

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

*May 2020 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website,
kitsapmusicteachers.org.*



President's Message

“**Don’t Panic**” are the words printed on the cover of The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy, the universe’s most practical publication. It accompanies Arthur Dent, the Everyman main character of the book/BBC radio series/TV series/movie of the same name, as he narrowly escapes the destruction of Earth and wanders the galaxy meeting eccentric people who speak in British accents. That little motto may be one we can hold onto, as the world continues to lurch from one news story to the next in our crazy “new normal” universe.

Since this is my last article as your KMTA president, in the words of the dolphins of Earth (recorded in the above book), “So long and thanks for all the fish.” We take time each May to acknowledge the contributions of those who have served in leadership roles. Every other year, we also go through the Changing of the Guard, as Board members rotate and those who are continuing in their positions make another 2-year commitment to serve.

Drumroll please (and virtual  chocolate bars) for the 2018-2020 Honor Roll:

Irene Bowling – Spotlight Concert and Workshop
 Sally Camp – Treasurer, Student Community Recitals
 Georgene Corey – Spotlight Concert and Workshop
 Eva Crim – MAP Honors Recital, Senior Celebration
 Debra Florian – KMTA Music Carnival, Dorothy Woodcock Endowment,
 Bylaws Revision Committee
 Catherine Gabbey – Student Community Recitals
 Sun Gamble – Piano MAP, Chapter Representative (Keyboard)

Mary Grant – Registrar, Performance Competitions
 Megan Hennings – Secretary, Historian
 Dianne Johnston – WSMTA Music Literacy Program, Bylaws Revision Committee
 Christine Kastanopolous – Vice President
 Melanie Kurtzbein – Internal Communications, Strings MAP,
 Chapter Representative (Non-Keyboard),
 Vocal and Instrumental Performance Competitions
 Julie Mandery – Kitsap Young Musicians Festival
 Laura Meredith – Vice President/President-Elect, Internal Communications,
 Community Concert
 Joann Richardson – Certification, Membership
 Anita Rose – Sunshine, Music Link
 Krista Seely – Kitsap Young Musicians Festival, Bylaws Revision Committee
 Melanie Stroud – KMTA Music Carnival, Vocal MAP, Community Concert,
 Vocal and Instrumental Performance Competitions

In the past week, I have especially appreciated all the teachers and volunteers who usually run the MLP events at the Music Carnival. It has been so much work to administer tests, grade them, and label ribbons on my own for all my students! A real demonstration that "many hands make light work!"

I am grateful now to turn over the Presidential reins to the capable hands of Laura Meredith. I know you will all continue to provide your expertise and support to Laura as she charts an uncertain course into Fall 2020. Laura: *Don't Panic!* (We've got your back!) And for all of us, from another apocalyptic movie sign-off: "We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when // But I know we'll meet again some sunny day...."

Jane Melin

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

From the VP: Meeting News



Thank you, Jane! I appreciate the *Large friendly letters*



What's more, I am so appreciative (as I'm sure all of us are) of your excellent leadership during these past two years, especially the bumpy road we've all been traveling the past couple of months! I am glad that you're not completely off the hook, and will continue to serve on our Board of Directors. I couldn't do it without you!

Next Friday we will have another zoom membership meeting at 10 a.m. This is a very important meeting to attend, as we will be voting for our leadership, and need to have a sufficient quorum in attendance.

We will also be doing our "year in review", as we traditionally do at our May meeting. Between it being a virtual meeting, and many of our events either canceled or changed in format, we are sure to have our most unique year's review yet! And as always, we value your feedback, even if you were not able to attend many events.

Be on the lookout for a Zoom invite next week, and I will see you Friday!

Laura Meredith

Vice-President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

URGENT APPEAL: YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED on Bylaws revision

At publication time only (24) votes have been registered on the matter of revising the KMTA Bylaws. Please search for the email that you would have received on April 14 with "Bylaws Vote" in the subject line. Check your Spam folder if you don't find it in your Inbox, or look in your Trash if you have purged emails since then. Open it, read through, and register your vote in the blue highlighted box at the bottom. We cannot move forward until two thirds of our members have voted!

The 2012 version of the Constitution and Bylaws is posted on our website, [here](#). The revised Bylaws are [here](#). The revision work was begun in 2018 to eliminate redundant clauses that duplicated or conflicted with WSMTA and MTNA bylaws, which have both been revised since 2012 and which are the "umbrella" documents for KMTA. The result is a simplified 2-page (instead of 5-page) document that keeps us in compliance with our parent organizations.

If you have been reluctant to vote because you need to know more about the changes, PLEASE contact a Board member or someone on the Bylaws Committee (Debra Florian, Dianne Johnston, Krista Seely) to have your questions or concerns answered.

