



### *A Message from your President:*

The dusting of snow on the ground yesterday and the first really cold weather today signals the end of fall and the beginning of winter. When I was in Fargo last week I noticed a few houses with Christmas lights lit up at night. November is a little early for house lights and Christmas trees in my schedule, but on the other hand, November is not too early for musicians. This week, the week before Thanksgiving, the Christmas music went out to my students and I will once again listen to students as they learn and play the old carols that play such a large part of our memories. I love Christmas!

#### **IRS Versus The NDMTA**

(NDMTA scores a big win!)

I also love good news. The NDMTA has had a major headache with the IRS over our nonprofit status. It had been revoked for whatever reason and treasurer Kathy Bresee has spent hours on the phone with the IRS trying to figure out what the problem was. After months of waiting, Kathy received the message from the IRS that “our non profit status was erroneously revoked”. That is very good news! We are very appreciative of Kathy for pursuing this matter.

#### **Foundation Needs Our Support**

(And we're not talking about stockings)

I have been thinking about the funding for our foundation fellow, Sara Bloom. The NDMTA has raised \$1000 each year for the past 10 years. We have a proud tradition of supporting the MTNA Foundation in this way. Through the Foundation, local associations have received grants to fund events for the benefit of their member teachers and students. Through the Foundation individual members have received grants to study their instruments to enhance their teaching. Help is there if you are thinking you need to take lessons or study music theory, history or whatever area of music you feel you need more study. The Foundation money filters back to us. It is worthy of our generous support. February 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to contribute to honor our foundation fellow at the MTNA Conference in March. So don't wait any longer. Make your contribution today if you haven't already.

#### **Competition in Jeopardy**

(No, not the TV game)

Many of you may have heard of the MTNA Board decision to discontinue the brass, woodwinds, strings and voice competitions. This would be devastating to the competition in our state as the majority of competition entrants are in the instrumental area. The MTNA Board of Directors plans on revisiting this decision in December and hopefully it will be rescinded. A message from the NDMTA has been sent to National showing our nonsupport of this decision. Many states are very unhappy about the decision to discontinue and a phone conference meeting of state presidents is planned for Sunday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned.

## Thoughts About NODAK

(We need to talk)

Speaking of competitions, the NODAK competition will be on Saturday, June 23 at Bismarck. This follows our state conference on Thursday and Friday, June 21 and 22. I have been reading Minnesota, South Dakota and Montana's MTA Newsletters. South Dakota has so many entrants they make money on their state competition. Minnesota has a very extensive state competition program as does Montana. Perhaps we need to do something different here in North Dakota to encourage more entrants. Is the distance to the competition a factor? We are the smallest of our neighboring states, member wise, but they are as large as if not larger in area than North Dakota. Distance doesn't seem to be a factor for them. We need to do better. Plan today for your best students to journey to Bismarck next summer and be part of this good goal.

I wish every one of you a very warm and happy Thanksgiving and Christmas. I thank Jessica Just for being so patient with me in getting my articles to her. The last two weeks have been rather trying with the death of my mother and then coming home to a backlog of 'to-dos' long overdue. I was blessed to have spent a wonderful day with my mom two days before she died. We walked around her nursing home and laughed at stories from the past. I have wonderful last memories of her. She was 98 years old. Hug your mother if she is still living.

Kathleen Johnson  
NDMTA President

Submit newsletter articles to Jessica Just:

[Jessicalynjust@hotmail.com](mailto:Jessicalynjust@hotmail.com)

Submit advertising to Sandra Enget :

[slenget123@hotmail.com](mailto:slenget123@hotmail.com)

Direct questions regarding newsletter distribution to

Warren Granfor: [wgranfor@nd.gov](mailto:wgranfor@nd.gov)

### **Dates, Dates, Dates!**

December 1<sup>st</sup>: Early registration for MTNA National Conference due

February 1<sup>st</sup>: Contributions to the MTNA Foundation deadline to honor our 2012 Foundation Fellow, Sara Bloom

February 4<sup>th</sup>: NDMTA Board Meeting - will be an IVN meeting

March 24-28<sup>th</sup>: MTNA National Conference in New York City

June 21<sup>st</sup>: NDMTA Conference in Bismarck

June 23<sup>rd</sup>: NODAK Competition

October 26-27<sup>th</sup>: MTNA Competitions in Valley City

The NDMTA competitions were held Saturday, Oct. 29 on the campus of Valley City State University. North Dakota had a total of 13 entrants, which included 2 state representatives and 11 competitors. The winners and 2 state representatives will go on to compete in the Division, which will be held in Boulder, Colorado on January 13-15. Judges for the event were Dr. Diana Skroch, who judged senior pianists and Russell Peterson, who judged saxophonists and chamber music.



