

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

December 2021 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website, kitsapmusicteachers.org.



President's Message: Preaching to the Choir

Did you guys know that I love music? Big surprise, right? I hope every one of you love it as much as I do. Despite my thriftiness, I even splurged on a Spotify subscription so that I can listen to [99% of] whatever music I want, whenever I want. My mind loves it; I love to just stop and analyze a chord progression or tricky rhythm (sometimes I'm even mid-sentence when background music captures my full attention). My body loves it; my fingers can be seen "playing" along to a tune on my lap or my steering wheel, and oh how I love to dance! But I think that most of all, my soul loves it; I find that music can help me tune into my feelings, or turn them around altogether. A while back, I started noticing how many mopey and depressing songs there are out there, and I decided to make a "life is good!" playlist, which is full of positive vibes, from mellow to energetic, from classical to pop. It's a great mix whether I'm in a good or bad mood. And then I came to a period of mourning in my life, and I felt the need to create a grieving playlist to help me process my loss. I found that many songs brought me to tears, but that I welcomed them. I don't know details about music therapy, but I can only imagine it's effectiveness, given how therapeutic music is for me.

And now we are entering the most musical time of year. I hope that there is a style of Christmas music that resonates with you, whether you're creating it or listening to it. Come for both at our KMTA Christmas party on Saturday! What can be more joyous than friends + food + music??

Happy holidays to you all!

Laura Meredith

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association

P.S. See? I told you November rain wouldn't last forever... Now it's December rain! ;-)

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

There is no regular KMTA meeting this month. Instead, we have our wonderful "Come and Sing" Christmas party at Jane's house! See below for details!

Melanie Stroud

Vice President

You are Invited!

The KMTA Christmas party is back in person this year! Please join us Saturday evening December 4th at 7 pm for music, food and fellowship among friends! If you have not yet RSVP'd please do that now, by [clicking HERE](#), or calling Jane at (360) 297-3495. (Remember that it will be at her house this year.) Bring a small wrapped gift, an appetizer or dessert to share, and any Christmas music and/or instrument(s) of your choice! Please see the two most recent emails from KMTA for Jane's address and driving directions.

MAP Registration Now Open!

The Music Artistry Program registration is now open! Please encourage your students to participate. Our event's registration deadlines are December 15th for piano and voice, and January 15th for strings. For your convenience, please click on the following links to access a registration worksheet and a handy guide to navigate the WSMTA MAP registration forms:

[Registration Worksheet](#)

[WSMTA MAP Registration Guide](#)

Please note that if you have not yet been in touch with your MAP chair about participating, please do that before registering. They are:

Sun Gamble, Piano MAP chair, sungamble69@yahoo.com

Melanie Kurtzbein, Strings MAP chair, kurtzbein4@gmail.com

Melanie Stroud, Voice MAP chair, melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com

WSMTA office will be closed for holidays between December 23 - Jan 3. Please test your WSMTA account login in early December, so that if you need assistance with account lockout, Carrie (wsmtaoffice@gmail.com) or Jason (jason.kuo@gmail.com) will be able to help you.

Happy Holidays!

State conference volunteers still needed

We are looking forward to an in-person state conference next year! It is scheduled for June 23-25 at Lower Columbia College in Longview. Laura Curtis, Co-Chair of WSMTA 2022 Conference, is still in need of volunteers to help with the following jobs:

Banquet
Monitor
Packet
Presenters
Publicity

Job descriptions for each of these can be found [HERE](#).

If you feel you could help with any of these, or would just like more information, please contact Laura Curtis: curtislj@whitman.edu

Kitsap Young Musicians Festival - Celebrating Live Music Again!

We had an inspiring and diverse day of music on November 6. There were three recitals with nearly 50 students representing about a dozen studios from KMTA.

We are so grateful for the hospitality of Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church. Special thanks to KMTA member and church liaison Diane Layton, who arrived early and stayed late to check on all the details. Thank you to Melanie Stroud for providing her microphone and speaker for the day.

Thank you to teachers who helped out at the recitals, collected permission slips and kept things running smoothly.

Finally, great news: The KMTA Board has voted to use funds from KMTA's Dorothy Woodcock Endowment to fully underwrite the festival this year. Participating teachers and students: your registration fees have been waived!

Krista Seely, KYMF Chair

Carnival Planning

Just a reminder to email Melanie Stroud at melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com with your tentative number of students for Carnival and your availability for volunteering!

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 "Come and Sing" Christmas Party
Saturday December 4, 7 pm
At the home of Jane Melin

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

February-March 2022

[KMTA Performance Competitions](#)

March 26, 2022

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

April 23, 2022

[Senior Celebration and Awards](#)

TBA

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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