

OhioMTA Central East District

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association and Ohio Music Teachers Association

Newsletter
January 31, 2021

President's Message

Much like everyone else, I am greatly looking forward to 2020 being behind us and starting fresh with the New Year! And our district got the year off to a great start with our annual MLK masterclass focusing for the first time on classical piano works by African American composers. In this newsletter, you can read more about this event and some of the fantastic initiatives that were inspired by Dr. Raymond Wise's informative presentation, as well as many of our other upcoming teacher and student activities. It is this kind of engagement and passion from our amazing volunteer board and members that allowed us to adapt to the many challenges of 2020 and look ahead to an exciting 2021!

Andrea Keil, M.M.

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TEACHER ACTIVITIES & NEWS

IMTF Thank You

Thank you for joining the November IMTF conversation where we had a debriefing about how our teaching has changed due to the pandemic and we shared tips and answered questions of ways to make our teaching better. We also spoke candidly about checking in with all of our students and in particular our students and families of color during this unprecedented time. I personally want to thank those who were in attendance for giving me the opportunity to share. I really appreciate the conversations that were had on that day and beyond. Thanks to our membership, our district is a leader in many notable ways and having these types of conversations is another example of our district's leadership.

Piano Workshop

This year's 2021 annual MLK piano workshop topic was a first of its kind. Our topic was Exploring the Classical Piano Works of African American Composers. Our guest speaker was international presenter, composer, pianist and professor, Dr. Raymond Wise of Indiana University.

Several members were in attendance along with guests Dr. Dione Bennet of Ohio Christian and Capital University and E.L. Lancaster of Alfred Publishing. Many thanks for piano workshop chair Liz Atkinson and others for sharing this event and making others aware. It was a power packed 90 minutes. It has been so encouraging to hear the many ways our OMTA colleagues were inspired to take next steps and make it "a day on not a day off." Several members have shared a variety of ways they are making a difference and putting their learning into action such as purchasing suggested titles and music by African American composers for their personal use and their students' repertoire, plans are in the works for a teacher's recital to play newly learned pieces by African American Composers, taking the bold step and contacting known method publishers asking for the inclusion of African American composers in their method books and in local music stores to even calling WOSU radio after listening recently to not only thank them for playing pieces by now recognized composers but asking them to play more pieces by these composer so that others can be more aware. These are only a few

examples of inspired engagement our colleagues have shared but this is what it takes, everyday. Thanks for sharing and let's keep being a leader in the district in this area as well.

District Conferences

Finally, we look forward to seeing you online for our 2021 Spring District Conference with composer, arranger and teacher Melody Bober. This event will be held Friday, April 16 and additional details will be made available in the coming weeks.

In Partnership,
Ashley Wise
VP of CEOMTA Teacher Activities

LEARNING SOMETHING NEW: Black Composers Matter

On Martin Luther King Day 2021, OMTA sponsored a fine workshop for piano teachers entitled "Exploring the classical piano works of African American composers for incorporation into classical piano studios" Kudos to Chairman Liz Atkinson and to Ashley Wise and Lynn Singleton, who played some wonderful music for us by composers unknown to many of us. Clinician Dr. Raymond Wise gave us a wealth of information and resources to help us broaden the literature that we play and teach. Seven of us have decided to challenge each other to do just that. You are cordially invited to join us. Here is the proposed timeline:

Step One: Find a piece by a black composer that you would like to learn. There are now repertoire lists available, including an excellent one on our ceomta.org page:

<http://www.ceomta.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Piano-Works-by-African-American-Composers.pdf>
President Andrea Keil, who runs the sheet music department at Graves, is interested in helping each of us, so you are invited to call her at Graves. The timeline is to have the chosen piece(s) on your piano by mid-February.

Step Two: Get started learning whatever you have chosen. Since we are all busy, two months of time is allotted to learn your piece.

Step Three: We gather together via Zoom - maybe the evening of Sunday, April 18th? - and share with each other. You might tell a little bit about the piece and the composer and then play either live at the time, or by playing a pre-recorded version. Details to come.

If you would like to join the group and join in the challenge, please contact Janice Cook at jbakercook@gmail.com

Independent Music Teachers Forum

Friday, March 26, 10 am-12 noon

On Zoom

Guest Speaker: Christian Howes

Topic: The "flipped" lesson: how to channel your teaching energy while delivering more content to your students, online or in person.

Whether we are still teaching online or have started to return to in-person lessons, many teachers are feeling a sense of fatigue. How can we stay energetic and motivating for our students without draining ourselves to the point of burnout? Chris Howes has traveled extensively to bring his time-tested ideas to classroom and independent studio music teachers. There will be time at the end for questions and further discussion. For more information on Chris' philosophies, click the link below. Chris grew up right here in Columbus and participated in OhioMTA activities on the violin!