In **Senior Piano**, Elisabeth Sondrol - *Alternate Winner* from Fargo. Teacher is Karen Okerlund. Caleb Faul - **Winner** from Bismarck. Teacher is David Poffenberger. David Larson - *Honorable Mention* from Bismarck. Teacher is David Poffenberger.



In **Young Artist Woodwinds**, Warren Granfor (Senior competitions chair), Michael Bartunek - *Alternate Winner* from NDSU. Teacher is Dr. Matthew Patnode. Carolyn Braus - **Winner** from NDSU. Teacher is Dr. Matthew Patnode.



In **Senior Woodwinds**, all students are from Minot and all study with Dr. Adam Estes, Minot State University. Peter Mathistad- *Honorable Mention*; Erik Anderson - *Honorable Mention*; Micah Holmen - *Alternate Winner*; **Rachel Harvey** - **Winner**; Sue Nagel (competitions co-chair)



In **Chamber Music**, On the left side of the picture is the MSU Saxophone Quartet: Daniel Johnson, Micah Holmen, Casey Black, Rachel Harvey - Alternate Winners (all students of Dr. Adam Estes) and the **Gold Star Saxophone Quartet from NDSU**: Chris Schuster, Antoine Poitras, Jonathan Ellwein, Michael Bartunek - **Winners** (all students of Dr. Matthew Patnode)

The State Representatives who will also be heading to Boulder are:

**Leah Walters** - **Young Artist Voice** - student of Bruce Southard, Dickinson State University

**Ivan Luza** - **Young Artist Strings** - student of Dr. Erik Anderson, Minot State University

Congratulations to all our wonderful performers and teachers! Beth Klingenstein and Sue Nagel, co-chairs

## Send Your Stories

I think we need a chicken-soup-for-the-soul-like book for music teachers!

During my years of memberships in MTNA, I have heard many wonderful personal stories that have inspired me to create a collection of stories from music teachers, especially those with private studios.

Most of us have a wealth of memories of weird/touching/funny things that have been said to us as well as of unique experiences we have had during our teaching careers. You may even recall your own least professional, funny, embarrassing or most successful teaching moment.

I plan to publish the best of these stories and hope that you will all be willing to share one or more special stories; anywhere from one sentence to a few pages would be fine. So far I have collected some great stories, but I know there are more out there and would love to include some great ND stories!

Here are some types of stories to consider:

- Funny things said by students, parents, family, or acquaintances
- Embarrassing, funny, or special things you did as a teacher
- Sad, touching, rewarding, funny stories from teaching
- Ironic or unbelievable event
- A successful breakthrough with a student
- Stories about a stereotype others have of independent music teachers
- Any story you think other teachers would enjoy hearing

Please send your stories to me at:

[beth.klingenstein@vcsu.edu](mailto:beth.klingenstein@vcsu.edu)

OR

Beth Gigante Klingenstein

341 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW

Valley City, ND 58072

No real names of students, parents, or others will be used in the stories. If I may use your name, please send your name and contact information with the story. If you wish to remain anonymous, that is fine, just let me know. I look forward to hearing from you. I am excited to share the stories I already have; I can't wait to hear yours! Beth Gigante Klingenstein, NCTM

### **NODAK Competitions**

NODAK Competitions date is Saturday, June 23, 2012. Location is Bismarck State College. Read the general requirements on page 31 in the 2011-2012 Handbook/Directory. A registration form is included in this newsletter. Pages 32-36 in the handbook/directory have the specific requirements for NODAK Competitions. The application deadline will be April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Foundation Fellow report                      submitted by Arlene Gray

This year North Dakota is recognizing Sara Bloom of Grand Forks with the Foundation Fellow nomination honor. Please consider making a donation of twenty dollars to the Fund before the end of this year. The full contribution amount is more than half way to the goal. Donors to the Foundation Fellow Fund were listed in the last newsletter. Thank you to members who have contributed.

