



**OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FOR THE PORTLAND DISTRICT MEETING
January 23, 2013 | Sherman Clay Pianos | Portland**

CALL TO ORDER President Cherise da Cunha called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

MINUTES Past President Joy Novak, stepping in for Recording Secretary Susan Todd, provided the members with minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting. Minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer Cindy Peterson-Peart reported that balances were \$14,162.31 in checking and \$10,032.46 in savings.

Corresponding Secretary Alice Lyle reported sending seven cards since the September 19 meeting. These included a thank-you note to **Dr. Dean Kramer** and **Dr. Claire Wachter** for their Chopin lecture in September 2012; a thinking-of-you card to **Marjorie Fairly** for being in the hospital for a week; a sympathy card to the **family of Marjorie Fairly** on her passing; a thank-you and appreciation card to **Sherman Clay Pianos** for their support of OMTA and condolences for their upcoming closure; a get-well card to **Claudia Reinsch** for her ear surgery; a congratulations card to **Barbara Berg** for her national certification; and a thank-you card to **Harold Gray** for his service to the music community as artistic director of Portland Piano International. It was also announced that **Treasurer Peterson-Peart** recently achieved national certification as well. Those present applauded for Peterson-Peart.

President da Cunha announced that the new OMTA state website has debuted and is now live at www.oregonmta.org. She said that it is somewhat challenging to navigate and members may need to spend some time clicking around the site to find what they are looking for. There is also a new login and password:

Username: omta

Password: aeolian13! *(include the exclamation point)*

Da Cunha also announced that on Friday, February 1, **Pianist Julian Martin** would present a master class at PSU as part of the Nellie Tholen Fund Master Class Series. The event will take place at 10 a.m. in Lincoln Recital Hall. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to event organizer **Jessica Currier**, jessicacurrier26@gmail.com. More event information is available at <http://www.pdx.edu/fpa/events/master-class-pianist-julian-martin?delta=0>

Da Cunha thanked **President-Elect Patricia Scordato** for providing refreshments for today's meeting. **Treasurer Peterson-Peart** volunteered to provide refreshments for the May 22, 2013 OMTA Portland meeting.

Treasurer Peterson-Peart initiated a vote to change the district by-laws. She emphasized that we are not voting on actual issues in the by-laws, as those have already been voted upon and resolved. We're voting to change the wording of the bylaws to reflect the changes that have already passed. The first major change is that District Honorary Lifetime members will no longer pay district dues. The second major change is that the Portland District membership dues will be raised in 2013. She explained that the Portland membership voted online on this issue in December 2012, and the measure passed.

Substitute Recording Secretary Novak moved that the membership change the district by-laws to read as follows (as read aloud by Peterson-Peart):

Proposed bylaw change — *deletions marked with strikeout, additions marked with bold text:*

ARTICLE III DUES

Sec. 1 All membership dues except student membership dues are due on July 1st, the beginning of the fiscal year.

Student dues are due on October 1st. After these dates members are not in good standing.

Sec. 2. Each member, ~~except Student Members and Honorary Life Members~~, shall pay annually the ~~sum of \$20.00 to Portland District~~, plus the State and National dues. ~~Student dues are \$10.00.~~

Sec. 3. SENIOR STATUS: Members in good standing who have attained Senior Status as outlined in the State and National Bylaws will be assessed half the regular amount of the District dues.

Sec. 4. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: Members in good standing who have been awarded Portland District Honorary Life Membership are exempted from paying Portland District dues. Lyle seconded Novak's motion to change the bylaws. The membership then voted and passed the proposed change to the bylaws.

Corresponding Secretary Lyle seconded the motion above. The members voted and passed the motion to change the by-laws.

Membership Chair Alona Maizlin asked when someone is considered to have achieved "Senior Status." **Lyle** suggested that perhaps it meant that a member was at least 65 years old. **Peterson-Peart** said that the official answer could be found in the OMTA state by-laws on the state website: oregonmta.org.

President-Elect Patricia Scordato announced that Leggiero, our online event registration system, has a new feature: Archives — a record of each of your students' participation in OMTA events. When you log in to Leggiero, you can click "Archives" in the navigation bar. This will lead you to a page from which you can download your personal record of your students' participation in OMTA festivals and Syllabus, from as far back as 2010 (when Leggiero first debuted). The feature is handy for providing a record of points earned toward an OMTA participation trophy. Leggiero developers **Jeff and Ramona Goddard** spent 18 hours setting up the new feature. **President da Cunha** thanked the Goddards for their work.

