

STACCATO NOTES

The official newsletter of the Seattle Music Teachers Association
seattlemta.org

February 2021

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

* February 7	Online Student Recital
* February 16	SMTA General Virtual Meeting
* March 1	Marsha Wright Sonatina Festival Registration Opens
* March 7	Adult Student Soiree
* March 13 – 17	MTNA Conference
* March 21	Snohomish County Sonata-Sonatina Festival Registration Closes

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear SMTA Members,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and a great start to 2021! Even when we are separated, and only see each other on a screen, my students and colleagues never fail to make me feel optimistic about the future. I am so proud that our chapter has been able to continue to offer opportunities for students and teachers through this seemingly never-ending time of social distance.

There are some awesome things going on with SMTA this month! Marti Garrett is hosting an online Adult Student Soiree on March 7th, you can sign up by emailing Marti at Marthaigarret@comcast.net. Katie O'Rourke is hosting our second SMTA Zoom Recital on February 7th. I am excited to be able to watch the recital online! Ryan Worswick is hosting his fourth (!!!) round of the Tech/nique of Online Teaching CIG on February 5, 12, and 19 at 12:00.

There are still a few Safe and Sound Grants available for pandemic related tools and teaching supplies. To apply and find out more, visit our SMTA website.

MTNA will be holding their National Conference virtually this year from March 13-17. One great thing about this is that you can attend from home, and watch sessions at your own pace. Registration is now open, the cost of attendance increases on February 16th.

Our online general meeting is on February 16th, and will feature a presentation by Yerin Kim on Working With Special Needs Students. Meetings are a great way to reconnect with fellow teachers, and learn something new too. Hope to see you there!

Happy New Year!

Katie

GENERAL MEETING COMING UP! FEBRUARY 2021

Connect with Colleagues! Be Inspired!

Learn about SMTA! Get Involved!

SMTA GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, February 16th, 2020 – 9:00a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

VIA ZOOM

Guest Speaker: Yerin Kim

Join your colleagues for our virtual meeting! Grab a coffee and let's reconnect. We'll check in about online teaching, share some encouragement, & learn more about running our studios as businesses!

**Presentation:
Teaching Gifted Atypical Students In An Atypical World**



The Covid-19 pandemic has brought many different challenges to educators as well as students. In this presentation, Dr. Kim will cover different strategies as well as how to personalize your teaching to meet individual needs of students.

Yerin Kim bio

Praised by the International Piano Magazine as “pianist of beautiful finesse and golden tone,” pianist Yerin Kim is a recitalist, chamber musician, and educator. She has given concerts in festivals and recitals in major venues internationally, including The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., Carnegie Hall in New York, Place Flagey in Brussels and Rolston Hall at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Canada.

Her solo debut album "First and Last Words," works by Robert Schumann and Alfred Schnittke, was released by the Sheva Collection Label in Spring in 2019. Kim also works in a duo with her husband, Brendan Shea. Their latest project, "The Sound and the Fury," was released in fall 2020 by Blue Griffin records.

As a regular lecturer and guest artist, Kim performs and gives talks on awareness of the power of music in the community that it serves. Committed to bringing inspiring concert programs and classical music experience to a broader audience, she founded and directs the Sensory Friendly Music and Autism Concert Series, serving music to individuals with autism in New York, St.Louis, and South Bend. She is also Co-artistic Director with violinist Brendan Shea of Chamber Music in the Bend, programming high quality chamber music education and performing chamber music concerts for the community.

Kim holds a Double Degree in Piano Performance and Psychology from Oberlin conservatory and college, a Master of Music from Indiana University Bloomington, and Doctor of Musical Arts from State University of New York, Stony Brook. Currently, she teaches at the Central Washington University as Visiting Assistant Professor of Piano.

MEETING AGENDA

9:00-9:30 Coffee and Conversation

9:30-10:00 Welcome, Introductions, Announcements and Votes:

- a. New Member Introductions
- b. Announcements
- c. Vote to Approve the January 2021 General Meeting Minutes

10:00 Presentation: Yerin Kim, Working With Special Needs Students

11:30 Adjourn

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES: JANUARY 2021



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2021

ZOOM

ATTENDANCE

SMTA requires 10 members present for a quorum. A quorum was present, 26 members. Attendance for the meeting was taken, and the minutes were recorded by Ryan Worswick (Secretary).

