

**Portland District  
Oregon Music Teachers Association  
Portland Piano Company**

Wednesday, September 28, 2016 9:00 a.m.  
Samantha Smith, President Denise Kangas, Recorder

Call to Order 9:10 a.m

**Minutes** from May 2016 meeting were read by Susan Todd and approved

**Treasurer's report:** Cindy Petersen Pear, reported that there was \$14,508.16 in checking and \$10,047.18 in savings.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Alice Lyle, reported that a total of two cards were sent. One as thank you/congratulations to Samantha Smith for stepping up to serve as president and a thank you to Susan Todd for years of service to the Portland District OMTA as recording secretary.

**Membership:** Liz Willis announced that there were three new members, who were hoping to come today. In addition, after the blog went out, there were four more new members. Liz is hoping to organize a Syllabus meeting for new members and anyone else interested in coming.

**Festivals:** Deborah Cleaver reported that the committee met in July and she will send a report to the full membership regarding the meeting. Following changes include; medallions are now stickers that the adjudicator will attach to the certificate after the parents and teachers have left the room. The top level award will be Outstanding Achievement then Honorable Mention. All will receive a Participatory award. If teachers don't get checks in on the deadline their students will be ineligible to participate, no exceptions.

**Classical Festival:** Samantha Smith, registration is open until Oct. 7, the festival is Nov 14-16 and 11-12, Donna Gunn, adjudicator. Ms Gunn will also be giving a workshop on Nov. 11.

**Baroque Festival:** Debra Sostring, the dates are: Feb. 4, 5 and 11, 12.

**Ensemble Festival:** Fen Fang Tsao, Nov 19 at Western Oregon University. \$12 registration for each student, the registration deadline is Oct. 10. Also, 2017 Ensemble Festival is Jan. 14.

**Composition Festival:** Dianne Davies, The Festival will be Sat. Mar. 4 at Michelle's Pianos, the deadline is Jan 31st, the application is online.

**Beaverton Focus Group:** Dianne Davies, they had a successful Swap and Share meeting last week. The next meeting is Thurs. Oct. 13th, "How to make syllabus work" with Suzanne Savaria.

**Bethany Focus Group:** Debra Sustain, Nov. 16, Susan Chan will discuss “Modern Chinese teaching pieces”. The February speaker is Mary Kogen, March speaker Arno Patten and a “Swap and Share w/Beaverton focus group will be in May.

**Hillsboro Focus Group:** Susan Todd, next meeting is Nov. 2nd, which will be Heidi Evans Masterclass. Jan. 4 is a presentation on students with special needs. Mar. 1st, Phyllis Pfeiffer and June 7 is a Pot Luck with the voice syllabus roll out.

**In Good Hands:** new music by living local composers written for students will be held Thurs. June 29th, 4:00 p.m. at the Old Church. There is a possibility that a composer may be paired with the student for six months.

**Music Link:** Debra Sostrin, has come to realize that Portland area students have been receiving more benefit from this program than students from other parts of the state and she asked the group for input as to how to remedy.

Susan Todd presented a OMTA life member honor to Alice Lyle, corresponding secretary for many years of service.

**Portland District Blog:** Samantha Smith reported that she has been working to make blog, website and social media to be very clear. Amy Belisle offered to help with social media.

Solveig Sorenson reported that the website had been reworked and she was still in process of finishing touches. She requested that Festival Chairs all check to see if their information is correct. Also, if a teacher would like to be included in the “Find a Teacher” section they need to e-mail Solveig directly. And if a teacher needs contact information to be amended they should contact Solveig.

**Miscellaneous:**

On October 5 at 10:00 a.m. Emily Ross, music therapist will be giving a presentation on teaching the special learner.

Cindy Petersen-Peart announced that a state position had opened up for someone who is not afraid of computers to unlock accounts that might have become locked. Joy Novack is stepping down.

Wilma Hawkins announced that the Oregon Federation of Music Teachers had scholarship money that needed to be used and urged OMTA members to participate. She also brought a hand out for MTNA certifications.

Liz Willis introduced new members Emily Jennings and Jan MacIntosh.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m. followed by a presentation by Phyllis Lehrer and “The Inner Game of Music”.

Respectfully submitted, Denise Kangas, Recording Secretary