Syllabus area coordinator LaRayne Rowland that Leggiero was tested for online Syllabus registration in several Portland focus groups last fall. Reviews were extremely positive, and that the chairs felt that chairing Syllabus was "a breeze" because Leggiero cut the workload immensely.

Rowland emphasized that all of Portland District will be expected to use Leggiero to register for Syllabus online for all Spring 2013 evaluations. Please visit the district members' website (not the state website) to find the link to online Syllabus registration with Leggiero: <http://members.omta-portland.org/>. In the navigation bar, simply hover your mouse over Syllabus and click "Online Registration."

Rowland said that now would be a good time to begin entering your students' names and birthdays into Leggiero. She said that using it is easy and intuitive — simply follow the directions on the screen. **Contemporary Festival Chair Deborah Cleaver** noted that all teachers have until 11:59 p.m. on all events' deadline days to remove a student from participation in an event, even if you have already entered their information into the system.

ESMAR coordinator Jan Mittelstaedt announced that the 2013 ESMAR (Extended Study of Musicianship and Repertoire) Assessment would take place April 27, 2013 at Classic Pianos. **Jill Timmons** will adjudicate the event. If you plan on participating in the assessment, please contact Mittelstaedt ASAP so that she can plan accordingly: janrm@att.net. Mittelstaedt added that students do not need to have completed Level 10 Syllabus in order to participate in ESMAR.

OMTA Portland District (and State) Composition Celebration Chair Jennifer Wright introduced herself to the group. The 2013 District Composition Celebration will take place March 2 at Sherman Clay Pianos, wherever they will be located at that time amidst their impending closure. Event applications must be postmarked by February 18. Registration forms for the upcoming event will be ready and posted on the district website in approximately one week. **Liz Nedela** will adjudicate the district event. **Susan Alexander** will adjudicate the state event. For more information, contact Wright at jenniferawright@yahoo.com.

Ensemble Festival Chair Cindy Peterson-Peart announced that the 2013 Ensemble Festival was held Saturday, January 19. One hundred fifty-four students participated; 66 students were named winners. **Rhonda Ringering** and **Molly Wheeler** adjudicated the event.

Peterson-Peart announced that she would not chair Ensemble Festival next year because she will be transitioning into her role as OMTA State President. She is hoping to pass the “fun job” to someone “young and energetic.” She emphasized that it’s “not a lot of work” and that she would be happy to mentor the next chair in doing the job successfully. If you’re interested in chairing the 2014 Ensemble Festival, please contact **President-Elect Scordato**.

FESTIVALS

President da Cunha announced that the 2013 Baroque Festival participation numbers are down from last year, but that Baroque Festival chair **Evane Knezevich** is not currently present to verify the exact numbers.

Contemporary Festival Chair Deborah Cleaver announced that 152 students would participate in the new 2013 Contemporary Festival, which will take place February 8-10 at Sherman Clay Pianos. **Jeffrey Gillian** and **Jill Timmons** will adjudicate the event. Three recitals will take place on the 8th. Seven recitals in each of the two recital rooms will take place each day on the 9th and 10th.

Ten recital monitors are still needed for the event. Cleaver reminded everyone that if you have 11 students registered, you must sign up to monitor three recitals. If you have 6 – 10 students registered, you must sign up to monitor two recitals. It’s an easy, wonderful job for teachers — especially new teachers who might want to observe what the event is about. She emphasized that monitoring is easy and that detailed directions (and adjudicator biographies) are provided on-site. She also reminded members that our district pays student monitors \$11 per recital. If you have a responsible high-school-aged student who would like to be paid to monitor, please contact Deborah about signing up: jdcleaver@comcast.net.

President da Cunha announced that the 2013 Romantic Festival would take place April 27-28 and May 3-5. Romantic Festival Chair Irene Huang nodded in agreement.

FOCUS GROUPS

Beaverton Focus Group Chair Diane Davies announced that the next Beaverton meeting would take place Feb. 13 at **Jan Mittelstaedt’s** studio. They will meet at 9:30 a.m., and the program will begin at 10 a.m. The program will feature Mittelstaedt, who will present her pieces and how they correlate with Syllabus evaluations. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Diane Davies.