Katie O'Rourke performed a rousing rendition of an original composition. What an exquisite way to start the day!

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Katie Levine.

MINUTES

Business Meeting and Announcements

New Members (Katie Levine): No new members attending today.

Minutes from the November 2020 General Meeting (Katie Levine): There were no corrections. Margherita Conti MOTIONS to approve, Pam Chang SECONDS, motion CARRIES.

Teacher Grants and Student Recitals: There are still openings for the latest round of the Safe & Sound grants for music equipment and other help needed for teaching during our troubling times. We're going to make sure the website is updated to reflect the same.

Otherwise there is an SMTA recital on Sunday February 7th, at 3PM, for which there are still openings. Chat with your students and sign up!

MLP (RoseMarie Tamburri) – This will be our first year running MLP online, the work to ensure a smooth execution being currently underway. First and foremost we need lots of feedback from teachers on their expected engagement, i.e. How many students? What level will they be testing at?

Mariya sent out a survey recently, and it would be a massive help if you're able to respond when you have time, thank you kindly! If you have any questions please reach out to RoseMarie Tamburri by email or phone.

Simon-Fiset (Thom Stuart) – Simon-Fiset piano is currently accepting registrations until February 1st, everything you need to signup is on the website, and the competition itself will be online, mitigated by video.

Simon-Fiset strings are on the way, so keep your eyes peeled for info on that, and the logistics of the Simon-Fiset composition competition are also under construction, looking at mid March for our submission deadline.

Tech/Nique CIG Restarting – For anyone that cares to get together for a seminar about the tech and technique of teaching online, we'll be starting the next round on Friday, Jan 29th at noon, to run for four Fridays in a row.

Adult Student Soirees (Marti Garrett) - March 7th, Adult Student Soiree, via Zoom, should be a lot of fun for all levels of adult student. Please keep pieces limited to five minutes so we can ensure maximum participation.

MAP (Jason Kuo) – 143 entries from 24 studios, which is pretty exciting for our first time online. Great appreciation to all participants for their work getting students involved. A series of emails has already been sent by Jason, detailing things like how to prepare student information, how to submit videos, and so forth. There is no need to fill out a studio schedule this year!

Jason has made a number of resources available, including demo videos and logins to ensure a smooth experience. Otherwise important deadlines include,

- Before Feb 1, Ok to test the form (send fake data or whatever is useful)
- Feb 1 – Feb 28, Submission period!
- March 1 – 7, Jason will organize our submissions, check links, etc.
- March 8th, Visiting Artist will begin review!

Thanks so much Jason et al!

To and From Ethnomusicology: Pathway for Knowing Music as a Pan-Human Phenomenon – Ethnomusicology as presented by Patricia Campbell, UW

A well established, worldwide ranging, and well respected piano pedagogue, Patricia Campbell has contributed a great deal to the world of teaching music for which we are endlessly grateful. Today she has been kind enough to join us and share some of what she's learned with us. Thank you!

Patricia began her presentation by acknowledging the Coast Salish peoples, and giving thanks for the land on which we live. From there she went on to thank a swath of multi-culti-music educators, culture-bearing musicians, coworkers, friends, and family that have supported the field as well as her efforts in it, the giants whose shoulders on which she stands, so to speak.

As guiding principles Ethnomusicology adopts the ideas that we should, in the course of a music education, look at the music around us as well as the music from far away. Depending on where we look at, what musical traditions that is, we'll find that different elements take primacy in different locales. Whereas in one place we might find rhythmic elements are the focus, in another we'll find harmony takes the mantle of first among equals. In each case fascinating music results.

After looking at rhythm as the idea of the organization of music across time, with some very enjoyable examples of different cultures treatment of the same. From there we explored different '-phones' in terms of what's vibrating; vibrating strings vs membranes vs the body of the instrument, and so forth. Another key point of ethnomusicology is that not only may primacy of a musical element vary across culture, but so will there be variance within an element; different tunings, or different engagements with rhythm based on movement as instrumentation, for instance.

