

# OhioMTA Central East District

*Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association and Ohio Music Teachers Association*

Newsletter  
January 28, 2019

## President's Message

Greetings, colleagues! I will be serving as your district president for the remainder of the 2018-2020 term. Among other items, in this newsletter you will find reminders for our upcoming events, a request for volunteers at the CEOMTA/Graves Competition, and the opportunity to receive a FREE download of a new lead sheet resource!

--Rachel Mauricio Mills, NCTM

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### CEOMTA/Graves Competition – Volunteers Needed!

The annual Graves Solo and Ensemble Contest will take place on Saturday and Sunday, March 2 & 3, 2019. We need volunteer teachers on both of these days to make this a successful event! This is an opportunity to hear wonderful music played by Ohio students!

To sign up, contact Bernice Tamkin, NCTM at [btamkin@columbus.rr.com](mailto:btamkin@columbus.rr.com) or visit [Graves Volunteer Sign Up](#) to sign up for a spot.

--Laura Flowers Benson, NCTM, CEOMTA/Graves Chair

### Solo & Ensemble Recitals

The next Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals are scheduled for Sunday, March 17, 2019, at Graves Piano & Organ Co. Be sure to get your registrations and participation fees in by Thursday, March 7, 2019 (postmarked). The recitals are open to students of all members who have studied for at least one year. They are a great performance opportunity for any well-prepared student, and the perfect chance for them to hear other fine students from our district.

Detailed information can be found on our website: <http://www.ceomta.org/student-events/student-solo-ensemble-recitals>. Please contact Dr. Caroline B. Salido-Barta, chair, at 614-440-3555 or [thepianoartsstudio@yahoo.com](mailto:thepianoartsstudio@yahoo.com), for additional questions.

### Out & About

Upcoming dates:

February 17, 2019	St. Ann's Hospital	1:30 pm
March 3, 2019	Brookdale Pinnacle	3:00 pm

## TEACHER ACTIVITIES & NEWS

### Piano Workshop

Please come and join us on the last piano workshop of the year with Dr. Christopher Fisher from Ohio University! Perfect opportunity for some enlightenment, light refreshment and conversations with our guest clinician. Free admission for CEOMTA members!

### **Piano Workshop with Dr. Christopher Fisher**

*Don't Write the Epitaph Just Yet: Strategies for a Classical Music Revolution*

**Date:** Friday, February 22, 2019

**Time:** 10 am – 12 noon

**Location:** Graves Piano & Organ Company Recital Hall



Claims of the demise of classical music have been raised for centuries. However, many proclaim that the art form is facing its most imposing challenges yet and is at risk of becoming obsolete. To be sure, the challenges are real, namely financial hazards and dwindling audience bases. Is classical music facing an insurmountable, systemic crisis?

Despite these threats, a wave of innovative new leaders is emerging. These passionate, outspoken advocates are brilliant educators and evangelists who are devoted to spreading the good news about the transformative power of this great music. Their message is that classical music is relevant and it has the potential to radically enrich lives. In many ways, their work is sparking a rebirth, a renaissance. For many, it is all about reimagining and reinventing the art form.

This presentation will explore exciting trends in the world of classical music and will equip piano teachers with robust yet practical strategies that can be deployed as part of an exciting classical music revival.

<http://www.ceomta.org/piano-workshop-with-dr-christopher-fisher>

--Dr. Fan Zhang, Piano Workshops Chair

## IMTF

Winter Independent Music Teachers Forum is going to meet on February 1, 2019 at Mozart's cafe (4784 N.High st, Columbus, OH 43214) at 9:30-11.

We are going to discuss how to use toys and imagery on proper hand position and sound production in young beginners. So bring your toys and ideas to share and play!

--Olena Mladenova, IMTF Chair

## Conferences

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Friday, April 12, 2019 for the Annual Spring Conference held at Faith Ministries Church! Grab a friend, add it to your class syllabus, bring your collegiate pedagogy class & take advantage of the day!

