



**OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FOR THE PORTLAND DISTRICT MEETING
May 27, 2015 | Portland Piano Company | Portland**

CALL TO ORDER President Deborah Cleaver called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

GREETING AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT Deborah welcomed all members and guests.

MINUTES Recording Secretary Susan Todd provided the members with minutes from the January 28, 2015 meeting. Minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer Cindy Peterson-Peart's report is attached. These are not final figures for the fiscal year. More dues income is expected and a few more bills will come in, but she anticipates the district will end the year in the black. Checking Account Balance is \$15,685.22 and Savings Account balance is \$10,043.41. Cindy relayed that after Portland District's Non-Profit status was reinstated and seven years of tax reports were filed, she received notices that the district owed over \$35,000 late fees for those tax years. She called the IRS and was able to get all the fees reversed. This all happened when information was lost in transition from one treasurer to another.

Corresponding Secretary Alice Lyle reported sending a total of three cards since January. Condolence cards were sent to Lilin Chen on the passing of her mom and the family of Josephine Pohl, who passed away March 23, 2015. A Congratulatory card was sent to Dorothy Fahlman, who was honored as Oregon's MTNA Foundation Fellow at the national conference in March. Dorothy spoke of the beauty of Alice's handmade cards and her appreciation for the support of the membership.

New Members—Deborah read the names of new members, and welcomed Jin Wa Starr, pianist and audio engineer from New York. Jin Wa will be living in the Tigard area.

Syllabus—Deborah relayed that state chair Suzanne Savaria's team continues work on updates for the classical jazz, strings, guitar and voice syllabus. She did not have numbers for spring syllabus, but has received many positive reports about the spring adjudications. More adjudicators are needed and members are encouraged to apply. Syllabus meetings will be at the conference on June 18, let by assistant chair, Cherise da Cunha and OMTA president, Cindy Peterson-Peart.

Deborah reminded members that it is time to register students for the Level X recital on June 7 at 2 at 3:30. Forms are available online. Bio should be sent to Aiko Matusa for the programs.

Leggiero—Ramona Goddard reported that the Jazz Syllabus and some of the state festivals are being added to the Leggiero Online Registration program.

ESMAR—Jan Mittelstaedt informed members about what this program is and is not. It is a very good program for exceptional students. No syllabus experience is required, but participants must be 10th grade or higher. The program is also available for teachers or adult students. This year's recital will be Sunday, May 31, 3:00 at Classic Pianos. Assessments are June 6-7 at Classic Pianos and are open to a few observers. Forms are posted on the state website.

Focus Groups—Debra Sostrin announced that the Bethany group has been revitalized, with three well-attended programs open to all areas, and two swap and share meetings. Dianne Davies reported Beaverton Focus Group is polling members for ideas for the coming year. The Hillsboro group is in need of a new chair as Kathy Rigall stepped down after six years of service.

Blog—the Portland District Blog has been revamped by chair Samantha Smith, with easy access for information on Portland District events. Deborah asked members to consult the blog rather than phoning her for the information which is easily accessible there.

FESTIVALS

Romantic and Classical Festivals- Deborah reported that the Romantic Festival had a record-breaking enrollment of over 400 students and was run expertly by new chair, Chris Engbretson. Chris will co-chair the Classical Festival with Samantha Smith. Members are encouraged to sign up as day hosts for the festivals. Patti Duthie brought trophies and Honorable Mention certificates from Crown Trophies, and will take them back there after the meeting. Members can pick up trophies at their Beaverton location.

Ensemble Festival- Fen Fang Tsao that the state rules have changed and that any teachers with winners wishing to participate in the state event must send their entries in through the district chair. The state also voted that no district can have more than 30% winners, and the Festival Chairs will discuss whether to accept that restriction and continue to participate in the state event, or not. They will seek input from participating Portland teachers before a final decision is made.

Baroque & Contemporary Festival- Deborah reported that the judges really enjoyed adjudicating both types of music together. Only one person complained about the combination. The numbers came in higher than the separate festivals had previously. Concern was expressed of students having enough time. Additional time can be purchased.

Composition Celebration-Dan Brugh reported that this year's event was a success. Adjudicator Paul Safar awarded winners for all eight entrants, and their piano and ensemble compositions will be heard at the state event on Saturday, May 30, in one hour recitals running from 12-4 p.m. at Portland Piano Company. Dan introduced Dianne Davies as chair of the 2016 event.

Trula Whelan Concerto Competition- Dr. Marjorie Janove reported a successful event, with the twenty-three winners performing in an honors recital at Michele's Pianos. Next year's competition will be held April 9 at Portland Piano Company.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

State Conference--Cindy Peterson-Peart—conference coming up June 18-21 in Welches. The early bird deadline has passed, but online registration is open through June 11. The General Membership will be voting on eliminating the degree requirement for membership. Input from both sides is requested. The 2016 conference will be in conjunction with Portland Piano International's summer festival.

Dianne Davies reported that the In Good Hands concert: Igniting Tomorrow's Musicians with Today's Music will be held July 16, 4:00 at the Old Church.

Special Thanks to the Portland Piano Company for hosting our meeting, and to Bella Sheykman for arranging today's refreshments. The meeting was recessed for refreshments at 9:50.

PROGRAM Dr. Julia Hwakyu Lee announced that Dr. Susan Chan will be taking over as program chair next year. Dr. Hwakyu Lee introduced Dr. Caroline Hong, who gave an enlightening program entitled Creative Technique.

These minutes were prepared by Recording Secretary Susan Todd.