

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

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



President's Message: Father Abraham, Papa Bach, and You?

Have you ever explored your musical pedigree? My primary teacher once told me that her teacher Emanuel Zetlin's teacher, in other words her pedagogical grandfather, was the author of the dreaded reference scales book for advanced violinists: Carl Flesch. I like to terrify my own students with this citation. I recently read an article about famous violinists tracing their pedagogical genealogies. It appears that most of today's professional violinists, as well as legions of amateurs, can trace their "ancestry" to a single teacher, performer, and composer: Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713).

Papa Bach had 20 children. *Father Abraham had many sons.* Corelli surely had no idea that his life's work would result in the exquisite perfection of a Hilary Hahn performance, as well as millions of tiny Suzuki students playing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star." Shinichi Suzuki's teaching lineage leads back to...Corelli. Hilary Hahn at age 4 was a "Suzuki kid."

We have an opportunity to hear about another early-childhood music learning program in November. *Let's Play Music* representative Gina Weibel would like to bring more local teachers on board for this high-demand program, which builds a strong foundation for future musical literacy and proficiency. If you've been wondering how best to teach preschoolers, or are thinking of adding programs for young learners to your studio offerings, you won't want to miss the November 9 meeting.

Maybe your musical family tree will end with you... or maybe you too will have millions of offspring. You just never know which of those tiny beginners will be the one to carry on your legacy. Teach well!

See you at the November meeting and Kitsap Young Musicians Festival. And Happy Thanksgiving!

Jane Melin, NCTM

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association



From the VP: Meeting news

You know when you are getting comfortable, relaxing into your life...then BAM your boat is rocked. Welcome to October.

What happened?

The Comfortable:

1. The WSMTA Leadership Conference October 6 & 7 in Yakima

An incredible experience. Two days with teachers that lead their local chapters, and with our State officers. It was an uplifting, empowering, and inclusive two days. We found a nearby theater that was performing Come From Away (coming soon to Seattle). It was an amazing performance!

2. KMTA General meeting on 10/12/18

Bonnie Blanchard presented a powerful program on assessing our teaching effectiveness, goal setting, and self-worth. Our profession offers an amazing benefit to the community.

All Rosy - Right? Did you feel the boat rock?

Reflecting on Anchorage, AK... Both the local orchestra and opera now have fewer performances and replace great classics with modern counterparts. Most of the music stores have closed. If you want to purchase an acoustic piano you have to order one from Seattle. The number of students involved in lessons has plummeted. Is the same thing happening here?

While sports are great for physical activity and sportsmanship, they may be crowding out the development of young musicians, due to ease for parents (drop-and-go vs. supervised practicing), short-term commitment (2-3 month sports seasons), and the difference in needed equipment (instruments are pricey!) How do music lessons compete with that?!

MTNA has noted a drop in membership. If something does not change, is your studio next to go? What do we need to do? Do you have ideas on this subject?

Here's one idea...

Start them young!

Help children fall in love with creating music from an early age. Research has shown that the brains of young children are primed to learn musical concepts, even if their bodies are not ready for the fine motor skills involved to learn an instrument. But the voice and gross motor skills are huge musical assets to even the youngest of children.

Enter *Let's Play Music*, a revolutionary music class for young children. It is a 3-year musicianship program covering singing, rhythm training, solfege, ear-training, note-reading, classical music study, composition, and piano playing (introduced later). Children start the course at ages 4-6, in group classes of 5-7 students.

We will get to hear more about LPM at our November 9 meeting. This would be a great meeting to invite friends to, even those that are not currently teaching music but have an interest in the field. If you can't make it to the meeting, contact our presenter Gina for more details: weibelfamily@gmail.com.

Here's to raising a new generation of musicians!

Chris Kastanopolous

KMTA Vice-President

All registered for The Young Musician's Festival?

If not, today's your LAST CHANCE! Please go [here](#) to register your students, and don't forget to send all the permission forms to Mary Grant.

Piano Music Artistry Program Deadline is approaching!

Please email me your estimated minutes by November 15th (Thursday). Some of you already emailed me, and I do appreciate your pro-activeness. Your total minutes should include your consultation time, and if you want to participate in Chapter Honors Recital you should also include extra five minutes for the Honors Recital Selection.

Please visit WSMTA website and use the Registration Worksheet.

It will help you organize the details and will be a great help in December when we do the online registration.

Sun Gamble

Keyboard MAP Chair

sungamble69@yahoo.com

Christmas at the Mall is coming up!

It starts in less than a month! Are you students practicing Christmas music? You can sign up for a time slot in our [Members Only](#) section. If someone who is not a KMTA member is interested in signing up for a time slot they can contact Cathy Cabbey: catherinegabbey@gmail.com. Fa la la la la...

