

NORTH DAKOTA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter, May 2011

Kathleen Johnson, President

A Message from your President:

It is time to get excited about the State Conference to be held in Grand Forks, June 15-18! The Grand Forks MTA has been working hard and has a wonderful program planned for the event. Susan Tang, our presenter and recitalist, and has picked some great subjects for the workshops. She is also going to work with students in a master class. Karen Braaten will talk about accompaniment skills, and at the IMTF Luncheon, Judy England will show how teachers use the Rally Theory Books with their students.



One of the things I really look forward to at the State Conference is meeting all the teachers that have become good friends through the NDMTA. We are scattered throughout the state but come together once a year at the State Conference where we hear something new about teaching, share ideas with each other and learn from one another - in other words, we talk 'shop'. What a great opportunity! Independent music teaching is a lonely profession. We can't go into the next classroom and consult with another teacher about a question or problem we may be having with a student. At the State Conference we independent teachers get to come together and get acquainted with others that have dealt with the same problems and found solutions. In sharing our student problems we learn how others have dealt with them. We find support and encouragement that gives us confidence to become better teachers. It is a win-win situation! The teacher wins – the student wins!

One important thing we need to do, as NDMTA members, is inform other independent teachers of the opportunities that could be theirs when they become members of the MTNA/NDMTA. We need to spread the good news! We need to be cheerleaders! We also need to encourage the young and newest members to attend the Conference so they can learn why we get so excited about going!

We also need to encourage the young and newest members to become involved in the workings of the NDMTA. We all benefit from the work others are doing for our Association and we need to contribute our time also. We have a huge board with many portfolios of interest. The portfolios are all good but if we are to keep them all, we need to encourage young members to become active on the state level. If everyone does a little bit, no one will have to do a lot.

See you in Grand Forks!

Submit newsletter articles to Jessica Just: Jessicalynjust@hotmail.com

Submit advertising to Sandra Enget : slenget123@hotmail.com

Direct questions regarding newsletter distribution to Warren Granfor: wgranfor@nd.gov

NDMTA is proud to announce the **2012 ND Foundation Fellow** is **Sara Bloom** of Grand Forks. In accepting the nomination, Sara responded, "I am honored, humbled, and excited about being chosen as the 2012 Foundation Fellow for North Dakota." Donations toward honoring Sara may be included in ten dollar increments with dues payments or sent directly to MTNA headquarters. Be sure to indicate Sara's name on the donation.



Sara Bloom, NCTM, taught piano in Grand Forks, ND, for over 30 years. She obtained a Bachelor's degree in music and a Master's degree in piano performance from the University of North Dakota. Bloom was awarded a Certificate of Commendation from the UND music department in recognition of outstanding work in all areas of her program of study. She held several local MTA offices. She served NDMTA as chair of the Yamaha Senior Auditions, IMTF, and Foundations. Bloom was Vice President from 2000-02 and President from 2002-04. She was selected NDMTA Teacher of the Year in 2003. Bloom was West Central Division Senior Competitions Coordinator from 2005-08. She has retired from teaching and accompanying but continues as a church organist and member of AGO.

Please remember the 2011 Foundation Fellow, Sally Rudolph, will be honored at the Grand Forks Conference next month. President elect, Susan Tang, received the award for Sally at the Milwaukee Conference. That award will be received at the banquet by Sally's daughter, Nancy Johnson.

Submitted by
Arlene Gray Foundation Chair

MTNA COMPETITIONS
October 26 and 27th at Valley City State University

STATE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

- 9:00 a.m. NODAK Competition
Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3420 Chestnut Street
- 4:00 p.m. NDMTA Executive Board Meeting and Dinner - Ramada Inn
- 5:00 p.m. Registration - Ramada Inn
- 7:00 p.m. Commissioned Composer and Winners' Recital
Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3420 Chestnut Street
Reception following recital