Ethnomusicology views music as a color wheel of sonically and socially diverse cultures, courtesy in part at least of Alan Lomax. The global juke box is the actual name of that color wheel, check it out! Ethnomusicology encompasses a comparative approach to music. Some of that includes finding our most basic elements reinterpreted (or simultaneously developed) in other cultures around the world; chant, organum, polyphony, and hocket all find their home throughout, though not necessarily each in all places.

The idea of 'bi-aurality' is presented, the notion that we can listen to music as sound, structure, meaning, and historicities interpreted from many origins. What may be noise to one, could be carefully constructed and understood as such by another. Your ears are not indicative of all ears, to put it quickly.

As an analytic lens, ethnomusicology concerns itself with the sound, behavior, and ideas of music. What is the sound, how is it produced? What goes into the consumption of this music? What goes into its composition?

Suggested texts included,

- The Anthropology of Music by Alan P. Merriam
- Music in Primitive Culture, Study of Ethnomusicology, both by Bruno Nettl
- Thinking Musically, Experiencing Music, Expressing Culture, all by Bonnie C. Wade
- And many, many more.

Thank you so much Patricia for your hard work, and bringing the fruits thereof to our meeting!

The meeting came to a close at 11:06, thanks to all who attended and participated!

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by C.R. Ryan Worswick on January 20, 2021

SMTA ONLINE RECITAL UPDATE

Sunday, February 7, 2021, 3PM

Students of SMTA teachers played a lovely online recital at the beginning of November. It was refreshing to hear live piano music from such well-prepared and eager young performers! Not only are recitals an opportunity for musical growth, they are also a highly rewarding way to connect with each other during this time of social distancing, and SMTA is proud to host another recital on February 7th at 3PM

Please contact Katie O'Rourke at katie.orourke@gmail.com with any questions!

MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM

Thank you, teachers, for working so hard to encourage your students to participate in this year's MAP! We have 143 students from 24 studios registered!

By the time you read this newsletter, Jason should have followed up with all registered teachers about (1) Group Zoom call, if teachers had purchased extra time, and (2) testing the automated Student Evaluation Form. Please review those emails for additional details.

This year our teachers only need to fill out a Student Evaluation Form on the web for each student. (No need to prepare a schedule.) The Form asks mostly the same questions as on the old form, but with extra fields for pasting in video links and score links. The Form has been pre-programmed, so that once Submit is clicked, an email is sent to the email account of the assigned Visiting Artist. (Teacher will be cc:ed). The email contains a link at the bottom for the Visiting Artist to fill out the comments after reviewing the videos. Once Visiting Artist clicks Submit, a PDF file of the completed form will automatically be emailed back to the teacher, and a certificate of participation will also follow shortly.

Student Evaluation Form link: <https://forms.gle/nX98u1VZUZ3DKwZbA>

Tutorial on Student Evaluation Form: <https://youtu.be/TD-4CU4SyBk>

Between February 1-28, teachers are asked to fill out the Student Evaluation Forms for their students.

Between March 1-7, Jason will go through the submissions, making sure that all video/score links are functioning properly, and organize them for the Visiting Artists.

Visiting Artists will begin reviewing the videos on March 8.

Teachers who requested either Oral or Written consultation only will receive a written feedback by email from the Visiting Artist.

Teachers who requested both Oral and Written consultations, as well as studios that purchased extra time, will be contacted about scheduling Zoom calls with Visiting Artists.

Below is a list of participating studios and their tentative Visiting Artist assignment:

Studio	VisitingArtist
Andrews, Jessica	Harty
Balabanova, Yelena	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Chang, Pamela	Harty
Dean, Laura	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Eddy, Lee	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Grant, Suzanne	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Habegger, Abigail	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Hartwell, Evelyn	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Howland, Heather	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Kuo, Jason	Harty
Lim, Hilary	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Liu, Hong	Hunter
Liu, Ni	Hunter
Mack, Peter	Hunter
McCullough, Karin	Hunter
Rebadulla-Ramos, Marissa	Hunter
Schoepflin, Joan	Hunter
Schultz, Willard	Hunter
Simonson, Ann	Harty
Stuart, Thom	Harty
Tamburri, Rosemarie	Jelaca-Jovanovic
Thielke, Ericka	Harty
Worswick, Ryan	Hunter
Zocco, Josie	Jelaca-Jovanovic

Questions? Contact Jason Kuo (jason.kuo@gmail.com)

2021 VIRTUAL STATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

This year's [WSMTA Conference](#) will be held June 17 - 19, online. We are thrilled to have Dr. Jeffrey Savage, NCTM and Dr. Karen Savage, NCTM as our Conference Guest Artists.

