

# QUAVERS

## Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

*December 2020 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website, [kitsapmusicteachers.org](http://kitsapmusicteachers.org).*



### **President's Message: stay home, but still play and sing!**

This tends to be the most musical time of the year. Usually, there are numerous concerts that we attend and perform in, and we gather with friends and family to sing carols. Now, consistent with the bleakness of this year, concerts are cancelled. Congregations are not permitted to sing. Our own KMTA Christmas party, where we usually gather to sing and play our instruments, is not happening. BUT...

We can still have joyful music this season! We are musicians; no one can stop us! Get yourself to the piano *just for fun*, sing along with your favorite playlist, or if you are fortunate enough to live with other musicians, you can make music together! My personal favorite is playing the duet "Sleigh ride" with my sister, which is guaranteed to be entertaining because we don't actually practice it. But even if you don't have anyone to make music with, you can imagine yourself joining choirs of angels to share the joy of the season. Maybe a nice Christmas gift this year would be a recording of yourself playing Christmas music, and sending it to the loved ones that you can't be with.

I wish you all a joyous and musical Christmas, Hanukkah, and whatever else you may be celebrating this holiday season.

**Laura Meredith**

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

### **From the Vice-President: Meeting News**



Our Christmas party has to be cancelled this year, unfortunately, but we do have an opportunity to be encouraged by a world-class speaker on December 8th! We are joining the Edmonds Chapter on Zoom to watch Brian Chung's presentation. A Zoom link will be emailed out as soon as I receive it. Please join in real time if you can, otherwise the recording info will be sent out afterwards and available for the following two weeks. I wish all of my KMTA colleagues a blessed holiday season, and a happy new year!

## Melanie Stroud

Vice President

## Life Shaper or Artist Maker?



Plan to join us for a virtual presentation by Brian Chung on an unusual day, Tuesday December 8 at 11 am. His talk is described as "an inspirational message that every music teacher in the country should hear," and reminds us of the impact we have as music teachers on our world and the future. Be on the lookout for a Zoom invite.

### Brian Chung Bio:

Brian Chung is senior vice president emeritus of Kawai America Corporation where he served for over 31 years. He was also a two-term president of the Piano Manufacturers Association International, a past member of the Board of Directors for NAMM (the International Music Products Association), a former chair of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Foundation Fund Development Committee (1999-2019), a 2004 MTNA Foundation Fellow, a 2015 MTNA Endowment Fellow, recipient of the 2010 MTNA Distinguished Service Award and recipient of the 2019 MTNA Citation for Leadership. A frequent conference speaker, he is also co-author of *Improvisation at the Piano* (with Dennis Thurmond), co-author of *Recreational Music Making Handbook* (with Brenda Dillon), and author of *Expressions of Faith: Eight Inventive Explorations of Classic Hymns* and *Expressions of Christmas* -- all published by Alfred Music.

Mr. Chung has an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan, where he combined his musical and business interests. In addition to performing in the school's top jazz band, he spent summers as a pianist and musical director at Walt Disney World. After college, he traveled to London to

study piano, conducting and improvisation at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama as a Rotary Foundation Scholar. Upon his return to the States, he was privileged to pursue jazz studies as the recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

After years as a professional musician and independent piano teacher, he continued his business education by completing a Master of Management Degree at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. His business pursuits eventually led him to Kawai America Corporation, where he served in senior management from 1988 until his retirement in 2020. With a diverse career that includes experience as a performer, arranger, teacher, author, speaker and music industry executive, Mr. Chung is devoted to the cause of advancing music participation across America.

## Piano MAP Registrations due December 15

Dear Piano Teachers,

Please put MAP registration on your 'To Do List'.

1. As always the deadline is December 15. Please register students as if it would run in-person, as in the past.
2. There is a [Music Artistry Program FAQ and checklist](#) on our webpage if you need a reference.
3. Also please read [2020-2021 Booklet](#) on WSMTA site.
4. After you finish registration, please forward your confirmation email from WMSTA to me: [sungamble69@yahoo.com](mailto:sungamble69@yahoo.com)

Thank you!