The Foundation Fund makes funds available for teachers and locals for special projects. Upper Valley had a very successful Melody Bober Day largely funded through the Foundation. Think of your contribution as insurance for future programs. Be sure to write Sara Bloom, ND, in the memo portion of the check for the money to be correctly credited.

We have a small but strong state organization. North Dakota Music Teachers Association has been active in supporting the Foundation Fellow program. We are proud to support MTNA programs while recognizing our outstanding teachers. Place that donation into the mail soon. We want Sara to receive the honor she deserves.

**NDMTA Executive Board Minutes**  
**October 22, 2011**  
**IVN Meeting**

President Kathleen Johnson called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with 13 board members in attendance: Kathleen Johnson, Lisa Schuler, Lynda Pearson, Ellen Croy, Beth Klingenstein, Amy Mercer, Sharon Geglemann, Suzanne Rue, Darla Sheldon, Sheryl Kjelland, Arlene Gray, Mary Schneider, Ann DeLorme-Holmen

**A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Lynda Pearson; seconded by Sheryl Kjelland. Motion passed.**

### **Reports of Officers**

Secretary Lisa Schuler read the minutes from the June 15, 2011 executive board meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer Kathy Bresee sent her report but was unable to attend the meeting. The total assets are \$30,331.48, the total income is \$1,947.29 and the total expenses are \$37.80. Kathy is still working with the IRS to get the non-profit status for NDMTA back in order. It is currently in denial. She will be attending the competitions in Valley City, writing checks where needed. Kathy would like to see written guidelines created for expenses for all competitions and events sponsored by NDMTA. The books have not had an internal audit for this year. She will send them to the appointed people. Kathy also wants the exact amount of IVN sites and technicians for this meeting.

After Kathy's report was read, President Kathleen hoped that forms for expenses could be ready for the next board meeting. Ann DeLorme-Holmen and Ellen Croy will audit the books. Kathie Johnson took note as to which sites did not have tech. help for the current IVN meeting.

Vice President No report, position needs to be filled.

MTNA Competitions Kathy Johnson read a report from Sue Nagel who is co-chairing the competitions with Beth Klingenstein. Beth and Sue have secured the venue; rehearsal and competition times; judges; monitors for the competitions for October 29, 2011. Entrants are as follows: SR Woodwinds – 4 (all saxophone), YA Woodwinds – 2 (all saxophone), SR Piano – 3, Chamber Music – 2 (saxophone quartets), YA Strings – 1, YA Voice – 1, Judges are: Russ Peterson (SR/YA woodwinds, CM) and Diana Skroch (Piano). Teachers of entrants are from: NDSU, Minot State, Bismarck, and Fargo. As directed by Warren Granfor, Sue offered the YA strings and YA voice an opportunity to perform their program for written evaluation. The YA strings entrant accepted, but unfortunately, Sue hasn't been able to secure a judge to drive to Valley City for 1 performance. Sue would like to know if the board agrees or disagrees with the idea that entrants who aren't competing with anyone should be offered a written evaluation. Being new to this job, she's not been privy to what's gone on before, and can't find information in the file about this situation. A low-cost option would be to Skype a performance for written evaluation. Sue opposes dropping the competitions as MTNA is debating. While expensive, our state is small, and numbers could certainly be higher. Here in the F/M area, there are a few students who do the Minnesota competition, but still, their numbers aren't large either. If we could somehow combine resources with another state, maybe it would be more feasible. After talking with NDSU teachers/students, Sue knows this competition is one of the

only ones they look forward to. Minot State is sending a large contingency as well. Sue hopes there can be some agreement and different ideas that can help us to keep the competitions as is.