The conference will feature more than twenty presenters, covering everything from pedagogy to best business practices. There will be opportunities for connecting with old colleagues and meeting new ones.

There are many areas where assistance is needed, and some are a little different than usual, as this is the first time the conference will be held virtually. Some of the areas we need to cover include:

- Online assistants for Zoom
- Hospitality (think thank you notes!)
- Community connection (think music trivia games!)

To volunteer or find out more information, contact Conference Chair Laura Curtis at curtislj@whitman.edu.

MARSHA WRIGHT SONATINA FESTIVAL

Registration: March 1-April 1, 2021
Date: Saturday April 24, 2021

We are gearing up for this year's Marsha Wright Sonatina Festival! As mentioned in a previous article, this year's Festival will be held virtually on Zoom via pre-recorded videos, on Saturday April 24. Registration will run from March 1- April 1, and will be done through the SMTA website, where we will also post detailed guidelines regarding registration and video uploads. As a gift to our students during this pandemic, the fee this year is being lowered to \$5.

Additionally, we would like to offer our congratulations to Louise Nedela, the winner of the Marsha Wright Commissioned Sonatina Award, for her "Mixolydian Sonatina." Louise is a WSMTA member teacher from Clark County chapter (biography available at nedelamusic.com) She has composed this three-movement work as an intermediate-level sonatina for piano, and we are looking for student(s) to give the world premiere of this new work at the Sonatina Festival. Louise will be joining us at the festival to discuss her musical inspirations, composition process, and to answer questions from students and audience members.

We encourage you all to visit the SMTA website to preview sample pages of each movement if you are interested in having your student prepare and perform either the entire sonatina, or an individual movement. Please contact Tom Lee at [thomaslee\(pf\)gmail.com](mailto:thomaslee(pf)gmail.com) to obtain a copy of the entire sonatina, or for any other questions regarding the festival or registration.

Tom Lee and Ondine de Mer, Co-chairs

MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM SURVEY

The Music Literacy Program is an annual educational opportunity to assess students' progress in 5 musicianship skill areas: Written Theory, Technique, Rhythm, Listening and Sight-Playing. In light of Covid-19 restrictions, and to ensure the health and safety of students and teachers, the program will be held virtually in May of this year over a two- to three-week period.

Because this is our first experience offering a "digital" version of the tests, we need information from you to help us design and organize the testing process for online delivery. Please take a few moments to complete the MLP Survey – link can be found [here](#).

The fee this year will be \$15 per student regardless of how many parts of the MLP the student completes. The fee will be waived for MusicLink students.

We will need volunteers to help with many facets of the program, especially teachers willing to administer the tests virtually to a small group of students. (Technical training will be available to help facilitators who volunteer to administer the tests; and my Co-chair, Thom Stuart, and I will keep you posted as the technical logistics evolve.) We will also need help with scheduling and grading.

Watch for details in the coming weeks about the Music Literacy Program, how to register your students, how the virtual process will work, and how you can help. SMTA hopes to deliver another successful and engaging MLP this year. We welcome your ideas and support before, during and after this year's event. Thank you in advance!

SIMON-FISET SUITE OF COMPETITIONS 2020 - 2021

By Thom Stuart

SMTA VP Competitions

Piano Division Chair

Please consider registering your students for one of The Simon-Fiset Competitions this spring. All events are online.

Registration for the piano competition is closed on February 1. SMTA has engaged two outstanding adjudicators from California State University - Fullerton and the University of Oregon.

Deadline to register for the strings competition is later this spring. Our Chair, Jan Coleman has engaged Metropolitan Opera Orchestra violinist, Daniel Khalikov.

