

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

October 2018 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website, kitsapmusicteachers.org.



From the President: Do Something Different!

In a small county like Kitsap where both strings teachers and strings students are relatively sparse, we teachers often take students as we find them. Increasingly, that means students want to learn to “play like Lindsey Stirling” instead of, or in addition to, classical. This fall a student asked to learn “jazz violin.” He is a budding multi-instrumentalist who also plays guitar, bass, and banjo, and has attended several folk-music festivals. He’s been on a dual classical/fiddle track since he started lessons, but teaching jazz is an entirely new animal for me. Suddenly I need to really understand blues scales and jazz chords – not just “I know them when I hear them,” but well enough to explain them to a novice. This is not an area of extensive experience for most classically-trained violinists. Job prospects for jazz violinists are even slimmer than landing an orchestra gig.

What if I stuck to my comfort zone and simply said No? This student could easily switch to a jazzier instrument like guitar and find instruction from multiple local teachers. But then he’d just be one of the crowd. Wouldn’t it be cool if he could be THE jazz violinist in his high school jazz band? And what is holding me back from helping him do this? I learned to sing Ballads, Bebop and Blues under a top-notch high school jazz choir director. I’m not bad at basic improvisation and playing from lead sheets. What I need to learn are some new ways of making music on the violin, including jazz licks over modal chords, comping, playing with “groove,” and even amplification.

So I guess it's time for me to DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT. I found a Berklee professor who offers online jazz violin training videos. I ordered a book to explain the nuances of playing violin in jazz style, for both myself and my student. I'm cueing up videos of Stéphane Grappelli and Jean-Luc Ponty. I'm experimenting again with a looper pedal I bought on a whim a few years ago. I'm gonna *Teach Jazz Violin!*

Excite your own inner rebel this month as we welcome teacher extraordinaire Bonnie Blanchard to our chapter meeting on October 12! Her topic: DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT.

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT personally this year and volunteer at a KMTA or WSMTA event you've never helped with before! KYMF, OAC, Christmas at the Mall, Monster Concert, Carnival, Bach Spotlight, Senior Celebration...

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT professionally, and plan to attend the MTNA National Conference in Spokane this March. This will be my first MTNA conference too! **Read all about KMTA's fantastic registration voucher offer below!**

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT and it just might change your whole outlook on your teaching, and your life. Here's to the new you!

Jane Melin

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association



From the VP: Meeting News

Fall has the most amazing energy. The season change is almost magical. Kids excited to return to school and parents excited that they are back in school while we begin energizing our own studios. Spring is supposed to be the beginning of new, but Fall has an even more powerful pull to become new.

The KMTA program at the October meeting is Bonnie Blanchard presenting: *Do Something Different*. Bonnie Blanchard is a performing flutist, teacher, presenter, and author. Her books include: *Making Music Enriching Lives*, *Making Music Having a BLAST*, *Music Games for Life*.

“Throughout a 35-year career I have discovered that teaching music and enriching students’ lives is as gratifying as the musical experience itself. I want to share the secrets to becoming a successful teacher and student and having tons of fun along the way.”

-Bonnie Blanchard (quote is from her website)

This meeting promises to be wonderful, please join us on **October 12, 2018**.

The September presentation by Yelena Balabanova, *Power to be Nervous*, was amazing. Her insights regarding performance held all the attending teachers spellbound. Her honesty in sharing her own experiences made you feel like she was speaking to you alone. The positive or negative emotions you experienced after a performance do not need to define you. When you remove the negative power of the experience, the emotions created by your experience relax, releasing the grip of whatever happened. You learn from the moment and have the courage to try again. The second time being better than the first, but perhaps not how you wanted it. It is OK. Keep trying, this experience is just part of learning and becoming comfortable with your performance. Your personal expectation of your performance may not be realized, give yourself grace to accept the realization that what you performed was your personal best at this moment. Enjoy and celebrate your effort, and achievement.

Following the presentation the room was buzzing with conversation with members sharing their experiences. This meeting was truly amazing.

The November meeting will present two offerings:

1. Jeffery Pettijohn, NCTM from Seattle will offer a quick exploration of his piano compositions for late elementary and early intermediate students. He plans to present each attending teacher with a complimentary copy of his publication.
2. Learn about Let’s Play Music, "a comprehensive music course that develops the complete musician" at an early age. Concepts and methods such as audiation, solfege, rhythm, chord progression, pitch matching, whole body involvement, and more are introduced to young children-- all through play.

Come learn about the festivals and activities for students, as well as experiences for your own growth. KMTA is amazing --come find out why.

Christine Kastanopolous

Vice-President, Kitsap Music Teachers Associaton

KMTA Offers MTNA Conference Registration Fee Reimbursement

offer ends December 5!

As announced at our September meeting, the Dorothy Woodcock Endowment Fund of the Kitsap Music Teachers Association will reimburse KMTA members' registration fees for the MTNA 2019 National Conference in Spokane next March - a \$345 value!

Attendees must register before the end of the Early Bird period (December 5) to take advantage of this offer. The conference dates are Saturday, March 16 through Wednesday, March 20. Register at www.mtna.org/Conference. Please forward your registration confirmation email to KMTA Treasurer Sally Camp (sallyannc7@comcast.net), or otherwise provide proof of registration, to request reimbursement.

KMTA's Dorothy Woodcock Endowment Fund was established to enhance the teaching of students within the Kitsap County Chapter's geographic area (see www.kitsapmusicteachers.org/endowment). Teachers who join KMTA after the date of this public announcement who do not live and/or teach in the Kitsap County area (extended to include Jefferson and Clallam Counties), will have their reimbursement requests considered on a case-by-case basis.