President Kathleen Johnson has been communicating with Wynn-Ann Rossi, the 2012 clinician. She has been working with Arlene Gray to set up the 2012 Conference. She set up the IVN meeting for October. She has asked the Alfred Publishing Company for financial assistance in support of Wynn-Ann Rossi and reported that \$300 was approved for transportation. She has also been working on filling the positions of IMTF, Music Link and VP. Kathleen will be attending the competitions in Valley City. She reported that Dr. Carter had sent a recording of his composition and it will be forwarded to MTNA. She will also look into the award application for State Affiliate of the Year.

## **Local Association Reports**

Badlands, Bismarck-Mandan, Devils Lake, Fargo-Moorhead, Greater Grand Forks, Langdon Area, Northwest, Upper Valley and Valley City local associations gave reports.

**2012 NDMTA Conference Report** Arlene Gray announced that the next state conference would be June 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> in Bismarck. The recitalist will perform Thursday night, Wynn-Ann Rossi's Master Class will be Friday afternoon and the Commission Composer will perform Friday night. The NODAK competition will be held June 23<sup>rd</sup> at BSC. Kathleen Johnson added that a list of composition students for the master class should be confirmed by the next board meeting. Alfred would be paying \$300.00 for Wynn-Ann's traveling expenses. NDMTA will be paying her \$1,000.00 for 4 sessions plus meals and lodging for 2 nights. There are 2 mini sessions that conference board will fill. Volunteers and ideas are welcomed. Dianna Anderson and/or her Dakota Strings group will be the recitalist for the conference.

## **Committee Reports**

Advertising Sandra Enget has collected 3 late advertising payments totaling \$200.00 and one \$100.00. She has not yet actively begun working on next year's ads.

Arts Awareness & Advocacy/Local Associations Ann Morris has shared emails with the local associations that she felt were important. She wrote an article in the NDMTA Newsletter, which summarized Susan Tang's session "Preparing Students for College Music Study." That session took place at the NDMTA State Conference in June. She continues to communicate with locals and executive board members about important issues concerning NDMTA and MTNA and continues to write articles for the newsletter, which help locals be more aware of the arts in ND and local association activities.

Certification & Teacher of the Year Lynda Pearson handled the State Certification renewals for Arleen Norton, Sharon Westbrook, Ann Delorme-Holman, Sharon Anderson, and Joyce Alme. Study guides and brochures were sent to Fargo members wishing to learn about the NDMTA certification plan. Lynda is planning on updating the certification brochure with hopes of it going digital so it can be on the website.

College Faculty/Collegiate Chapter No report. Position needs to be filled.

Directory Michelle Schumacher handed out the directory at the June conference and mailed the remaining handbooks to members. Presenting them at the conference saved over a \$100.00 in postage expenses. Michelle would like to know if she should print a partial directory every other year to save expenses.

Foundation Arlene Gray reported that she has been in contact with MTNA about Sara Bloom, the next Foundation Fellow. She mailed contributions to MTNA and submitted an article for the August newsletter, listing contributors to the Foundation Fund. She plans to write an updated Foundation article for the handbook.

Grant Coordinator Ann Delorme-Holmen had no activity to report. She will be in contact with Arlene Gray about the upcoming conference.

Historian Nancy Harsch is waiting to receive pictures from the state conference. Members who have pictures to share should send them to Nancy.

IMTF No report. Position needs to be filled.

Membership/Technology Coordinator Amy Mercer worked on updating membership information. She has passed checks from national headquarters to Kathy Bresee. She reported that NDMTA has 118 members including 13 new and reinstated members. There are 30 members from last year who have not paid dues for this year. She is planning on updating the website in the near future.

Music Link No report. Position needs to be filled.

Newsletter Jessica Just reported that she had compiled newsletter articles and created the August newsletter, which Warren Granfor sent out by email/mail. She will now create the November newsletter. Please submit articles to her email address by Nov 10, 2011.

NODAK Arlene Gray has confirmed the dates and location with BSC for the June 2012 Conference. She has written new forms for the competition. April 23<sup>rd</sup> is the registration deadline. Kathleen Johnson gave some suggestions for increasing entrants, one being to have DVD submissions for those who live far from the competition sites.