Far East Focus Group Chair Alice Lyle announced that the next Eastside Focus Group meeting would take place February 8 at her studio in Gresham. The program will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will feature **Geneva Wright** and **Carol Ratzlaf** presenting contemporary music.

President da Cunha reminded the group that she is happy to post focus group event news in *Maestro*; she just needs the news by the 5th of each month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programs Chair Kelli Stephens announced that **Linda Barker Hayes** will present the program at the May 22, 2013, Portland District meeting. The program is TBA.

Past OMTA Composer of the Year Dan Brugh announced that 2013 Composer of the Year applications are due to him by March 1.

Brugh further announced that the **Cascadia Composers** will present a concert of new music for pipe organ called “Pulling Out the Stops” at 3 p.m. Feb. 24 at St. Anne’s Chapel at Marylhurst University. The event will feature organists **Tom Curry**, **Greg Homza**, and **Corina Hughes**; the **Resonance Ensemble** directed by **Katherine FitzGibbon**; and performances of works by local composers **Brugh**, **Michael Johanson**, **David C. Leetch**, **Bonnie Miksch**, **Jan Mittelstaedt**, **Art Resnick**, **Paul Safar**, and **Tomas Svoboda**. A pre-concert talk will take place at 2:30 p.m.

President da Cunha announced that if you are planning on attending the upcoming MTNA Conference in Anaheim and are looking for someone to room with at the Disneyland Hotel, please contact her. She is keeping a list of people who are looking for roommates and may be able to connect you with someone who also wants to split hotel fare. Treasurer Cindy Peterson-Peart announced that the national conference deadline has been extended to Feb. 1.

Treasurer Peterson-Peart announced that this summer's state conference will be held at the Riverhouse Convention Center in Bend, June 27-30. She said that the venue is beautiful and that many family-friendly and spouse-friendly activities have been planned. The featured conference artist is **Peter Mack**, who will give three presentations and two master classes. **Dr. Fred Karpoff** will present his 3-D piano method, an approach to "mastering the piano by mastering your body." **Nancy O'Neill Breth** will present a session about motivating students to better practice habits.

Peterson-Peart also announced that Portland Piano International Festival will not present a festival this summer because the group's new director wants time to plan a strong festival for 2014.

President da Cunha announced our district's newest Honorary Lifetime Members: **Grace Chen, Susan Foust, LaRayne Rowland, Alice Lyle, and Jan Mittelstaedt.** **Membership Chair Alona Maizlin** presented each of them with bouquets of flowers and framed certificates of honor. Two other new HLM's were honored but not present: **Myrn Corbin** and **Janet Harmon.** **Maestro publisher Joy Novak** shot a photo of the honorees. The photo will publish in the February issue of *Maestro*.

The business meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m. Celebration cake was served in recognition of the new Honorary Lifetime Members.

PROGRAM

Programs Chair Kelli Stephens announced the start of the program at 10:07 a.m.

Sherman Clay Pianos managers Mitch Paola and Brenda Kell announced that on February 1, Sherman Clay Pianos will reopen as the Portland Piano Company. Their new website will be up on February 1. Their telephone number will stay the same. The Portland Piano Company will specialize in selling high-quality used pianos, from Yamaha to Steinway. They remain committed to the local music community and OMTA.

Paola explained that amidst Sherman Clay's announcement to close the Portland store, he made a bid to be named the primary Steinway dealer in Portland. At first, it looked like they were going to win the deal. But ultimately, the deal was given to Classic Pianos. Classic Pianos was chosen because Steinway believed that they could market their brand more regionally than locally — a desire that was not conveyed to the locally- and community-focused Sherman Clay staff members.

Paola said that they will remain in their current space for another few months until a deal is finalized for their new location. They are currently negotiating offers on two different sites — both located in downtown/SW Portland. The new sites will feature recital spaces, so they will continue to be able to host OMTA for meetings and events. They pledged dedication to, and continued support of, OMTA Portland District.

Various OMTA members expressed their gratitude to Paola and Kell for their support of OMTA, and the group honored them with a standing ovation.

Following the Paola's and Kell's announcement, **Programs Chair Stephens** introduced the program presenter, **Dr. Jeffrey Savage.** Dr. Savage gave a lecture about pedaling.

Next meeting: May 22, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned sometime in the noon hour.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Novak

(substituting for Recording Secretary Susan Todd)