

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

November 2019 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website, kitsapmusicteachers.org.



President's Message: ACTIVATION!

We all know what it means to activate something: a credit card, a switch. But what about a space? Urban planners look for ways to turn empty land into a community asset. Sidewalks in front of restaurants can be turned into outdoor eating areas. On Park(ing) Day, the third Friday in September, cities around the world including Seattle ACTIVATE individual parking spaces, turning them into pop-up parks or art installations. (Not sure how the drivers feel about it!)

Activation discourages nuisance uses by demonstrating that the space is cared for. Walls that attract graffiti can be painted with murals. An abandoned factory in my husband's home town has been turned into a riverside park. Activation shows that a space is inhabited and valued, not neglected, and most people seem to honor that care.

Are there ways we can activate empty spaces in our community with music? How about Christmas at the Mall? Signups are already underway to ACTIVATE the open space at the Kitsap Mall with student performances all through the holiday season. Occasionally I've had students who busk on sidewalks just for fun and a little extra cash. A couple years ago, a car dealership in Poulsbo added a piano to their showroom and invited students to come play it. I don't know if it's still there, but it was a great idea!

Have you activated any spaces in your studio? Shelves or posters or coat hooks on a blank wall, a small table and chair in a corner for students to work on

theory assignments? For clever space planning and organizational ideas, check out the websites Houzz.com and TheSpruce.com.

What about activating... TIME? We all need more of it! To make productive use of odd 10-minute intervals, I manage my to-do list. I can concentrate better on the student I'm teaching if I know that all my to-do's are written down somewhere for me to go back to later, instead of having 1001 details swimming in my head. A quick shortcut can be to take a PICTURE on your phone of the thing you need to remember, like an item for your shopping list.

While multi-tasking is famously counterproductive, music layers with lots of other activities. When I'm learning new orchestra repertoire, I find a YouTube video performance that can play in the background while I send emails or pay bills. I may not be actively listening, but the music is sinking in, and I can rewind it as many times as I like.

Activate spare moments to relax and recharge: Put on some peaceful music and just let your mind drift for a few minutes. Do some deep breathing exercises. Play your instrument for fun. Schedule in 15 minutes at the beginning or end of the day for uninterrupted quiet time. Stretch, take a walk, write in a journal. If you don't put it into your schedule, it probably won't happen! (Isn't that what we tell our students about their daily practice routine?)

Finally, ACTIVATE your KMTA membership by plugging into one of our upcoming events as a volunteer! If you haven't poked into all the different pages on our website, you may not know just how many opportunities there are for you and your students. Find your favorite area and contact the chairperson or any board member to get involved.

As the holidays approach and the minutes start to fill up, activate times and spaces that you commit to love and live in! After recharging yourself, you'll have a lot more to give to others.

Jane Melin

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

From the VP: Meeting News



♪ I got rhythm! ♪
Do you?

Have you ever thought about the fact that music is literally *impossible* without rhythm? I remind my students of this frequently; it's possible to have rhythm without melody, but you just can't have melody without rhythm!

We have a rhythm expert coming to visit us next week! Come to our meeting on Friday, November 8 at 10 a.m., at Central Kitsap Presbyterian church. Jan Music (yes, that's really her name!) will be presenting her program, "***Rhythm, Up and Moving***", and--you guessed it--we will be *up and moving*! She will introduce us to some fun Eurythmics activities developed through the Dalcroze approach (which utilizes the whole body to internalize rhythm). Jan promises, "Everyone will have fun, guaranteed!"

Now, this may sound quite similar to Mary Kogen's presentation from the District III Conference, but Jan will actually build on what Mary presented, so you haven't seen it all yet!

A little about "Madame Music":

Jan lives and teaches in Olympia Washington. She plays and directs choir in her church, and founded the group *Joysong Victorian Carolers*.

Jan composes and arranges music regularly and she has served for many years as an adjudicator for the Young Composers Project affiliated with WSMTA. She also is an approved adjudicator for National Federation of Music Clubs.

