



Oregon Music  
Teachers Association  
PORTLAND DISTRICT  
Est. 1915

**Oregon Music Teachers Association  
West Portland District Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

**Hybrid Presentation**

**10:00 a.m. – Program:  
“Autism, Neurodiversity, and Music”  
Emily Ross, Music Therapist**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

President Elizabeth Caswell called the business meeting of the OMTA West Portland District to order at 11:20a.m. There were approximately 20 members present in person, and 10 members present on Facebook live. Thank you to Emily Ross for the wonderful presentation! And thank you to Laura Blattner for providing our refreshments today.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 2023 OMTA West Portland Meeting Minutes are approved as written.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer Report:** Debra Sostrin. The account balance is \$29,770.47. The balance is higher than average because registration checks for the Romantic festival have been deposited, but the expenses have not yet been paid.

**Membership Report:** Celia Bartel. OMTA West Portland district currently has 163 members. Welcome to our new members! Shinmyung Rho, Jonathan Haidle, and Ines Raese.

**Festivals Report:** Marla Hansen. The Portland Romantic Festival is currently taking place. This year we have 174 students participating from 38 teachers.

Registration for the District level Composition Celebration has closed, we have 5 students submissions. Thank you to Joseph Hoffman for chairing this event!

The Trula Whelan Concerto Festival will take place Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at Portland Piano Company. Registration closes on Leggiero Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Registration for the Portland E-Festival is currently open. Registration will close Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> on Leggiero, and pre-recorded videos must be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Election:** Nomination and election of West Portland District President-Elect for 2023-2025. Nominee is Nancy Stone. Debra Sostrin made a motion to elect Nancy Stone as the West Portland District President-Elect for 2023-2025, serving as the president from 2025-2027. The motion was seconded by Susan Todd. Yea votes: 20. Nay votes: 0. The motion passed.

**Nellie Tholen Teaching Award:** Susan Todd, member of the OMTA Honors Committee, was pleased to announce the recipient of the Nellie Tholen Teaching Award this year is Jan Mittelstaedt. This is a rare honor. Jan Mittelstaedt helped forge and develop the ESMAR and In Good Hands programs. To celebrate our esteemed colleague, we invite you to send pictures and stories to Susan Todd.

**Honoring members that passed:** Beloved OMTA member Joan Gathercoal who passed away in 2019 is being celebrated and honored today. Her brother, Matt Baines, has brought her large music library to our meeting for teachers to peruse and take home free of charge. If you wish to browse the library at Matt's house on your own time, please contact Liz Caswell who will put you in touch with Matt.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OMTA State Conference:** The OMTA State Conference will be held June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Ashland, Oregon. Registration is open. Register by May 24<sup>th</sup> to receive the early bird pricing!

President Elizabeth Caswell adjourned the meeting at 11:41a.m.

These minutes were prepared by Secretary Marla Hansen.

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**Next Meeting will be 10:00a.m. Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Intermediate Masterclass with Peter Mack, MTNA President**  
Portland Piano Company, 8700 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR, 97220