



Oregon Music
Teachers Association
PORTLAND DISTRICT
Est. 1915

**OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FOR THE PORTLAND DISTRICT MEETING
May 23, 2012
Sherman Clay Pianos, Portland**

CALL TO ORDER

President Cherise da Cunha called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

MINUTES

Recording Secretary Susan Todd provided the members with minutes from the January 25, 2012 meeting. Minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer Cindy Peterson-Peart reported that balances were \$17,653.20 in checking and \$10,025.70 in savings. Festivals income down roughly \$1300, reflecting lower enrollments for Classical and Romantic festivals, but expenses were also down. Baroque festival participation was higher this year. The smaller numbers participating in Classical and Romantic made the festivals more manageable. Portland District Syllabus participation was also down this year.

Corresponding Secretary Alice Lyle reported sending eight cards since the January meeting, and encouraged members to email her when someone needs a card.

OMTA President Fern McArthur was welcomed as a guest. She thanked Portland District for helping hold the state together with support, creativity and our dues. Her theme was "Three cheers (or more) for Portland District". On behalf of the state, Fern thanked Portland District for the generous scholarship donation, which helped fund some bi-annual scholarships, enabling them to become annual awards. The district donation also made possible the establishment of a Music Link student scholarship.

Fern highlighted several upcoming opportunities, including the OMTA State Conference in Skamania June 29-July 1. Bonnie Esbensen has put together an excellent program including Alan Walker, Forest Kinney, Dr. Leonard Richter and Stephen Beus.

Fern announced that Ramona Goddard is doing a program on syllabus made easy, and that online syllabus registration will be coming soon. Several Portland areas will be involved in the initial phases. There will be bumps, and teachers are encouraged to go to local chair first, then consult the OMTA Handbook for state leaders.

The printed OMTA directory and handbook will be combined. Fern was asked if it is okay to give out to music stores and technicians. She will take the question to the state board this summer. The hesitation is that members' email addresses are included in the directory.

Fern encouraged members to check out the OMTA Sonata/Sonatina festival in Roseburg, set for October 27. Sandra Palmer, Roseburg president, established the event, which is in its third year. It is a repertoire specific event which the students really enjoy.

Fern pointed out that members can make the most their membership by checking out Teacher Enrichment Grants and Scholarships. Details are available on the state website, www.OregonMTA.org.

President-elect Bonnie Esbensen, Corvallis, is looking for board members. If interested, check out the different committees and let Fern or Bonnie know of your willingness to serve.

Fern announced that Cindy Peterson-Peart has been nominated to be OMTA President-Elect, with elections to be held at the state conference. She informed us that Pauline Eidemiller was surprised and delighted to learn that she is the 2012 OMTA Foundation Fellow nominee.

Membership—Alona Maizlin announced that seven new members have joined the district since January 25. They are Michele Overby, Christopher Anderson, Kenneth Finch, Samantha Smith, Susanne Hryinu, and Julia Ganske. Alona gave the areas of the new teachers so current members can make them welcome. Michele Overby, and Christopher Anderson were present and received welcoming applause and flowers. Ingrid Kraft introduced herself as a newer member; she joined a while back but this is the first meeting she could attend. Cindy Peterson-Peart mentioned focus groups as best way to get acquainted.

President Cherise da Cunha thanked event chairs and other volunteers for a great year and expressed thanks to Zack Zaitlin for refreshments. A volunteer host is needed for the September meeting. Cherise reminded members to “like” Portland District is on Facebook. While non-OMTA events cannot be printed in the Maestro, they can be mentioned on Facebook, so send information to Cherise.

FESTIVALS

Romantic Festival was a success. Certificates and trophies are available from chairperson **Irene Huang** after today’s meeting.

String Syllabus is growing, according to chair, **Ruth Sadilek**. Corvallis had a full day of adjudications, and Portland District had seven teachers enter a total of thirty students, participating in four locations.

FOCUS GROUPS

East Side— Alice Lyle announced that **Shirley Brendlinger** will give a presentation to their group on Friday, May 25.

For other Focus Group information, check the www.OMTA-Portland.org website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robin Power, Administrative Assistant for OMTA and for Portland Piano International encouraged members to contact the OMTA office mainly through email. Robin brought supplies including Super Scales a la Syllabus books, the sales of which help fund the OMTA office. Robin was pleased to meet members in person. Robin also announced PPI’s upcoming summer festival, their 14th, which will be held at Portland’s World Forestry Center July 10-15. The festival will feature five films, two duos, recitals of local students with

Cascadia Composers and four world-class piano concerts. Thanks to the Nellie Tholen Grant, all 33 events are only \$230 for OMTA members.

Dorothy Fahman announced the upcoming Debussy/Ravel recital sponsored by Portland Chamber Orchestra. OMTA members are encouraged to enter students by July 30 for the September 22 event.

Jan Mittelstaedt announced that ESMAR, the Extended Study of Musicianship And Repertoire program is completing the 2nd year of the pilot program. Students will present a master-class style assessment on June 2 at Jan's studio. The participants will give a final recital on Wednesday, June 13, 2012, 7:30pm at Sherman Clay. Jan will be presenting ESMAR to the state board for official approval this summer. Patricia Scordato, Grace Chen, Barbara Roberts and Jan Mittelstaedt have worked to develop the program, which is not an extension of syllabus and is not competitive or graded. Participants must be verbally recommended by their teacher and can be high school age or adults. Teachers are welcome to participate themselves, and are asked to alert Jan if they plan to have entrants for next year. Jan would like feedback on the program to prepare her comments for the state board.

PROGRAM

Following the break, program chair **Kelli Stephens** introduced the master-class presenter, **Mr. Choong-Ma Kang** from Julliard Institute in New York.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2012, 9:00 a.m. at Sherman Clay Pianos.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Todd

Recording Secretary