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

- 8:30 a.m. Registration - Ramada Inn
Coffee and Rolls
- 9:00 a.m. Workshop #1
"PREPARING STUDENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL REPERTOIRE"
DR. SUSAN TANG
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:30 a.m. Workshop # 2
"DYNAMIC PEDALING"
DR. SUSAN TANG
- 12:00 p.m. IMTF Luncheon - Judy England
- 1:30 p.m. Break - Exhibits
- 2:00 p.m. Workshop #3
"AN INTRODUCTION TO VIRTUAL PIPE ORGAN TECHNOLOGY"
RANDY MOE
- 3:15 p.m. Coffee Break
- 3:45 p.m. Workshop #4
"THE ART OF ACCOMPANYING"
KAREN BRAATEN
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner - Ramada Inn
- 8:00 p.m. SOLO PIANO RECITAL - Dr. Susan Tang
Josephine Recital Hall, Hughes Fine Arts Center, UND
Reception following recital

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

- 8:30 a.m. Coffee and Rolls
- 9:00 a.m. General Business Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Workshop #5
"MASTER CLASS"
DR. SUSAN TANG

2011 Commissioned Composer: Dr. Allen Carter
Concert: Wed., June 15, 7:00 p.m.

One of the exciting concerts at our NDMTA Conference in Grand Forks, will be the premiere performance of the piece the NDMTA commissioned Dr. Allen Carter to write. This concert is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15th, 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3426 Chestnut Street, Grand Forks.



Allen Carter has a diverse background as a composer/arranger/drummer/percussionist/educator. Born and raised in Ellinwood, Kansas, he received his Bachelor of Music degree from Kansas State University, and his Master of Music and Doctor of Arts degrees from the University of Northern Colorado. Throughout his school years, he won numerous awards in the areas of performance and composition/arranging.

A member of the American Society of Music Arrangers and Composers and the Film Music Network, Dr. Carter's work as a composer/arranger includes CBS Television's Motown Records specials, the cable television series Humonos, the Tournament of Roses Parade, the Miss America pageant, commercials, and documentaries for the department of Health, Education, and Welfare. In addition, he has written extensively for instrumental and vocal jazz groups at all levels. His recent CD, "Gifts", was voted one of the top 10 big band CDs of 2010 by All About Jazz.

As a drummer/percussionist (he began "gigging" with local groups at age 11), Dr. Carter has performed with the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra, the Joffrey Ballet, Les Brown's Band of Renown, the Los Angeles Jazz Workshop and numerous other Los Angeles area big bands. He has worked with such vocalists as Nancy Wilson, Johnny Mathis, Ray Charles, Melissa Manchester, Harry Connick Jr., and Glen Campbell and has been involved in numerous recording sessions for records, films, and commercials. Appearances as featured artist have taken Dr. Carter across the United States as well as to concert stages and jazz clubs in many foreign countries.

Dr. Allen serves as Associate Professor of Music at Minnesota State University, Moorhead where he directs the jazz ensemble, teaches freshman music theory, drum set, and courses in the jazz studies and music industry programs while being an active member of a surprisingly busy jazz scene in the Fargo-Moorhead area. He has lectured internationally to educators and students on a wide range of jazz education, composition/arranging and percussion topics and was a member of the resource team for the International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE). Performing groups under his direction have been awarded recognition at the national level and he has directed numerous honor groups for educator associations throughout the western United States. Along with his ongoing work teaching, playing, and writing, Dr. Carter heads his own company, AC Muzik, developing interactive web based and CD-ROM teaching tools for use by jazz educators and their students.



SUSAN TANG has held the position of Assistant Professor in Piano and Collaborative Piano at the University of North Dakota since 2008. Prior to coming to UND, she was teaching and performing in New York City where she enjoyed a successful New York solo piano debut at Carnegie-Weill Hall as a Winner of *Artist International Management* Special Presentation Winners Series. Reviews by the *New York Concert Review*, described her playing as having, “well-grounded technique...fluid, elegant readings...highly effective interpretations”. She is also co-editor with Marc Ponthus of Elliot Carter’s Centennial *Freschrift* published in 2008 as part of the Mannes’ *Institute and Festival of Contemporary Performance*.

Susan has won many awards and scholarships to study including being a Lois Roger Scholar, receiving a Teaching Assistantship Scholarship from both Eastman and Manhattan School of Music, Hansen Institute of America Music

Commissioning Grant, Arts Leadership Certificate, Ethel Lannin Scholarship, George Eastman Grant, Alice Whitney Scholarship, Charles W. Kennett Scholarship, and Cecile Genhart Scholarship Award. She won first prize in the Eastman concerto competition and performed with the Eastman Symphony Orchestra along with receiving the coveted top prizewinner at the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers’ Association National Piano Competition in Montreal and received the special jury prize at the Thousand Island International Piano Competition.

