



Newsletter
March 1, 2026

President's Message

Spring is beginning, and with spring comes the culmination of our piano teaching year! It's exciting to see the many great CEOMTA events for both students and teachers.

One of our district's biggest events is our annual Spring Conference, which will be held Friday, April 17th, at Discover Christian Church, 2900 Martin Road, Dublin, 43017. Our annual members' meeting will begin at 9:30, with the conference beginning at 10. Plan to stay for lunch and get better acquainted with colleagues. More information can be found on our website under Teacher Events. <https://www.ceomta.org/teacher-events/conferences/district-spring-conference>

Our district website, <https://www.ceomta.org/> and Facebook page are great ways to stay up to date on CEOMTA activities!

Here is a link to the calendar on our website: [2025-26 Calendar | Central East District of OhioMTA](#)

I hope to see you at CEOMTA events this spring! Happy teaching!

Laura Wynia, CEOMTA President
slwynia@sbcglobal.net

Calendar Spotlight

March 2026

- March 13th, 2026 – [IMTF](#) at the home of Sharon Walton
- March 14th-15th – [Ohio Legacy Solo and Duo Piano Competition](#)
- March 15th, 2026 – [Out and About](#) – March – Deadline is Wednesday before

April 2026

- April 12th, 2026 – [Out and About](#) – April – Deadline is Wednesday before
- April 17th, 2026 – [Spring Conference](#)
- April 18th, 2026 – [Buckeye Auditions](#)

Teacher Activities

Independent Music Teachers Forum

IMTF GATHERING FRIDAY, MARCH 13
Friday, March 13, 2026, 10-12 noon

Digital Resources to Explore: AI and IMSLP
(International Music Score Library Project)

At the Home of Sharon Walton:
2290 Walhaven Ct., Upper Arlington, 43220

At this Forum we will explore ways that some teachers are using AI tools in their studios. We will learn together. If you have used AI, we hope you will share your experience. If you haven't used AI, come to learn!

We will also discuss a wonderful gift for musicians: IMSLP. This international web-based resource offers musical scores for much of the world's' music that is no longer under copyright. It is a great way to learn about music that may not be in your library. In most cases, it can be downloaded and printed.

So that we can plan for chairs and refreshments,
Please RSVP to Sharon Walton: skrwalton@gmail.com
Title your e-mail as: RSVP/IMTF

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the 2026 Ohio Legacy Competition (formerly the CEOMTA/Graves Competition) on Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15 at Denison University's Michael D. Eisner Center for the Performing Arts.

Teachers as well as high school and adult students are welcome. Feel free to stay and listen after—the competition is open to the public!

E-mail Tim Ledger (timothymledger@gmail.com) if you are available.

CEOMTA Spring Conference

Plan to join us for the Spring Conference on Friday April 17 at Discover Christian Church in Dublin Ohio

Do you or any of your students deal with performance anxiety?

Do you have a well-prepared student who struggles with public performances?

Just in time for recital season, we have a great opportunity to learn how to help our students perform at their very best.

Our guest speaker is Dr. Todd Kays, a performance psychologist and mental coach. He will discuss concepts of performance psychology that help musicians keep their minds out of the way and allow them to reach top level performances.

Along with the conference, we will also have a free luncheon. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow teachers, catch up with good friends, and collaborate with professional musicians from central Ohio. In order to help us plan for the luncheon, please R.S.V.P. now or by April 11 to Bernice Tamkin at btamkin@columbus.rr.com

If you have anything you need to share at the business meeting at 9:30, please contact Laura Wynia so that she can add you to the agenda.

Check the website for the schedule and more details.