Jan received her Dalcroze Eurythmics training at the University of Washington and studied jazz and jazz theory with Stephen Moore at University of Puget Sound.

I look forward to being *up and moving* with you next week!

Laura Meredith

Vice-President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

**Piano Music Artistry Program Preliminary
Reports Due November 15**

A message from Piano MAP Chair Sun Gamble:

(Please see the following article for Strings and Vocal MAP deadlines.)

November 15 : This is the last day that piano teachers can email me (sungamble69@yahoo.com) to report your preliminary **minutes** (just minutes; no other details needed.) This process is to find out if I secured enough time with visiting artists. If we need more time, I need to contact more visiting artists as soon as possible. If I secured too many hours, I also need to let them know so that they can free their schedule for other things.

Since we are having some major changes in our chapter this year, this process is very important. You have been wonderful in the past, so I believe that you will be continued to be cooperative and proactive.

Print out the registration worksheet from the [WSMTA site](#) and start filling it out. Be sure to include your consultation time (either 10 or 20 minutes) and Honors Recital Selection time (5 minutes). It doesn't have to be the exact number, but I would really appreciate if the discrepancy is not more than 20 minutes or so.

December 15 : This is the last day Piano Teachers can register on the WSMTA website. Please read the teacher's handbook on the [WSMTA site](#) and FAQ on the [KMTA site](#). Murphy's law seems to be at work at this time, so please do not procrastinate.

Important note: Since December 15th is Sunday this year, the last day that Carrie Kahler (State Administrator) can help you is Thursday December 12. Please have your login ID and password ready. If you do not know your ID, please contact her beforehand.

Strings and Vocal Music Artistry Program Preliminary Minutes Due November 15

Vocal MAP dates and deadlines are the same as the piano dates, except for the date of the MAP event, which is February 15th. Please contact Melanie Stroud at melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com for information.

Strings MAP dates and deadlines are as follows:

November 15: Preliminary minutes are due. Please email them to Melanie Kurtzbein at kurtzbein4@gmail.com by this date.

January 15: Register your students for MAP by this date at the WSMTA website.

Plan ahead incase you have trouble logging in!

March 6 and 7: Strings MAP event dates

Please email Melanie Kurtzbein at kurtzbein4@gmail.com with any questions about

Strings MAP. We'd love to see you and your students there!

Christmas at the Mall

A message from Sally Camp, Christmas at the Mall Chair

The Christmas at the Kitsap Mall Recitals will begin on November 29th. Langlois will be bringing in the piano. There are many spots still open. Go to the sign-up sheet on [our website's members only page](#) to sign up for any open spots at your convenience. The piano will be in the food court area; same as last year. Feel free to move the audience chairs very close to the piano to increase audibility. While the venue is less than acoustically ideal, students benefit greatly from the festive atmosphere. Have fun at the Kitsap Mall this holiday season!

Kitsap Young Musicians Festival

A message from Krista Seely, KYMF Chair

Registration for KYMF is now closed, but please plan to join us for some great music on Saturday, November 16, at St Anthony of Egypt Episcopal Church in Silverdale. More than 100 students are registered, so there will be several recitals throughout the day. If you registered students, you will receive a schedule by the end of the first week in November. Please confirm that ALL students have submitted a permission form/liability waiver.

Volunteers are needed! If you can help at the recitals, please contact Krista Seely, festival chair: ks88keys@gmail.com.

I'll see you at the festival!

Certification

Have you been considering certification? The hardest part is getting started. Feel free to contact me and I would be happy to work with you to come up with a plan that

works for you.

Joann Richardson, NCTM; joann@jrichardsonmusic.com

KMTA Music Carnival 2020

Our 9th annual KMTA Music Carnival has been confirmed for Saturday, April 25, 2020 at Gateway Fellowship. Mark your calendars and plan to have your studio participate! Those of you who have helped with the Carnival and Musicianship Exams in the past know it is an event that requires a tremendous amount of preparation, and all hands on deck! Last year's event was a huge success with several new teachers involved, and our hope is that we will grow again this year. Non-member teachers and studios are welcome to participate as well, so please reach out to your non-member teacher friends and spread the word!