She has performed as a pianist/actor with a theater company based in New York City. Performances as soloist and collaborative pianist have taken her throughout Canada, United States, Germany, Japan, Taiwan, Korea and Columbia. She has been invited to perform in several Festivals, Institutes, and most recently the Ravinia Festival, Savannah Music Festival, University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Susan Tang completed her Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the Manhattan School of Music and received her Master and Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance degrees at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. She has studied with Nelita True, Nina Svetlanova, Robin Wood, Kenneth Cooper, Anthony DMare and Susan Magnusson.

Susan will be joining the faculty at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago as Assistant Professor in Piano in the fall of 2011.



KAREN BRAATEN has had ten years of formal piano training and began accompanying upon entering eighth grade. She has taught piano lessons for forty years or more and currently has a studio in Grand forks and Cando, North Dakota. Ms. Braaten is the organist at the Methodist Church in Cando. She has just completed nine years of accompanying at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. She is a member of Thursday Music Club, Greater Grand Forks Music Teachers Association, NDFMC, MTNA, and Pianoforte Achievement Awards.

“Music is truly the universal language and I am continually grateful for the opportunities it has given me and the wonderful people who have come into my life because of it.”



An Introduction to Virtual Pipe Organ Technology – Randy Moe

Randy Moe is a church organist whose interest in virtual pipe organ technology was sparked by the desire to improve the sound of his home practice instrument. Searching online, he found Hauptwerk software, and began the process of setting up a virtual organ. When the project was complete, he was thrilled by the results, and saw great potential for others to benefit from using this technology.

Operating as Encore Organ Technology, Randy builds midi organ consoles for use with virtual organ software, and performs complete installations in homes and churches. These systems provide their owners with a beautiful instrument that accurately re-creates the sound of some of the finest organs

in the world at an amazing low cost. Every nuance of the pipe organ sound is recorded pipe-by-pipe and replayed when the organist touches the keys. More information is available at www.encoreorgan.com.

In addition to his organ building business, Randy is Director of IT Risk Services for Assurance Consulting 3 in Bloomington, MN, and organist at Wooddale Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park, MN.

NDMTA Silent Auction

Have you decided what item you would like to bring to the NDMTA Conference yet? Have you set aside some extra cash to purchase items at the silent auction? If not, here's your friendly reminder that there will be a silent auction held throughout the conference June 15th-17th. We're hoping that every local will bring a special item and that individual members will donate items as well. We request that items be new, of good quality and affordable for piano teachers. Baskets of items are always nice, businesses may be interested in donating items and homemade items are always a treat. Please attach the value of each donated item so that we can better estimate a good starting amount for the auction. Please bring your auction items to the registration area at the Ramada Inn in Grand Forks. Viewing and bidding will take place throughout the conference with the winners being announced at the annual business meeting, which is 9:00am Friday, June 17th.

Lisa Schuler, CTM
Silent Auction Chairman
Langdon Area MTA President
NDMTA Secretary



My first National MTNA conference was very exciting and I am honored to have had the chance to represent this state. Here are some notes and highlights, especially on the people that competed in the national finals or were honored from North Dakota.

Hannah Porter and Hannah Sorensen both competed on flute at the Woodwind Senior and Young Artist competition. They both played very beautifully and definitely made our state proud. The standard and professionalism that both of them presented was admirable! Highlights for me were Hannah Sorensen's performance of the Carmen Fantasy and Hannah Porter's Mozart Concerto in D Major K. 314.

Seth Custer was awarded the composer of the year. His piece "Touch and Go" was for a saxophone quartet and was very well received by the audience. Seth currently teaches in South Carolina at Bob Jones University, he completed his undergraduate degree at UND and also has family in the East Grand Forks area. The post concert talk was very interesting and he spoke so well about his inspiration and experiences as a composer. The audience enjoyed his description and music so much, that they requested to hear the piece again at the end! He was presented with his award at the brunch by the president of MTNA.

The gala dinner was very nice. I sat at the North Carolina table since the NC president was sitting by herself! We had a wonderful time talking about our states and I learned a lot about the independent music teacher scene in North Carolina. She is a voice teacher and has over 100 students! They did a really beautiful introduction about Sally Rudolph and I have her award that will be presented to her daughter at the State conference in June.