Please see the membership guide for additional details!

--Ashley Wise & Theresa Murphy, Conference Chairs

## Grants for Professional Development

Grants applications are due by April 15, 2019. Please visit the website for application and eligibility guidelines.

<http://www.ceomta.org/grants-for-professional-development>

--Annette Suhovecky, NCTM, Grants Chair

## Certification

### **Getting Started on Certification**

If you are not yet nationally certified, have you thought about it? Would you like to know more?

Our colleagues who have become recently certified say that the PROCESS of completing the five certification projects helped them enormously. They have all said that they grew as teachers and as musicians. Some did the work on their own, but most enjoyed meeting in groups from time to time and helping each other. Could 2019 be the year that YOU set aside some time for your own growth, to become a better teacher and improve your professional practices?

On Monday, February 11, I will host a certification meeting in the Graves Recital Hall for any teacher interested in learning about National Certification. We will start at 9:45 a.m. sharp and conclude about 11:45 a.m. I will give you all the basics of the certification process, and we will discuss some specifics, such as: your Teaching Philosophy; your Studio Policy; the requirement for you to show that you have obtained a level of competence playing your instrument, and have achieved a level of competence teaching your instrument; analyzing a piece of music; and ideas for self-assessment.

You will get more out of our time together if you first explore the Certification offerings on the MTNA website. Just go to [mtna.org](http://mtna.org) and then "Engage," and then scroll down to National Certification. You can also read about certification at [ceomta.org](http://ceomta.org) and Teacher Events, Certification. If you wish to get organized, print out the projects and set up a 3-ring notebook.

If you are not available on February 11, but you do want to know more about certification, please contact me. And, if you plan to attend on February 11th, it helps me to know in advance.

### **Nominations are Now Open for our Nationally Certified Teacher of the Year**

Each year, the Central-East District chooses a Nationally Certified Music Teacher of the Year and this teacher is honored at the Spring Conference. The district winner is then placed in nomination for the OMTA State Teacher of the Year.

Would you like to nominate a colleague who is a role model as a teacher and as a volunteer for OMTA? Please go to our website and read about how to nominate and to see the list of winners from previous years. Take a few minutes to look through the list of members with this honor in mind. Nominations will be accepted until February 15, 2019.

In addition to honoring one of our own for her/his dedication to our profession, the Nationally Certified Teacher of the Year award shines a spotlight on national certification. Our publicity helps educate the public about MTNA and its certification program.

--Janice Cook, NCTM, Certification Chair  
jbakercook@gmail.com

### MTNA National Conference

March 16-20, 2019

Spokane, Washington

Click [HERE](#) for further details

### OhioMTA State Conference

October 24-26, 2019

Sylvania, Ohio

Click [HERE](#) for further details

### FREE DOWNLOAD!

Get a head start on Scale Olympics 2020! District member Bradley Sowash has recently published a resource called the [Lead Sheet Challenge](#). In it, he says:

*"I wish to acknowledge my local chapter of Music Teachers National Association, which created an adjudicated event for harmonization in 1984, as part of its Scale Olympics. In 2010, the Central East District of the Ohio Music Teachers Association invited me to participate in the creation of a Lead Sheet Track, and its success has been an inspiration to write this new collection."*

Bradley has graciously offered one FREE download of this new publication to all members of CEOMTA. Here's how to get your copy:

1. Submit an e-mail request to Tonya Southwick, administrative assistant at Bradley Sowash Music: [tonyasouthwick@gmail.com](mailto:tonyasouthwick@gmail.com)
2. After confirming your membership through our online directory, you will be e-mailed a PDF file of the publication.
3. This offer EXPIRES on June 30, 2019.

In memoriam

Our district grieves with the families of our members who have passed:

[Tanya Matsuda](#), OMTA member for over 20 years

[Mary Craig Powell](#), OMTA member for 40 years

A donation has been made to the Summer Scholarship Fund in their honor.