



**OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES FOR THE PORTLAND DISTRICT MEETING  
September 24, 2014 | Portland Piano Company | Portland**

**CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME and PRESIDENT'S REPORT** President Deborah Cleaver called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. She invited everyone to view and comment on the new Maestro Blog, and to share teaching ideas and join in the conversations. Deborah noted that many of those in attendance were currently volunteering in the district. She encouraged current volunteers to come up with tasks that a volunteer could easily do and let her know so she can help new members be more engaged with district events.

**MINUTES**

Recording Secretary Susan Todd provided the members with minutes from the May 28, 2014 meeting. Carole Lindell-Ross pointed out that her name had been misspelled. Minutes were approved with that correction.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer** Cindy Peterson-Peart's report is included in the online minutes, reflecting \$13,985.05 in checking and \$10,041.38. Cindy noted that the fiscal year ended June 30, and had available the 2013-14 budget summary and final budgets for 13-14 and 14-15. Cindy noted the only major change was the elimination of the Super Focus Group. Those attending were mostly in the currently active groups, and there was no chair. That budget amount was distributed between the active groups of Hillsboro, Beaverton and Far East. The board voted that presenters should be paid minimum of \$100 honorarium. Groups can go together to pay for a more expensive presenter.

**Corresponding Secretary** Alice Lyle reported sending a total of seven cards since January. Her complete report is attached. Alona Maizlin and Deborah Cleaver spoke in honor of Rosalie Justen, who passed away in August.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

State Syllabus Chair, Suzanne Savaria reported that conferences will be 15 minutes only, and teachers may sign up for more than one 15-minute conference if they have longer days or multiple days. Any teacher having difficulty with online syllabus registration should address questions to colleagues or their local syllabus chair, NOT to Ramona Goddard. All members must have their MTNA membership number to register, and dues must be up-to-date.

ESMAR Extended Study of Musicianship and Repertoire – Chair Lori Martinson reminded members that the program for advanced students includes a 90-minute theory and repertoire exam. Jill Timmons will be the adjudicator for 2015, location TBA. Please contact Lori by phone if interested in participating this year. ESMAR often takes more than a year to complete, so get started now. Barbara Musolf reported that one of her students was able to pass off first year theory at Oberlin Conservatory because of the student's work in ESMAR. Information available on the [www.OregonMTA.org](http://www.OregonMTA.org) website under student programs. Hillsboro November 5 at the Hillsboro Main Library, Cindy Peterson-Peart presenting on technology in the studio.

**FOCUS GROUPS**

Beaverton coordinator Dianne Davies invited members to contact her if they would like to be on the Beaverton email list. Meetings include Oct. 8 Dorothy Fahlman Syllabus prep, Dec. 3 Susan Todd on keeping it legal. Lake Oswego and Bethany groups will help host Kenji Bunch and Monica Ohuchi in February 11 at Portland Piano.

Far East member Alice Lyle reported that Margaret Littlehales will be speaking on the Sons of Bach at Kerry Montgomery's home on October 17. Linda Nielsen is the coordinator.

Debra Sostrin, new coordinator for Bethany reported that the group had been dormant but is reinvigorating. They are planning a couple of potlucks and teacher-led programs and are encouraging members to attend other area groups. Debra is coordinating dates and program offerings to avoid duplicating efforts. Next event is a potluck and teacher/student performances on Oct. 22 at Eileen Knox's.

Susan Todd reported that the Hillsboro group next meets on November 5 at the Hillsboro Library, with Cindy Peterson-Peart presenting on technology in the teaching studio. Those interested in being on the Hillsboro contact list can contact the coordinator, Kathy Rigall.

## **FESTIVALS**

**Classical Festival-** Lilin Chen, chair, asked teachers to carefully time their students and observe the recommended time limits for each age group. Members discussed whether the monitor or adjudicator should cut off a student who is playing over time. Deborah said the festival chairs would discuss it and set a policy, which Irene Huang will help get into the monitor instructions. Lilin reported that in conjunction with the festival, on Friday, November 7 Steven Spooner will give a workshop on using Urtext editions. It will be held from 9:30-11:30 at Portland Piano, with a \$15 charge for the workshop. All are welcome. The workshop will be relevant for all instruments and voices.

## **MENTORSHIP**

Patti Duthie reported that there was not much interest in New Member Brunches on Wednesday mornings, and she will research having them on a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon. Patti would like to have an assistant with this project.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Chair Alona Maizlin reported that the nine newest members include eight active and one student members. In their numbers we have three doctors, teachers of yoga, flute, French horn, voice, and piano. Alona introduced new members at the meeting: Carma Glausi teaches in West Linn and is also active in Tualatin Valley district. Betty Shepherd moved here from Washington and teaches in SE, and Dr. Sophia Christiansen from Michigan is teaching in the NW.

Alona announced that Linda Rodgers will be the new chair. State Membership Chair Liz Willis presented Alona with roses in appreciation for her seven years as Portland District membership chair.

## **FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Portland District Website--**Solveig Sorensen manages the website and asked that festival or focus group chairs send her calendar items and updates. Solveig's contact information is on the home page of the website. Teachers are on the "find a teacher" list by request only. There is also a link for the new Maestro Blog on the website under News. Suzanne Hamlin maintains the district's Facebook page.

**Maestro Blog--**Samantha Smith is the new chair. Samantha encouraged people to go to the blog directly or via Portland District website. Same categories as before, President's Corner is the first and most up-to-date item. Links to more information are found on the President's page. Programs, Syllabus, Festivals, Focus Groups, and the new items include Book Club, Issues and Questions page and Members Discussion page. Samantha and Deborah encouraged members to join in the discussion, or start a conversation. All members are invited to comment on the blog. Please alert Samantha of corrections and she can make them right away. Information for the following month is due to Deborah by the 20th of the month. Old issues are viewable on the website.

**Piano Santa** Sandra Phadke informed members that pianos available for students in the Portland area. Students can have the pianos in their homes for three years, and can renew through the end of high school. Beginning age is 7-13. More information at [www.PianoSanta.org](http://www.PianoSanta.org) and on their Facebook page. Sandra distributed applications. The group also sponsors an annual contest for advanced

students, Syllabus 6 or higher. Students compete for the privilege of having a grand piano in their home for two years. Moving and maintenance costs are covered by the Piano Santa Foundation.

**Education Department of Oregon Symphony** Susan Franzen made available brochures about kids concerts, family concerts, master classes and cheap tickets. The symphony invites groups of teachers or groups of teachers and students to attend symphony rehearsals. Contact Susan to learn more.

**Foundation** Patti Duthie drew tickets for the OMTA Foundation Raffle. Tickets for High Desert Museum were won by Victoria Drosdova and Liz Willis won tickets donated by Chamber Music Northwest.

**Certification** Wilma Hawkins – OMTA certification chair recognized Irene Huang and Ross Harris as having recently completed the process to become Nationally Certified Teachers of Music. Wilma also noted that the Federated Clubs scholarship competition deadline October 31. Details on the OFMC website.

Deborah expressed thanks to the Portland Piano Company for hosting our meeting, and to Bella Sheykman for arranging today's refreshments.

The business meeting concluded at 10:10 for a brief time of refreshment.

### **PROGRAM**

Program Chair Julia Hwakyu Lee introduced Master Clinician Peter Mack, who gave an entertaining and informative program titled "Not Only *Für Elise*: Gorgeous Unknown Compositions by Well-Known Composers.

Meeting Adjourned Deborah Cleaver

These minutes were prepared by Recording Secretary Susan Todd.