[Christian Howes Flipping the Classroom](#)

Join us on March 26th!

Suzanne

Dr. Suzanne Newcomb, NCTM

IMTF Chair

Nominations Now Open for Nationally Certified Teacher of the Year

This is the time of year that nominations for the Nationally Certified Teacher of the Year are accepted. The deadline is February 15. You can read more about this award at <http://www.ceomta.org/teacher-events/certified-teacher-of-the-year>

We are midway through an extraordinary period of time when we as individual teachers and we as an organization have been tested by a Pandemic. Many of our events have been cancelled or postponed even as we celebrated being named the Best Local Association in the country by MTNA.

Extraordinary times call for different ways of thinking. The teamwork and sense of community we have built among us is amazing. One idea is that, instead of singling out a particular person this year, we nominate a GROUP of people that made an extraordinary effort to save one of our biggest events:

The 2020 Scale Olympics Committee of Laura Wynia, Rebecca Buchan, Cynthia Adams, Lizbeth Atkinson, Rachel Mills, Bruce Piper, and Annette Suhovecky, in recognition of its' tireless efforts to offer this valuable event to over 200 of our students during the COVID Pandemic, is nominated for Teachers of the Year.

Your input is valued and is welcomed.

Janice Cook, CEOMTA Certification Chairman

jbakercook@gmail.com Cell: 614-397-0907

Grants for Professional Development

Attention OhioMTNA members,

Grants for Professional Development is offering up to \$350 for YOU to help enhance your teaching skills. We all can improve our skills in some way. It is easy - just send an application specifying what you would do with the money and how it would benefit you as a teacher. The money will be awarded to the teacher(s) whose educational experience is most beneficial. Applications are due April 15.

For more information contact Annette Suhovecky at Annette@brierhill.net or review the CEOMTA website. Give it some thought. You might just be the winner of a Grant for Professional Development.

MTNA Half-Price Membership

Why not invite music teachers among your friends and neighbors *who have never been in MTNA* to join us at half price (for half a year)?

- *Their students enjoy reduced registration fees for local, state and national competitions and events
- *They enjoy our fellowship and mutual encouragement in various forums
- * They benefit from teacher educational opportunities in our workshops
- * Their students gain many performance opportunities, both competitive and for public service.

HOW TO JOIN CEOMTA

Go to MTNA.org and then click on "Join+Renew."

The membership year runs July 1 - June 30. Dues are broken down as follows:

Full price	Price for 12/31 - Jun 30 (half year)
MTNA - \$83	\$ 41.50
OhioMTA - \$40	20.00
CEOMTA - \$20	20.00
Total \$143	\$81.50

A six month trial membership at \$81.50 is available for music professionals *who have never been in MTNA* from December 31 - June 30th. Any of your students participating in our competitions or events would enjoy reduced registration fees. You may call our local Membership chair, Melissa Robol, with any questions at 614-425-9909 or contact MTNA at (888) 512-5278 or (513) 421-1420

MTNA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

March 13–17, 2021

Register on or before 2/16/21 to save \$50

Registration is open through May 28, 2021. Conference recordings will be available until June 1, 2021.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals Coming Up Soon

The next Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals are scheduled for Sunday, February 21, 2021, at Graves Piano & Organ Co. Be sure to get your registrations and participation fees in by Thursday, February 11, 2021 (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. If in the case that we are not able to conduct any of the Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals in person, the recital will be conducted via Zoom.

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, for additional questions.

Summer Music Study Scholarships

The Ohio Music Teachers Association Central East District, CEOhioMTA, is pleased to offer scholarships to eligible students again this year. Due to the ongoing pandemic situation, it will be an on-line event again, with applicants submitting their video recordings for the judging.

The format for the audition will retain the performance and the essay portions but exclude the sight-reading. After participants have applied, they will receive detailed instructions on submitting their performance videos.

Application Deadline

Monday, March 15, 2021 (postmark)
NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED

Audition Date- (Judge Review of Performance Videos)

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Video Submission Deadline

No later than 10:00 pm, April 16, 2021

Fees

\$20 for students of members
\$40 for students on non-members

To download a complete list of Rules and Regulations, Application and to check for Updates, please go to the website as we get closer to the application deadline.

Co-Chair/Registrar
Debra Mattera
(614) 529-1133 • ANote234@aol.com

Co-Chair/Video Submissions
Sally Sansbury

Pianorama 2021

The Pianorama Co-Chairs have completed music selection for 2021. The Literature List is now available on the CEOMTA website for informational purposes only. Due to circumstances with the COVID virus, final decisions about Pianorama 2021 have not been made. Please keep checking the webpage this spring for further updates.

Amy Girvin, Andrea Keil, Katherine Savinell, Pianorama Co-Chairmen