The meeting of the WCD presidents was very informative; many of the states in our division are doing great things. I talked about our conference in Dickinson, the Piano Forum at UND, our divisional competition winners, our foundation fellow, and Seth Custer. I was also present at the annual meeting.

One big presentation of the conference was the partnership between the Royal Conservatory and Carnegie Hall. They are launching the "Achievement" exams, which they hope will become a national standard for music in the country. There was a lot of enthusiasm but also some uneasiness about the program. Having grown up in Canada and personally gone through the system, I would be happy to answer any questions people may have.

The mantra of the conference was "Each one reach one" and this is to urge all MTNA members to reach out to a colleague that is not currently a member and encourage them to join the organization. Membership is not down dramatically, but a little bit. At the college music faculty meeting, the discussion focused on working to get the collegiate chapters more active as a way to drive younger people into the organization.

On a personal note, as many of you already know, I have accepted a job at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago beginning next Fall and will be moving this summer. Although my husband and I are excited about the new musical opportunities that Chicago will bring, it was not an easy decision to make and I will really miss all the wonderful people and students I met during my three years here. I want to thank all of you piano teachers, from the bottom of my heart, for inviting me into this organization with such open arms and for all your support. It is amazing to move to a state where I did not know one soul, and to quickly meet so many wonderful teachers that are working so hard and passionately to spread their belief in the importance of music. I feel so honored to have had the chance to learn from all of you and also teach some of your students that are studying at UND. There are so many amazing things going on around the state, and it is apparent in the love of music that exudes from every student I have met. Thank you again for the honor of serving on the board and I look forward to our paths crossing again in the future!

Submitted by Susan Tang, DMA

Let's include our juniors in the NDMTA Conference. NODAK competitions are going to be held at the Trinity Free Lutheran Church in Grand Forks on Wednesday, June 15, 2011. Please fill out the registration forms completely and get them returned to me before the deadline. That deadline is extended to May 25th. The recital of winners will be 7 PM the evening of the 15th at the Church. I shall be watching my mailbox.

Submitted by Arlene Gray NCTM



NODAK Music Competitions

(Non-advancing NDMTA State Competition)

Official Application Form

(Rules are in the NDMTA Directory)

Entrant Information

(Do not use a pencil)

Name _____ Male _____ Female _____

Mailing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____ Age as of Sept 1st _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Home Town Newspaper & Address

Student Fee:

(circle one)

Elementary	\$30.00(ages 8-11)
Junior High	\$30.00(ages 12-14)
High School	\$35.00(ages 15-18)
Collegiate	\$40.00(ages 19-26)

Teacher Information

Name _____ Dues paid on _____ Membership number _____

Mailing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-mail Address _____

Name of Accompanist _____

Do you have students entered in other categories? _____ yes, give names & level on attached sheet.

Area entering (piano, woodwinds, brass, strings, etc.) _____

Repertoire for Competition Performance

This repertoire program must include title and number of each movement, tempo markings, and the composer's full name. *Please type the complete program on a separate sheet of paper and attach to the Official Application Form. **You must have a total of the time also.***

Example:	<u>Composition</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Period</u>
	Sonata No. 1 in g minor, BWV 1001	J.S. Bach	I. Adagio (4:17) IV. Presto (2:48) Total 7:05	Baroque

Competition Agreement It is the responsibility of the teacher and the entrant to abide by the rules applicable to the NODAK Music Competitions. **This form will be returned if there are any omissions or inaccuracies.** The undersigned verify that the information submitted on this application form is complete and accurate and that the teacher paid state and national dues on or before Sept. 1st, of this year. Unmemorized programs requires two (2) copies of the music.

Signature of Entrant

Signature of Teacher

Mail your completed **NODAK Application Form** with a **check payable to NDMTA** with the correct amount for the student's level of competition to: Arlene Gray, 4525 Camden Loop, Bismarck, ND 58503

E-mail address: ae6gray@gmail.com Phone: 701-250-0860.

This official Application Form must be postmarked on or before May 25, 2011.

Competition Date: June 15, 2011, Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3426 Chestnut St. Grand Forks, North Dakota