CEOMTA Elected Officers for 2026-2028

The nominating committee has confirmed the slate of elected officers for the 2026-2028 term:

Laura Wynia, President
Bruce Piper, Treasurer
Jennifer Kurtz, Secretary
Annette Suhovecky, VP of Members Services
Timothy Ledger, VP of Student Competitions
Andrea Keil, VP of Student Activities
Beverley Simms, VP of Teacher Activities

Grants for Professional Development

Attention CEOMTA members,

Grants for Professional Development is offering up to \$350 for YOU to enhance your teaching skills. We've made it as easy as possible – just send in an application specifying what you would do with the money and how it would benefit you as a teacher. In addition, please send a text to the Chair alerting that an application is on its way. The money will be awarded to the teacher(s) whose application is most beneficial. You might consider taking private lessons to study repertoire from a specific musical period or taking a class on conducting, theory or improvisation. The options are endless. We had two recipients last year. Congratulations to Jessica Phillips and Emily Foster (student at The Ohio State University).

Applications are due April 15. For more information, contact Annette Suhovecky at Annette@brierhill.net or review the CEOMTA website. Give it some serious thought. You might just be a winner of a Grant for Professional Development!

Student Activities

2026 Summer Music Study Scholarships

NEW THIS YEAR! Applications for the 2026 Summer Music Study Scholarships must be submitted via email to the Chairman/Registrar. Applications not sent via email will NOT be accepted. Complete details can be found on our website page. [Summer Music Study Scholarships | Central East District of OhioMTA](#)

Deadline for Submissions via email is Midnight - April 19, 2026.

As a reminder - Summer Music Study Scholarships are now ESSAY ONLY. The performance and sight-reading portions were eliminated in 2025.

Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals & Honors Recital coming up soon

The Student Solo and Ensemble Recitals & the Honors Recital are scheduled for Sunday, May 17, 2026, at Graves Piano Co. Be sure to get your registrations and participation fees (fees only for the Student Solo & Ensemble Recitals) in by Thursday, May 7, 2026 (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. The Honors Recital features the winners of the OhioMTA Summer Music Study Scholarships and Buckeye Auditions competition winners. The winners are invited to perform at this special recital. And it is a wonderful opportunity to hear them all perform in this setting.

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.

Out and About

The 2025-2026 Out & About has been accomplishing its mission of bringing music to area hospitals and senior centers. We appreciate the coordinated efforts of all the teachers who prepare their students to participate.

For the past two years, Out & About has been coordinated by two co-chairs, Miriam Brown and Bernice Tamkin. We divide the months to coordinate, type and print the programs.

Currently, "Out & About" does 2 recitals each year at both Riverside Hospital and St. Ann's Hospital. The remainder of the months are filled in at numerous Senior Living Centers in the Columbus Area.

These recitals are greatly appreciated at the Senior Centers, and the seniors often make many positive comments to our young pianists throughout the

programs. The Hospital programs are more open to a variety of listeners: patients, patient visitors, doctors, nurses, other hospital employees. For the past two years, Bernice has done all the scheduling during the summer for the upcoming year, and she will be continuing that.

We appreciate the teachers who prepare their students to play for these recitals and especially appreciate when we receive the monthly information from teachers in a timely manner, as we plan these events.

Here are the remaining “Out & About” events scheduled for the 2025-2026 school year.

3/15/26	Riverside Hospital	Miriam Brown
4/12/26	Cotter House, 800 Proprietor’s Rd, Worthington	-Bernice Tamkin
5/17/26	St. Ann’s Hospital	Bernice Tamkin

Sincerely,
Co-Chairs
Bernice Tamkin, NCTM
Miriam Brown, NCTM

Upcoming Dates

MTNA National Conference – March 21-25th in Chicago, IL

This year’s conference celebrates 150 years of MTNA and is conveniently located in Chicago! Refresh your teaching and meet colleagues from around the globe!

https://www.mtna.org/Conference/Conference_Home/Conference/Home.aspx?hkey=cecd079e-f62b-4ed5-8575-57e2283ba248

CEOMTA Spring Conference – Friday, April 17th – 9:15 – 1 p.m. at Discover Christian Church, 2900 Martin Road, Dublin

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Todd Kays, sport/performance psychologist and mental coach. <https://www.ceomta.org/teacher-events/conferences/district-spring-conference>