Sun Gamble, NCTM  
[www.sunahnmusic.com](http://www.sunahnmusic.com)

## Strings Teachers: Register for MAP by January 15

Thank you to all who have sent me your preliminary minutes for Strings MAP March 5 and 6. At this point it is difficult to know whether our event will take place in

person or online via Zoom, although it's looking likely that it will be online. The final decision will be made by January 8, a week prior to the registration deadline. If you would like to register students, but technology or computer equipment is a barrier, please let me know and we can likely work something out. December will fly by and our registration deadline will approach quickly in January. You are welcome to register as early as you'd like, if location/format is not a concern for you or your students. Registration is open now. If you have a preference for Friday or Saturday at the event and haven't notified me yet, please do so. If you would like to participate, but haven't provided me with your preliminary minutes, please check with me before you register. All registration information provided for piano teachers applies to strings teachers (aside from the registration deadline,) including the steps of registration (please see previous article.) If you have questions, don't hesitate to email me at [kurtzbein4@gmail.com](mailto:kurtzbein4@gmail.com).

Melanie Kurtzbein  
Strings Music Artistry Program Chair

## Voice Teachers: Register for MAP by December 15

Voice MAP (Music Artistry Program) will be held on February 7, either at the studio of Melanie Stroud or online with Leischen Moore from Pacific Lutheran University. Please let Melanie know ASAP at [melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com](mailto:melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com) if you plan to participate. Registration for Voice MAP is due on or before December 15th.

Melanie Stroud  
Voice Music Artistry Program Chair

## Virtual Ensemble Projects: A highlight for instrumental students and teachers during the pandemic

The virtual ensemble projects, a collaboration among instrumental teachers in KMTA, are underway and going well!

Several teachers joined forces for a virtual performance of Lord of the Dance back in October, and the [completed project](#) is now accessible on our website. Thank you to all of our instrumental teachers who participated in this project, and thank you to Madison Hennings, our skilled technician and producer!

Up next: three Christmas virtual ensembles will be performed by more than 70

students of KMTA teachers. Watch for them on the KMTA Christmas playlist! Links will also be posted on the website, password protected. As a reminder to instrumental teachers, please submit your student videos to Madison Hennings by this Friday, December 4. Please double check that students have tuned carefully to A440, each video is in landscape format and sharable with Madison (send an email to Madison which contains a sharable LINK to each student video, listed after each student's name.) Also remind parents to complete the online permission slip. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Gabby at [catherinegabby@gmail.com](mailto:catherinegabby@gmail.com).

Stay tuned for information in the new year from Jane Melin, who will head up this season's third and final virtual student ensemble project to be performed in the spring!

Melanie Kurtzbein  
Non-Keyboard Chapter Representative

## Christmas Playlist

Don't forget, in lieu of Christmas at the Mall, we are creating a Christmas playlist on the KMTA YouTube channel, and would love to have as many students as would like to contribute! There is no set time frame for contributions, so as soon as students are ready, here is what you should have them do:

- 1) Record a video performance. They will be naming their own video, so including the piece and composer/arranger is helpful, and they can include their full name, first name only, whatever they want others to see.
- 2) Upload to their own YouTube account, on the "unlisted" setting. YouTube accounts are now automatically connected to all Google accounts. (If they do not have a Google account but you do, they can send their video to you.)
- 3) Send the link to you. You may want to review their performance, and then send their link to Laura Meredith ([laurasletsplaymusic@gmail.com](mailto:laurasletsplaymusic@gmail.com)), who will add it to our unlisted playlist.

You can advise your students that they are free to switch their own video to "private" at any time if they do not want it visible any longer.

We will send out the playlist link once there are a few submissions there to enjoy!

## 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](mailto: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.*

[Piano, String and Vocal Music Artistry Programs \(MAP\)](#)

February-March 2021

[Performance Competitions](#)

March 13, 2021

#### **MORE FROM KMTA**

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

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