Rally Chair Sheryl Kjelland has been working on getting this year's Rally materials in hand. She will duplicate them for the rallies to be held by Langdon Area MTA and Northwest MTA on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. She also wrote an article for the newsletter.

## **Business**

Dues The general dues for NDMTA were raised to \$25.00 in June. President Kathleen asked the board if the Senior and Student dues should be raised as well. **Sheryl Kjelland made a motion to recommend to the membership that senior dues be raised to \$20.00 and that student dues be raised to \$10.00. Ann DeLorme-Holmen seconded the motion. Motion passed.** The motion will be addressed at the annual meeting in June.

MTNA Elimination of Instrumental Competitions Kathleen Johnson read a letter from Benjamin Cater, the MTNA president that addressed the national board's decision to eliminate competitions for instrumental solos other than piano. After discussion, **Arlene Gray made a motion that allows the NDMTA president, Kathleen Johnson, to draft a letter in support of the MTNA competitions. That letter could also suggest an exploration into using technology to reduce expenses for the organization; seconded by Beth Klingenstein. Motion carried.**

Policy Statement for use of Membership List After discussion, it was suggested that an advisory committee could be made to brainstorm how to word such a policy. Kathleen Johnson will contact other states to see if they have such policies in place.

Expense Forms After discussion, it was suggested that past treasurers could offer a history of what expenses have been paid for in the past to help create expense forms. Being Kathy Bresee, the state treasurer, was not at the meeting the subject will be tabled.

National Conference Reimbursements After discussion, it was suggested to draft a policy for the next board meeting. Again, other states will be contacted about their policies.

NODAK Arlene Gray withdrew her motion to lower registration fees and higher award amounts. She wishes to leave the amounts the same.

IVN The next IVN board meeting was set for **February 4<sup>th</sup>**. Kathleen Johnson reminded the board that each IVN meeting costs \$725.00. It's important to notify the president at least a week before a meeting if they are not going to be using the site.

Board Positions Kathleen Johnson talked about the definite need to fill the position of vice president by June. She asked Ann DeLorme-Holman if she would consider taking either the IMTF or Music Link position in addition to her Grant position being it's fairly inactive. Ann will explore the Music Link position and will let Kathleen know if she will accept it.

Presenter for 2013 Two suggestions for possible presenters were given for the 2013 conference, Dr. Groves of Fargo and Penny Simons of Minot. Amy Mercer was asked to take the names back to her local and that Fargo/Moorhead should submit more names at the next board meeting.

## Announcements

1. NDMTA is half way to the goal for the 2012 Foundation Fellow, Sara Bloom.
2. Submissions for the next newsletter are due Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> to Jessica Just. The board meeting minutes, the MTNA competition results and information about Beth Klingenstein's next book should be in the newsletter.
3. The 2012 MTNA Conference will be held on March 24-28 in New York City. Those who register by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> will pay last year's fee.
4. The 2012 NDMTA Conference will be held on June 21-22 in Bismarck.

5. The NODAK Competitions will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Bismarck.
6. Applications for the Local Association Award are to be sent to Kathleen Johnson by Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be submitted to national by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Kathleen will also submit an application for the State Affiliate Award by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Kathleen strongly encouraged members to apply for available grants.
7. Beth Klingenstein shared her venture in collecting interesting teacher/student stories that she will compile into a book.

Lynda Pearson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Beth Klingenstein.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Lisa Schuler, CTM  
NDMTA Secretary

#### Executive Board

President/Commissioning Composer: Kathleen Johnson [kathleen@utma.com](mailto:kathleen@utma.com)

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Rally: Sheryl Kjelland [okjellan@polarcomm.com](mailto:okjellan@polarcomm.com)



NODAK Competitions

# **NODAK Music Competitions**

(Non-advancing NDMTA State Competition)

## **Official Application Form**

(Rules are in the NDMTA Directory)

(Do not use a pencil)

### **Entrant Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of Sept 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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.***

<u>Example:</u>	<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. 1<sup>st</sup>, 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](mailto:ae6gray@gmail.com) Phone: 701-250-0860.

**This official Application Form must be postmarked on or before April 23, 2012.**

**Competition Date:** June 23, 2012, Bismarck State College, Bismarck, North Dakota.