

# OhioMTA Central East District

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

Newsletter  
June 3, 2022

## **President's Message**

I am honored to be serving another term as president of the Central East District. I hope you will join me in extending a big welcome to our new board members Amy Cain (Pianorama Chair) and Bernice Tamkin (Membership Chair), and returning board member Katherine Bede (Scale Olympics Chair). We continue to be one of the most active MTNA districts and this is all thanks to the fabulous volunteers that serve on our board!

Going forward into 2022-2023, we will continue to relay updated event and membership information through our website and blog. Please check [www.ceomta.org](http://www.ceomta.org) or subscribe to our email list to receive the most up-to-date information throughout the year. Happy Summer!

Andrea Keil, M.M.  
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## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Scale Olympics 2022**

We are excited to announce that Scale Olympics 2022 will be held in-person on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Otterbein University. Details are available on the CEOMTA website. <http://www.ceomta.org/student-events/scale-olympics> Registration begins July 1<sup>st</sup> and will run through September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope you and your students will join us!

Event Date: Saturday, October 15th

Event Times: During registration, students may choose a morning (9:00-12:00) or afternoon (1:00-4:30) time slot.

Fees: Members: \$30 for 1-4 events; \$35 for 5-9 events

Non-members: \$60 for 1-4 events; \$70 for 5-9 events

Please submit one check per teacher, payable to CEOMTA.

Checks from students will not be accepted.

Registration: July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Teacher Training: New to Scale Olympics, or want to learn how to prepare students? In-person training will be held at Graves on Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. and on Zoom on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. Please RSVP for the Teacher Training to [slwynia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slwynia@sbcglobal.net). If you plan to attend the Zoom training, mention that in your RSVP, and a Zoom link will be sent!

Judge Training: In-person on September 13<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. at Graves, and on Zoom at 10 a.m. on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Registration will be done online through the CEOMTA website.

Events Offered: Scales, Cadences, Arpeggios, Triads, Harmonization, Transposition, Sight Reading, Theory, and Ear Training. Each event is offered at eight levels of difficulty as well as a preparatory level for young beginners. Students are awarded ribbons, based on points, for every event entered. All requirements for each level are detailed in the updated Scale Olympics Handbook, which is available for download on the CEOMTA website.

<http://www.ceomta.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SO-Handbook-2022-RS.pdf>

## **Solo & Ensemble**

The last of the Solo & Ensemble Recitals, the Honors Recital, was held on Saturday, April 23, at 10:30 a.m., at Graves Piano & Organ Co. This recital presented the 2022 winners from two of our most prestigious events: Summer Music Study Scholarship Competitions and Buckeye Auditions. It was an amazing morning of great performances by these young artists! Congratulations!

The following artists were featured:

Lilia Baldwin, piano (Columbus Piano Technicians Guild Scholarship Award & CEOhioMTA Piano Scholarship Award)

Teacher: Janice Cook, NCTM

Max Brown, piano (CEOhioMTA Piano Scholarship Award)

Teacher: Suzanne Newcomb, NCTM

Joseph Guo, piano (Buckeye Auditions Elementary Piano Honorable Mention)

Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Lila Hahn, piano (CEOhioMTA Piano Scholarship Award)

Teacher: Sharon Walton, NCTM

Melanie Klapper, piano (Solich Piano Scholarship Award, CEOhioMTA Piano Scholarship Award & Buckeye Auditions Elementary Piano Winner)

Teacher: Suzanne Newcomb, NCTM

Levi Li, piano (Buckeye Auditions Junior Piano Winner)

Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Cory Wu, piano (MTNA National Finalist-Piano Senior Division)

Teachers: Nina Polonsky/Kathleen Sadoff

Sophia Wu, violin (Buckeye Auditions Junior Strings Winner)

Teachers: Tatiana V. Hanna/Leonid Polonsky

Lilya Zhang, piano (Hilliard Music School Scholarship Award, CEOhioMTA Piano Scholarship Award & Buckeye Auditions Elementary Piano Alternate)

Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals coming up soon in the Fall

The next Student Solo and Ensemble Recital is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 2022, at Graves Piano & Organ Co. Be sure to get your registrations and participation fees in by Thursday, November 3, 2022 (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.

## **OhioMTA/Graves Piano Competition**

Congratulations to all participants in the 2022 OhioMTA/Graves Piano Solo & Ensemble Contest!