MTNA Conference Coming To Spokane

Early Registration Closes December 5... Claim your KMTA member reimbursement



We hope you are aware by now that the MTNA National Conference is returning to the Pacific Northwest -- first time since 2005! Take advantage of this rare opportunity to attend with minimal expenses. **KMTA is offering a 100% reimbursement of the Early Bird registration rate to all our members.** (See the October Quavers for qualifications.) Send your confirmation details to KMTA Treasurer Sally Camp to claim the reimbursement.

Conference Program Chair Nicholas Phillips presented a conference overview on an MTNA video webinar. The video will be available soon on the MTNA site -- check it out [here](#). You can also find complete details on the [MTNA Conference](#) pages.

Exciting Monster Concert update!

Great news: we have our newly commissioned piece by Kevin Olson! To go along with our theme of "A journey through time", the piece is entitled TIME MACHINE. Here is the [sheet music](#) and the [mp3](#). We are going to have student/teacher pairs play this one, and can incorporate strings and other instruments upon request.

We would love to see all the sign ups fill right up! We understand that some are not able to commit yet, but overall the earlier the better; it takes time to learn parts adequately for ensembles like this, especially with Christmas music taking priority soon! If you think you may have a conflict with the rehearsal times, please contact

Laura Meredith with your (and your students') scheduling needs as soon as you can. Then once the rehearsal schedule is set, you can sign up for songs that have rehearsal times that fit your schedule. Remember rehearsals are set for Friday evenings and Saturday mornings (each piece has 1/2-hr time slot weekend): Jan 11-12, 25-26, Feb 8-9, and dress rehearsal. The concert, workshops, and dress rehearsal will all take place on February 16 at North Kitsap Auditorium. We still need locations for our other rehearsals! Any volunteers?

Sign-ups are in our [Members Only](#) section, and students can browse the song options on [the monster concert page on our website](#). Participants are not limited to number of songs or instrument (i.e. if someone plays trombone they can sign up for a trombone part, even if they don't teach trombone or take trombone lessons). There are sign-ups for piano, strings, other instruments, and voice.

Updates are posted on the Sign-up page (performance notes, parts added, etc.) so check back regularly!

Happy practicing!

Laura and Melanie

P.S. Hang on to any Halloween costume items that would be fitting for any of our songs :)

KMTA Association Partners Needed

Have you been an active member of KMTA for at least 5 years? Would you be willing to partner with a new member to help him or her learn about our meetings and programs? If so, KMTA invites you become an official KMTA Association Partner. More details about this program may be found on the KMTA website at this link: <http://www.kitsapmusicteachers.org/resources/mentorship-programs/association-partners/>. A few of our current KMTA Association Partners have moved on to other things, so we could use a few more teachers to act as partners. Please contact Joann Richardson (organistjoann@gmail.com) if you are willing to help out.

KMTA Constitution and Bylaws Revisions: Working Group to be formed

The KMTA Executive Board has recognized a need to update the format of our Constitution and Bylaws to reflect current best practices. The most recent edition (2011) of Robert's Rules of Order explains why it is best for organizations to operate under a single document called the Bylaws. Both MTNA and WSMTA now exclusively have Bylaws, not Constitutions. KMTA should seek to combine our two governing documents into one, to streamline and eliminate redundancies between

them.

We also need to align our document with more recent changes in the MTNA and WSMTA Bylaws. Since we are under the umbrella of both these organizations, we do not need to duplicate their content in our own Bylaws. (Example: membership classifications and status.) This causes discrepancies between our policies and theirs when upstream amendments are made. The Seattle MTA has a very good model of what our revised Bylaws might look like.

Because any change to our governing documents requires a 2/3 vote of the active members, the earliest we would vote on any changes would be the May meeting.

We hope several of our members would be interested to work together on this project over the coming months. The above information will be shared at the November membership meeting to invite your participation. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to be involved, please contact Jane Melin, who will be part of the working group. Those who worked on the current editions of the KMTA Constitution and Bylaws are especially encouraged to provide input.

Certification Project Idea

Have you been considering certification, but aren't quite sure that you are ready to fully dive into the process? Create a certification file folder on your computer and place your studio policy in it. There— you've started the process! Another relatively easy thing to do is to compile two lists of questions: (1) of interview questions for new student; (2) interview questions for transfer student. Once you have these lists, add them to your certification file folder.

Joann Richardson, NCTM; KMTA Certification Chair; organistjoann@gmail.com

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 .

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.

[Member meeting](#)

November 9, 10 a.m., CK Presbyterian

[Kitsap Young Musician's Festival](#)

November 17, CK Presbyterian

[Christmas at the mall](#)

November 23- Dec 23, Kitsap Mall

[Christmas Play and Sing! Party](#)

Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Home of Dianne Johnston, Kingston

[Piano, String and Vocal Music Artistry Programs \(MAP\)](#)

February-March 2019

Preliminary reports due Nov 15

Registration due December 15

[Monster Concert and workshops with Kevin Olson](#)

February 16, 2019, NK auditorium

[Performance Competitions](#)

March 24, 2019

MORE FROM KMTA

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