Diane Layton will again serve as chair of the exams (WSMTA Music Literacy Program, formerly known as the Musicianship Exams), assisted by co-chair Dianne Johnston. Debra Florian will again chair the Music Carnival, assisted by co-chair Melanie Stroud. We are working on establishing committees, job assignments, etc. to lay preliminary groundwork for this year's Carnival. We look forward to seeing all of you there. Please send Melanie an email as soon as possible to let her know if you are available to help and in what capacity. We are hoping that most people will continue in the positions they filled last year if possible, to maintain some continuity, but we will also be looking to involve new participating teachers.

If you are new to KMTA, or have never participated in the Carnival and Exams (MLP), we encourage you to get involved. We especially want to encourage strings teachers, since our own Jane Melin has developed several tests for strings for WSMTA. Exams are also available for treble winds, developed by Diane Layton and Shelley Devlin. Check out the exam preparation resources available on the [MLP page of the WSMTA website](#). There you will find the handbook and other resources including the registration form. You can also find prep exams (for a small fee) on the [ComposeCreate website of Wendy Stevens](#), the lead author of the exam program we use.

If it seems overwhelming to take on the entire program at once, consider choosing even one or two exam areas to prepare with your students this year. Get your feet wet! ☺ All students can certainly participate in a solo performance and do an art or written project. Check it out, and contact any of our chairs with questions. We'd be happy to walk you through it. Watch for regular updates through the Quavers, KMTA email and website.

Debra Florian, NCTM
KMTA Music Carnival Chair
360-434-8684

Dianne Johnston, WSCTM
KMTA MLP Co-chair
360-930-0168

flostudio@comcast.net

Melanie Stroud, NCTM
KMTA Carnival Co-Chair
360-434-2117
melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com

diannej23@comcast.net

Diane Layton, NCTM
KMTA Music Literacy Program Chair
360-633-5082
mrsboxL1@yahoo.com

Visit our [MEMBERS ONLY](#) page to view updated versions of our membership directory and annual calendar, as well as sign ups for **Christmas at the Mall!** All active members will receive a separate email with the password.

Auditions for substitute Organist

(Classically Trained)

First Church of Christ, Scientist
1003 – 4th Street
Bremerton, WA 98337
(Two Manual Pipe Organ)
Sunday Service
Prelude 3 Hymns
Offertory Accompany a Vocal Solo
Postlude

For audition, we would like to hear a short prelude and postlude, and have you sight-read a hymn.

(Accomplished pianists are encouraged to audition.)

For an appointment, please call or text Michelle at 360-932-5282.

Contradance workshop

An upcoming dance is Saturday, November 16th at Island Center Hall, 8395 Fletcher Bay Road, Bainbridge Island, from 7:30 - 10:30 PM. Our caller, Gwen Rousseau will give a 'How to Contradance' workshop on the steps commonly used in contra dances from 7:30 - 8:00 and from 8:00 - 10:30. All dances will be taught and called. Music will be provided by the Country Capers Celtic Duo (Jane Landstra & Ken Embrey,) and the muses are whispering that Charlie & TJ Faddis will join in.

No partners needed. Adults \$15. Youth (10-18) \$5.

Please wear clean-soled shoes to protect the oak floor.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check for registration deadlines, instructions, documents, contacts and more at the linked pages.

Chapter meeting
Friday, November 8, 10 am, Central Kitsap
Presbyterian

Kitsap Young Musician's Festival

Saturday, November 16, St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal
Church

MORE FROM KMTA

For the latest information on upcoming events, watch for email alerts to items posted on our [News](#) page.

[KMTA on Facebook](#)

[KMTA Website](#)

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