Our composition competition's new co-chairs, Nancy Lindskog and Sharon Van Valin (with the tireless and invaluable help of SMTA's administrator, Mariya Lincoln) are planning to accept registrations this spring. Please watch the web site for specific details.

SMTA looks forward to seeing everyone in person soon. Thank you to SMTA's Board and members, its invaluable volunteers, and our colleagues and adjudicators for working hard to offer these programs to students during the pandemic.

Please reach out to any of our chairs, co-chairs, or the SMTA administrator for further information or updates:

Piano	Thom Stuart	sragionare@outlook.com
Strings	Jan Coleman	jan.coleman.violin@gmail.com
Composition	Nancy Linskog	linskog@verizon.net
	Sharon Van Valin	sfvv65@comcast.net
SMTA Office	Mariya Lincoln	smtaoffice@gmail.com

We hope to see you and your students (online) at one of SMTA's Simon-Fiset competitions this spring!

SIMON-FISET COMPOSITION COMPETITION

After a hiatus, we are excited to announce that we will be offering this valuable program for student composers! Please help us to get the word out and encourage your own students who are budding composers to enter. This adjudication is focused on giving age-appropriate constructive feedback. Pianist, composer, and teacher Alexander Schwarzkopf of Eugene, Oregon has accepted our invitation to serve as adjudicator for the competition, and we could not be more pleased! We are most enthusiastic about his depth of experience and ongoing commitment to music education and pedagogy. Please see his bio here: <https://www.ajsmusic.org/biography/>.

The student compositions will be grouped according to grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. There will be monetary awards given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention. Please see the SMTA website and Staccato Notes for more details and deadlines.

Sharon Van Valin - sfvv65@comcast.net - Co-chair Simon-Fiset Competition Division

Nancy Linskog - linskog@verizon.net - Co-chair Simon-Fiset Competition Division

MUSIC AVAILABLE

SMTA has received boxes of music from retiring teachers, and from the estates of teachers. Normally Kathy Mortensen sets up the boxes at our general meetings, and many of you have made generous donations to the SMTA education programs. The boxes are organized to some extent: piano duets; 2 piano works; technique; theory; composer by last name; method materials; jazz; popular; vocal; string, flute and other instruments.

If you would like to look through the materials, please make an appointment with Kathy (kmortensenpiano@gmail.com) and she will set boxes out on her front porch bench.

SMTA EVENTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHLIGHTS

Adult Student Soirée
Sunday, March 7, 2021
Sunday, May 2, 2021

The next SMTA soirée is rapidly approaching. It will be held on Sunday, March 7th at 6:30 via Zoom. These soirées are a welcoming community for adult students of all levels.

Please Marti Garrett (Marthajgarret@comcast.net) to sign up your adult students. Performances are limited to 5 minutes per student so we can have as many participants as time allows.

Northwest Girlchoir Board of Directors Opportunity

Northwest Girlchoir has opportunities for Board service for those who want to help transform the lives of girls and young women through outstanding music education, dynamic choral performances, and an enduring community. This position does not require a background in voice.

NWGC seeks a representative from the music community to serve as a Board member who is passionate about amplifying the voices of women and girls, and who wants to support the goals of equity, access, and inclusion in music education.

For more information about the position, see <http://www.northwestgirlchoir.org/jobs>.

2021 Snohomish County Sonatina – Sonata Festival

Application deadline: March 21st, 2021

Video submission deadline: March 24, 2021

Judging period: March 27, 28, 29, 2021

Medal winners announced: March 30, 2021

The Snohomish County Chapter's 7th Annual Festival is now open to all pianists, all ages in Washington State. For the 2021 Festival, only YouTube Video links will be accepted. Please see www.sonafest.org for information about our VIRTUAL 2021 Sonatina-Sonata Festival.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Staccato Notes is the official Newsletter of the Seattle Music Teachers Association. The Newsletter is distributed monthly and **submissions are due by the 20th of each month**. Please e-mail information for the Newsletter to smtanewsletter@gmail.com. Staccato Notes welcomes articles on topics of interest to members – please consider writing an article on a relevant subject – the more content we receive, the better!