud of the young musicians in our community!!!

**Junior Division, Vocal and Instrumental:**

1st Prize (\$100) - Lily Tanaka, violin (Melin)

**Junior Division, Piano:**

1st Prize (\$100) - Daniel Winslow (Bowling)

2nd Prize (\$75) - Lily Winslow (Bowling)

3rd Prize (\$50) - Collin Niles (Jones)

Honorable Mentions (unranked)

Alec Rodriguez (Florian)

Damaris Harvey (Bowling)

Hikari Kondo (Bowling)

**High School Division, 9th - 11th Grade Piano:**

1st Prize (\$300) - Caleb Winslow (Bowling)

2nd Prize (\$200) - Matthew Doornink (Florian)

3rd Prize (\$100) - Owen Espinosa (Bowling)

Honorable Mentions (unranked)

Abigail Salo (Corey)

Nathan McVay (Grant)

**High School Division, 12th Grade, Vocal and Instrumental:**

1st Prize (\$600) - Jessica Radford, voice (Stroud)

**High School Division, 12th Grade, Piano**

1st Prize (\$600) - Sora Kondo (Bowling)

2nd Prize (\$500) - Jillian Ran ((Seely)

3rd Prize (\$400) - Madison Hennings (Florian)

Honorable Mention - Daniella Wren (Bowling)

**WSMTA Honors Recital - Kitsap Chapter Representatives:**

Sora Kondo (Bowling)

Caleb Winslow (Bowling)

1st Alternate - Jillian Ran (Seely)

2nd Alternate - Daniel Winslow (Bowling)

3rd Alternate - Matthew Doornink (Florian)

### **WSMTA Honors Recital - District III Representative (Vocal & Instrumental):**

Jessica Radford, voice (Stroud)

**One million thanks** to the people who made this day a great success. Dianne Johnston, our host at Gateway Fellowship, laid the perfect setting and took care of a thousand details with grace and cheer, as always. Krista Seely served as my right hand all day. Over the past year, committee members, Debra Florian, Dianne Johnston, Melanie Stroud, Georgene Corey, KMTA president Diane Layton and vice president Jane Melin, worked with care and vision to steer the expansion of this program.

We especially want to thank our judge, Ricardo de la Torre, who had to make some tough choices to award our prizes!

My heartfelt thanks to you all,

Mary Grant



**High School Division:** From left to right: Jessica Radford, Daniella Wren, Madison Hennings, Daniel Winslow, Abigail Salo, Caleb Winslow, Jillian Ran, Nathan McVay, Owen Espinosa, Sora Kondo, Matthew Doornink.



**Junior Division** from left to right: Lily Winslow, Damaris Harvey, Lily Tanaka, Alec Rodriguez, Hikari Kondo, Daniel Winslow, Collin Niles.

## ARTS NEWS

First Sundays Concerts presents the Skyros String Quartet on Sunday, April 8 at 4:00. The quartet, which is comprised of Sarah Pizzichemi and James Moat on violin, Justin Kurys on viola and Willie Braun on cello has performed extensively in North America, Asia and their hometown Seattle. This young dynamics ensemble met while attending a masters program for string quartets at the University of Texas and then served as Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Nebraska while the members completed Doctorates in Chamber Music performance. The Skyros Quartet is passionate about performing, teaching and interacting with the audience. They direct The Emerald City Chamber Music Organization, which brings chamber music into Seattle area public schools. On their program on Bainbridge Island they will be performing quartets by Beethoven (op.59, no.1), Bartok (no.2) and Amy Beach. The concert takes place at Waterfront Park Community Center. Tickets are available at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com). For more information go to [skyrosquartet.com](http://skyrosquartet.com) and [firstsundaysconcerts.org](http://firstsundaysconcerts.org).



### **Need a recital space?**

Port Madison Lutheran Church on Bainbridge Island is available to rent for spring or senior recitals. Please contact the church at (206)842-4746 ,or Georgene Corey at (360)697-6766 for info.

### **Do you have info to distribute to KMTA?**

Please send all communication items (website updates/documents, email blasts, Quavers articles, etc.) to Laura Meredith: [lameredith@gmail.com](mailto:lameredith@gmail.com) .

**Quavers** articles should be submitted at least 3 days before the end of the month.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

Carnival training and member meeting  
Friday, April 13, 9 a.m.  
Central Kitsap Presbyterian

[KMTA Music Carnival and WSMTA Music Literacy Program](#)

April 28, 2018

Senior Celebration - May 19

**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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