If we are unable to complete this important vote by email alone, we will have to resort to more expensive and time-consuming methods like mailing postcards. **Please, vote today!**

Leadership Announcements for 2020-22

The May membership meeting is when we vote on new Board officers. Most of the committee chairs and Board officers have agreed to continue in their roles for the upcoming biennium. The main change to our leadership roster every two years is the Vice President/President-Elect

position. Once that position is filled, that person continues into the subsequent offices of President and Immediate Past President with no additional votes.

Our Nominating Committee has been working since January to recruit a new Vice President/President-Elect. Several candidates have been approached, but all have declined. This is mainly due to the *ideal* (but not mandatory!) six-year leadership commitment upon agreeing to become President-Elect.

On the invitation of the Nominating Committee and with agreement by the Board, Jane Melin has agreed to serve as Interim Vice President while Diane Layton will continue as Immediate Past President. *Neither Jane nor Diane wishes to remain in these roles any longer than necessary*, especially Diane who has completed her 6-year stint. The members will vote on this change at the May 8 meeting. The Nominating Committee will continue working to put forward a new President-Elect as soon as possible in the 2020-21 year to come.

Senior Celebration quickly approaching (May 16!)

All seniors are invited to submit a short biography and photo for our "KMTA Class of 2020" program. We would also love to include recorded videos of our seniors in lieu of a live performance. To ensure we have time to compile all the information and create programs, **please submit your short biography, photo and recorded video(s) between now and May 10, 2020**. These can all be submitted via our [Online Submission Form](#). We will also be recognizing the winners of our Outstanding Scholar Awards. Teachers please be sure to submit your [OSA applications](#) to Dianne Johnston by May 10.

Guidelines for submissions:

The submission form will ask for the student's name, teacher's name, a photo, a short biography, and YouTube links for up to two videos per senior.

Please keep biography to approximately 50-100 words, (e.g. high school, music teacher, years of study, post high school plans, hobbies/interests).

Record your video selection as many times as you like, and submit your preferred one. Upload your video to YouTube, name the video: "[Senior's name], Class of 2020," and set its visibility to "Unlisted" (please do not choose "Public" or "Private"). YouTube will create a link for you to copy and paste into the Online Submission Form.

Only people with your unique link will have access to view your video. Use this [Online Submission Form](#) to submit your links and information. The registrar will confirm successful receipt of your information within 3 days of submittal.

Finally, let's dress-up for the occasion and celebrate in style!

Sincerely,

Eva Crim and Dianne Johnston (with much help from Mary Grant and Melanie Kurtzbein)

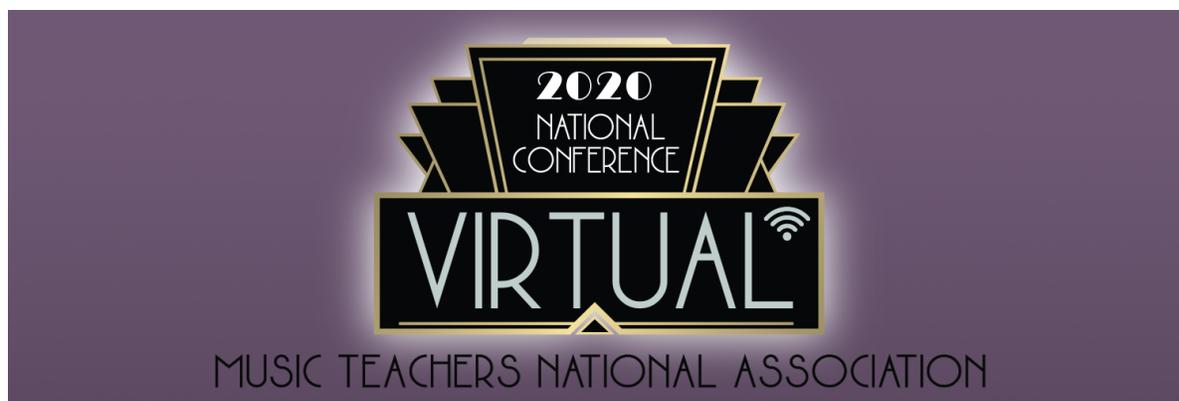
Music Literacy Program Reminders

Happy May Everyone! I hope you are all working through your MLP exams with your students. Many of you may be finding that some students are not performing up to the perfect expectations we usually see at the Music Carnival. I would encourage you to give grace to your students and yourself. These are extraordinary times and a measure of grace is warranted I believe. I found one of my level one students just couldn't remember how to clap and count a rhythm. So I changed the level on the form to read Level A and used it as a teaching opportunity. Remember, we want to do what's in the best interest of our students.

The testing completion date is set for May 15. At that time all materials need to be returned to me. You can mail them to me, Diane Layton, at 8295 Saddle Trail NW in Bremerton, WA 98311, or feel free to drive by. Materials can be left safely on my front porch. Please let me know via text (360-633-5082) or email (mrsboxl1@yahoo.com) if you plan on dropping them off so I can keep an eye out for them. If completing testing by May 15 is going to be a difficulty for you, please give me a heads up. As I said before, grace is featured prominently in this years MLP exams.