### Elementary Solo

- 1st place - Ryan Wang (Teacher: Fan Zhang) \$200
- 2nd place - Lena Weinberg (Teacher: Kathleen Sadoff) \$100
- 3rd place - Lilya Zhang (Teacher: Nina Polonsky) \$75
- 4th place - Ann Sheng (Teacher: Erya Yu) \$50
- Honorable Mention - Wallace Shen (Teacher: Ella Karasik) • Honorable Mention - Olivia Chan (Teacher: Erya Yu)
- Honorable Mention - Spencer Zhang (Teacher: Ella Karasik)

### Elementary Duo

- 1st place - Sophia Fan & Vicky Yang (Teacher: Benita Leung) \$200
- 2nd place - Ann Sheng & Aimee Wang (Teacher: Erya Yu) \$100

### Junior Solo

- 1st place - Levi Li (Teacher: Nina Polonsky) \$300
- 2nd place - Ian Shang (Teacher: Benita Leung) \$150
- 3rd place - Evan Dan (Teacher: Sean Schulze) \$75
- 4th place - Sophia Nguyen-Huynh (Teacher: Sean Schulze) \$50
- Honorable Mention - Melanie Klapper (Teacher: Nina Polonsky)
- Honorable Mention - Avery Li (Teacher: Nina Polonsky)

### Junior Duo

- 1st place - Levi Li & Erik Jacoby (Teachers: Nina Polonsky & Kathleen Sadoff) \$200
- 2nd place - Andrey Bakalov & Judy Wu (Teacher: Nina Polonsky) \$100
- Honorable Mention - Austin Xiao & Eric Hong (Teacher: Erya Yu)
- Honorable Mention - Evie Hu & Ella Tang (Teacher: Kathleen Sadoff)
- Honorable Mention - John Zhan & Philip Zhan (Teacher: Benita Leung)

### Senior Solo

- 1st place - Katia Jacoby (Teachers: Nina Polonsky & Kathleen Sadoff) \$400
- 2nd place - Evan Yu (Teacher: Tatiana Kats) \$200
- 3rd place - Rachel Zhu (Teacher: Sally Sansbury) \$100
- 4th place - Kaede Suzuki (Teacher: Polina Bepalko) \$50



## **Buckeye Competition**

Congratulations to the winners of the Ohio Music Teachers Association District Buckeye Audition winners. This event was held on April 16, 2022 at Graves Piano & Organ Company, Columbus. Each spring, highly motivated students in piano, string, voice, and winds compete at the district level. The division winners advance to the State Finals on June 11, 2022 at Malone University in Canton, Ohio to compete for cash prizes awarded to state winners in Elementary (\$200), Junior (\$275), and Senior 9(\$350) level categories.

### ELEMENTARY PIANO

1st Place: Melanie Klapper - Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Alternate: Lilya Zhang - Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Honorable Mention: Joseph Guo - Teacher: Nina Polonsky

### JUNIOR PIANO

1st Place: Levi Li - Teacher: Nina Polonsky

Alternate: Alester Xiao - Teacher: Suzanne Newcomb

### SENIOR STRINGS

1st Place: Katia Jacoby - Teaches: Kathleen Sadoff and Nin Polonsky

Alternate: Rachel Zhu - Teacher: Sally Sansbury

Honorable Mention: Shrey Shyamalan - Teacher: Nick Ross

## **TEACHER ACTIVITIES AND NEWS**

### **Certification**

MTNA has a fine national certification program and all OMTA members are encouraged to earn the designation NCTM (Nationally Certified Teacher of Music.) When YOU have a student move to another state... or have a family member in another town who wants to start lessons, how do you help them find a good teacher? What do *you* look for in a teacher? An excellent way to find a skilled teacher is to go to the MTNA website and search for nationally certified teachers by zip code.

The voluntary certification program asks you to demonstrate your skills as a teacher, demonstrate your proficiency on your instrument, share your Teaching Philosophy and your Studio Policy, share pictures and descriptions of your teaching environment, address hypothetical issues you might have with parents or a colleague, and show knowledge of music history, music theory, musical form, and a sequential curriculum for your students.

A Certification Meeting was held on May 16 and another one will be on Monday, June 6 at Graves Piano and Organ at 9:45 a.m. Please contact Janice Cook by text or email to reserve a spot at the meeting. If you cannot come, but have an interest in becoming nationally certified, let Janice know and study the guidelines at <https://certification.mtna.org>

Show your commitment to excellence as a teacher by joining the ranks of those who are nationally certified. Thoughts by nationally known leaders in our profession:

“One of the privileges of being a member of MTNA is the assurance that the organization is dedicated to encouraging excellence in the teaching of music. Nothing speaks to this more eloquently than the National Certification Commission.” Nelita True, NCTM

“The MTNA Certification program provides perhaps the single best indicator to our society that MTNA and its members view the teaching of music as a profession requiring not only dedication but also intense preparation.” R. Wayne Gibson, NCTM

“It is crucial to have a nationally recognized standard of excellence in music teaching. This will give the independent music teacher added credibility in the community and increased professional stature.” Scott McBride Smith, NCTM

“MTNA Certification and the renewal process make me personally accountable for staying abreast of new developments in the music profession. My students benefit because I improve my teaching when I am learning and practicing too.” Sylvia Coats, NCTM

“Music Teacher Certification through MTNA strengthens the music teaching profession by asserting the validity of teaching credentials in the public eye. What could be more important to preserve and announce?” Jane Magrath, NCTM

Janice Cook, NCTM [jbakercook@gmail.com](mailto:jbakercook@gmail.com) 614-397-0907

## **Save the Date!**

### **OhioMTA State Conference 2022**

June 23-25, 2022

### **MTNA National Conference 2022**

March 25-29, 2023

Reno, Nevada