

QUAVERS

Kitsap Music Teachers Association Monthly News

*November 2023 News Digest - Find Full Event Details at our Website,
kitsapmusicteachers.org.*



President's Message

The leaves are changing color, the air is crisp, and fall is fully upon us! Changing seasons in life as well as in weather can bring difficulties, but one of the best ways to combat rough seasons is with community. Our community has come together in some beautiful ways over the last month! Cathy Kautsky's masterclasses and presentation on Debussy were simply stunning. And on October 26th, students had a blast learning about improvisation and the boogie woogie from Jeremy Siskind, followed by that evening's concert. Collaboration with a fellow musician at any level is such a boost to your spirits, and reminds us why we do what we do. I hope you all find a way in the upcoming weeks to make beautiful music with a student or colleague.

Melanie Stroud, NCTM

President, Kitsap Music Teachers Association



From the Vice-President: Meeting News

Greetings to All,

This month, we are excited to have Susan Speicher share her expertise as our District III Director. Our meeting will be on Friday, November 10 at 10 am. It will be held at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church at 9300 Nels Nelson Road NW in Bremerton.

Ms. Speicher is a classically trained violinist and violist. She holds a Bachelor's in Music Business from Washington State University, where she studied Violin, Viola, and Chamber Music. Susan works as a private violin and viola instructor at Music and Arts in Lakewood. She coached viola for the Maple Valley Youth Symphony, performed with the Washington Idaho Symphony Orchestra as Assistant Principle Violist, and Principle Second Violinist in the WSU Orchestra. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to her at our meeting!

Hope to see you there!

Farida Roberts

Vice President

Kitsap Young Musicians Festival 2023

Join us for some great music at the Kitsap Young Musicians Festival this coming Saturday, November 4th, at St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church, 11885 Old Frontier Rd NE, Silverdale, WA. Students from twelve studios will be performing in four recitals. Recital times are 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 2:00 PM, and 3:30 PM.

If you registered students, you have received a draft copy of the programs and volunteer assignment.

I hope to see you along with a friend and/or family member at the festival. It will be a day of wonderful music!

Krista Seely, Festival Chair

Concert Announcement

Dear fellow teachers,

I would like to invite you to a special benefit concert that my student, Alec Rodriguez, will be playing on November 12. He will perform Bach, Beethoven, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, and Prokofief. He is a 15 year old student that has won many awards and honors and is highly talented. Alec's former teachers are Megan Henning and Debbie Florian. Please come join us in support of this young man and the North Kitsap h.s. choir!!

With gratitude,

Irene

Date: Sunday, November 12 at 2:00 PM

Location: North Point Church (1779 NE Hostmark St., Poulsbo)

BENEFIT CONCERT

**pianist Alec Rodriguez performs
classical pieces to benefit NKHS Choir
program**

OPEN TO ALL, DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED!



Sunday November 12th @ 2pm
North Point Church / 1779 NE Hostmark St., Poulsbo



Letter from Cathy Kautsky

Hello Everyone—First of all, thanks so very much for being such a wonderful audience on Saturday. It makes all the difference in the world to me to talk to people who actually care about what I'm saying!

Secondly, I'm hugely embarrassed to say that I totally forgot to give you the handout that Laetitia had so kind photocopied for me. I *just* discovered that when I found a very full folder in my backpack. I'm so sorry, and I'm attaching it here.

Thirdly, I'd really hoped to bring along a few copies of my book on Debussy, *Debussy's Paris*, but my luggage was just too full—too many different layers needed to cover 90 degree weather in Dallas and 45 degree weather in Seattle! Here's the Amazon link, in case you do want it; it expands on many of the same topics I touched on Saturday.

https://www.amazon.com/Debussys-Paris-CATHERINE-KAUTSKY/dp/1538137151/ref=sr_1_1?crid=13FYZ3A9ESK4J&keywords=kautsky+debussy&qid=1697599628&s=books&sprefix=kautsky+debussy%2Cstripbooks%2C303&sr=1-1

Lastly, I'd hoped to have literature about Lawrence University that I could give each of you because I love the place and really do want as many people to know about it as possible. Again, however, the jackets and shoes won out. So I'll just say here that Lawrence is the most extraordinary school I've ever known, and students who have a whole variety of interests ought to give it very serious consideration, *especially* those who'd like to continue to have music in their lives in one form or another. Having taught at Tufts and Carnegie Mellon and the University of WI-Madison and visited many others, I feel as if I know wherefore I speak!

I could go on forever about the advantages of a small college over a large university for undergraduates (among other things, small classes, loads of contact with faculty, no teaching assistants, no competition with graduate students) and I did that a bit at your meeting. But there are lots of small colleges. I've not seen many, though, with the tightness of the community at Lawrence, the dedication of the faculty, and the overwhelming sense of nurture, kindness, and openness that prevails here.

A few brief facts: We have a conservatory within an excellent liberal arts college, and we offer both a 4 year Bachelor of Music degree and a 5 year double degree program for students who want to earn a Bachelor of Music as well as a BA in another field. But students who wish a less intensive music experience can elect a music major within the BA, a music minor, or they can simply continue lessons and/or participate in various ensembles. We have a great jazz program, an active gamelan ensemble, top-notch choirs, wonderful pedagogy courses and really good theory and musicology courses. Our students tend to be delightfully curious, and they often seek out opportunities in multiple disciplines. I can attest to the fact that the piano faculty is superb—like the students, faculty members are encouraged to follow individual paths and supported in those choices: one of us plays an enormous amount of new music and has commissioned multiple compositions; another is engaged in a recording project of large-scale romantic transcriptions, and I've of course spent a lot of time writing and speaking as well as playing. That same premium placed on individual skills and passions is present in the education students get. Grants, tutorials, study abroad, internships and unique recitals—these are all a matter of course. Alums often go on to top-notch graduate programs, but I think these students would all tell you that the biggest thing Lawrence did for them is

to make them know how special they were.

Enough. Here's the website— <https://www.lawrence.edu/>

Please feel free to send me the names of any students who you think we might want to contact personally, and definitely encourage them to write me directly if they want to. Most importantly, just keep Lawrence on your radar screen—and talk to Laetitia if you want to know more!

Thanks for putting up with this rambling email; you'd think that with a whole day of events I'd have covered everything I wanted to, but clearly I failed!

Best, Cathy Kautsky

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Do you have info to distribute to KMTA?

Please send all communication items (website updates/documents, email blasts, Quavers articles, etc.) to Rachel Doornink (racheldoornink@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 2024

[Performance Competitions](#)

March 2024

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

April 2024

[Senior Celebration and Awards](#)

May 2024

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