Good luck to you and your students as you complete your exams!

Diane Layton



Watch and Share the MTNA Virtual Conference

You should already have received emails from MTNA, inviting you to watch the FREE seminar videos by pro teachers who would have presented sessions at the National Conference in Chicago. MTNA is offering hours of valuable professional development content absolutely free, and you DON'T need to be an MTNA member to watch!

[Start here](#) to see all the amazing subject areas to explore! Once you have found a favorite video or two, please SHARE them (or the whole conference page!) with friends who are not members

of MTNA. This is a great recruitment tool to show the value of MTNA membership. Happy watching!

In Memoriam: Mary Reynolds, Past KMTA President

One of our long term members, Mary Elizabeth Reynolds, passed away a few weeks ago. She had been inactive due to health issues the past few years so some of our newer members may not have had the opportunity to meet her. I was lucky to have gotten to know Mary back in the mid 90's when I first joined KMTA. She was very active at the time and had a very warm and nurturing personality.

She had built and maintained a beautiful teaching studio in North Kitsap. It contained two grand pianos, harpsichord, music library, kitchenette, and large meeting room; all in a beautiful park-like setting. She was very generous with her studio and time as she hosted many membership meetings as well as Adjudications each year.

She was President of KMTA the year that the DWE Endowment was received by our Chapter. She immediately went to work setting up the Edward Jones account and forming the two committees that oversaw the handling and spending of those funds. As a result of her strong, decisive leadership our chapter earned approximately \$11,000 in the first two years! This was remarkable considering this was during the recession of 2008-2009.

What I loved most about Mary was her enthusiasm about music! She absolutely loved learning new repertoire and studied regularly throughout her later years. She was a wonderful model for me as a young, inexperienced teacher. She also opened her studio to a few of my students who needed two pianos for concerto rehearsals; graciously receiving us and many times offered performance tips and encouragement.

I will always fondly remember Mary; I am thankful that I had the opportunity to know her. She was a very beautiful person and I am quite sure that her spirit of enthusiasm lives on through the lives of her students and those lucky enough to have known her.

Sally Camp

Good Ideas for Online Recitals

I know most of us are considering holding Online Recitals this year. Wondering how to do it? [Check out this site](#). (Warning: you may feel gobsmacked at how clever and tech savvy these young women are - one looks like she still should be in high school.) Nevertheless, they have some terrific ideas that we can all use! Please note that this is a Facebook video.

Warmly,
Anita Rose

Thank You Friends

Dear fellow KMTA colleagues,

I have been recently reflecting on what teaching piano in our community has meant to me. I suppose the threat of not being able to teach, brought on by possible illness or even death from Covid-19, has set my mind working in a more serious vein. I converted my teaching entirely to on-line platforms, Skype or Zoom, on March 16. I know many of you have done the same and am sure you have also experienced drastic change in your work. I have taught over the internet to Navy families for several years, but always in very small proportions. To teach several hours a day, five days a week over the internet, has been quite a challenge. I don't really like it. I miss the physical contact with my students and their parents. I miss hearing clearly and being able to demonstrate in person. I miss the jokes and periodic little outbursts of my kiddos. I just plain miss them!

That said, I am so thankful that we have the option of continuing our work through the internet. I am thankful that most of my students still want to take lessons and give this new communication method a shot. I am also SO thankful for the Kitsap Music Teachers and WSMTA to always be there for us, through thick and thin. We cannot predict how the future will truly play out, but we do know how important music and the arts are to the well-being of our families and community. I will continue to fight for music education by your side. Thank you friends, for your dedication and service to our community. Never give up!

Irene Bowling

MTNA Extends Annual Dues Renewal Date

This is a reminder that MTNA has extended the dues renewal date for the 2020-2021 year from July 1 to September 1. WSMTA and KMTA will follow suit. After September 1, the KMTA Board will follow any other revised MTNA/WSMTA renewal deadline dates for participating in various events. More details will be communicated in the fall.

If you are able, please do try to renew your membership by July 1st. KMTA and our parent organizations need incoming dues to make budgeting decisions for the year ahead.

Do you have info to distribute to KMTA?

Please send all communication items (website updates/documents, email blasts, Quavers articles, etc.) to Melanie Kurtzbein: kurtzbein4@gmail.com. Plain text in an email body and image files work best.

Quavers articles should be submitted at least 3 days before the end of the month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

[KMTA Music Carnival and WSMTA Music Literacy Program](#)

Virtual, ongoing through May 15, 2020

KMTA Member meeting

Virtual, Friday, May 8, 10 a.m.

[Senior Celebration and Awards](#)

Virtual, May 10, 2020 (due date)

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](#)

Copyright © 2020 Kitsap Music Teachers Association, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