Thanks to the DWE Fund, we hope to have a big delegation from Kitsap at Spokane in March!

KMTA Website Members-Only Access for Forms and More

The KMTA website now has a password-protected [Members Only](#) page. The password was sent out in a recent email to current active members. This page contains links to non-public documents like our printable member address list; the printable event and meeting calendar; and entry forms for upcoming events. For example, there are links on that page to sign up for the Kitsap Young Musicians Festival, the Christmas at the Mall time slots, and the Monster Concert. If you missed the password email, please contact Laura Meredith or Jane Melin to receive it.

Christmas [at the Mall] is coming!

KMTA Christmas at the Mall will run during mall hours on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays November 23-December 24. The piano will be in the food court area again this year. The Mall will be posting the upcoming week's schedule each Monday.

KMTA teachers may book performance time through Cathy Gabbey at catherinegabbey@gmail.com

Coming Soon: You may also check our [website](#) to find Guidelines, and the [Members Only](#) page for Online Scheduling.

Kitsap Young Musicians Festival

This year's Festival is scheduled for November 17th at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church. Recitals will start at 10:00 AM and go until approximately 6:00 PM (depending on the number of registrants). Students and ensembles may perform up to two pieces. This event is open to any music teachers and students throughout the county, so if you know of any non members who might want to sign up please feel free to pass this information on to them!

Thanks to Mary Grant we have a NEW online registration system this year! We have worksheets available to get your information organized, which can be used to easily complete your online registration. Everything you need is [here](#), and **registration is now open!** If you have any questions regarding this new process please contact myself or Mary.

The registration deadline for this event is November 2nd; the festival schedule will be emailed the following Monday. We can always use teacher volunteers to emcee recitals, and teachers or students to distribute programs, man the doors, and help with refreshments. (This is an opportunity for high school students to put in some volunteer hours if needed!)

I am looking forward to another fantastic festival!

Julie Mandery

KYMF Chair

juliemandery@gmail.com

(360) 440-0290

Monster Concert updates

What do you get when you take 4 grand pianos, several strings and other instruments, and over 100 musicians of all ages? An incredibly fun evening, great [BIG] music, and funds raised for the KMTA scholarship program!

The sign-up is now LIVE! Teachers, sign up your students (and yourselves) [here](#), but please do not share the link with others; you can direct them to the [website](#) for details.

There is a [form](#) for each student to fill out and return to you (who will return it to me) by November 1st. Teachers, fill out one for yourself if you have scheduling conflicts you would like considered. The rehearsal dates are tentatively set for Jan 11-12, 25-26, Feb 8-9, and 16 (dress rehearsal). We are in need of rehearsal spaces that have 4 pianos/keyboards and potentially room for other instrumentalists. Please let me know if you can host a rehearsal on any of those dates!

We'd love to fill the pieces and have both students and teachers working on their parts! We just ask that you sign up each participant (yourselves and your students) to one part per week, to ensure everyone has the chance to play in their favorite pieces. We currently have parts for piano, voice, trombone, flute, and saxophone; we will have strings parts available soon. Melanie Kurtzbein is working on adding strings parts to current pieces, as well as selecting some strings-only pieces (so strings teachers, discuss ideas and preferences with her). If you have a student that plays another instrument (even if you're not teaching it to them), let us know what parts you want to add! The more the merrier!

Laura Meredith
lameredith@gmail.com
coMonster chair

FIRST SUNDAYS CONCERTS

Music Up Close on Bainbridge Island

Presents

Volta Piano Trio



Sally Singer Tuttle, cello

Jennifer Caine Provine, violin

Oxana Ejokinaon, piano

Music by Hadyn, Schubert & Shostakovich

Sunday, October 7 - 4pm



Waterfront Park Community Center • 370 Brien Drive • General Admission \$20 Students \$5
Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com

For more information go to www.firstsundaysconcerts.org or call 842-3380



Olympic College Presents...

Longtime KMTA member and Olympic College Piano Faculty Talman Welle Presents Cyril Scott's Suite for Piano, a brilliant and little-known work. Professor Welle is celebrating his 30th anniversary with Olympic college in a concert dedicated in loving memory of his mother, piano teacher, mentor, and friend Martha Thatcher who passed away October 9, 1993.

October 21st, 2018, 4:00 PM. Located at Olympic College Bremerton, William D. Harvey Theatre, College Instruction Center Room 132

Free Admission though freewill donations will be accepted for the Instrumental Program Scholarships.

Pianist Adrian King to perform with Bremerton Symphony



Fifteen-year-old Kitsap resident Adrian King will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor with the Bremerton Symphony on Saturday, October 20, at Bremerton High School Performing Arts Center. A student of Peter Mack, Adrian has won numerous local and national competitions, and has already soloed with the Bremerton Symphony several times.

Also on the program are Brahms Symphony #4 and Beethoven's Coriolanus Overture.

Do you have info to distribute to KMTA?

Please send all communication items (website updates/documents, email blasts, Quavers articles, etc.) to Laura Meredith: lamedith@gmail.com. **Quavers** articles should be submitted at least 3 days before the end of the month.

UPCOMING EVENTS/ DEADLINES

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

Registration for KYMF

October 1-November 2

Member meeting

October 12, 10 a.m. CK Presbyterian

Monster Concert **forms** due

November 1

Member meeting

November 9, 10 a.m. CK Presbyterian

MAP Preliminary reports due

November 15

Kitsap Young Musician's Festival

November 17 CK Presbyterian

MORE FROM KMTA

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

[KMTA on Facebook](#) [KMTA Website](#)

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