

CONCENTO

October 1st, 2019

Vol. 15, Issue 1

Overture

Greetings, Fellow Music Teachers!

Hearing is not the same as listening. I thought about this yesterday on a flight from Richmond, VA to Seattle yesterday. This was prompted by 'the speech'. You know, the untimely-water-landing/ lack-of-oxygen/how-to-fasten-your-seat-belt speech. What I noticed was that the airlines are trying hard to doctor this life-saving snippet so that we will all pay attention. That is, they are doctoring it digitally. The verbal rendition is still as dry and boring as ever, last I heard. But my point is that I paid attention yesterday. Partly because I was drawn to the new format, and partly because I am a little concerned about whether I'll live through a water landing. To listen I had to put my book down, put aside intruding thoughts and focus with the intent to learn. Did it pay off? I'm still alive, though there was no water landing.

It is didactic to try to talk about why listening is important. We know this. But interestingly, we forget. It is easier to lecture, or take on a lecturing tone, than it is to notice that our audience (little Suzy P. Piano Student, 6 years old) has completely glazed-over eyes. Oops, we weren't listening. When we listen we notice who is listening to us as we speak. We listen with more senses than ears. Perception is part of listening. We see body language, attention, interest, fidgetiness, and use it to determine what we will say in response.

As musicians helping other musicians, we hope to impart intellectual information in the form of reading, theory, style, history and technique, and also want to foster our students' ability to listen intelligently. This is a most active skill, requiring thought and organization and enhances not only their taste of what is lovely, but also their understanding of the structure making up music. The problem is, how do we do this? Most young adults, and many children receive much of their communications digitally. Competing with that is monumental sometimes. It is helpful to have students who are motivated to learn, but when any student, motivated or not, is tired or distracted it is important for the teacher to

be the one listening in order to change the format of the instruction. A distracted child can get a second wind to play the piano if doing 10 jumping jacks (maybe while listening to the Animaniacs) is on the agenda. A tired student might appreciate listening to a CD of the piece being studied, or a theory lesson on a whiteboard instead of playing scales. I would love to hear your ideas of how to adjust your lessons when you listen to your students, and what you do to help your students really listen. Teaching is complex and requires the listening of the teacher, first, then a repertoire of ideas to deal with the results of that listening.

I am sorry to take such a broad and interesting topic and give such cursory thoughts on it. But you don't want to read a research paper. This is just something I've been thinking about. A (somewhat dry) book by Mortimer J Adler, How to Speak How to Listen addresses this topic, though not from a musical standpoint. Very interesting for introverts and used-car salesmen. And informative for teachers, too. Now, I'll go deal with jetlag. Have a wonderful October! Cool weather and pumpkins on the horizon. Jan Irvine.

YAMS - please let Julie Swienty, via email, know ASAP how many hours you would like to reserve! Remember, the minimum time for each student is 45 minutes, and that you are committing the same amount of time for both sessions. Friday and Saturday will be at Julie's Studio, and Sunday will be at Nyaho's studio.

Boxes from last meeting's Music Garage sale:

Please get your inventory list of the box contents to Julie ASAP so that we can send out the list to everyone in advance of the meeting. That way you can shop ahead of time!

Pedagogy Fridays: Our pedagogy classes will be from 10 - 11:30 at Messiah Lutheran Church. The cost will be \$60 for all four sessions, or \$25 per session, paid in advance at the October meeting. The price was set based upon those who signed up at September's meeting. If at the meeting there is a significant drop in attendees, then the price will need to be adjusted, so that there are no costs to the chapter.

Here are the dates of the classes:

Friday, November 1, 2019

Friday, November 8, 2019

Friday, November 15,
2019

Friday, November 22,
2019

October meeting presenter:

Dr. Oksana Ezhokina will give an overview of piano pedagogy. Here is Oksana's bio:

Education

- D.M.A., Piano Performance, Stony Brook University, 2004
- M.M., Northern Illinois University, 1999
- B.M., Walla Walla University, 1997

Responsibilities

Piano Studies Chair, Applied Piano Lessons, Advanced Keyboarding Lessons, Accompanying

Dr. Oksana Ezhokina is Chair of Piano Studies at Pacific Lutheran University.

Russian-born pianist Oksana Ezhokina is Chair of the Piano Faculty and Assistant Professor of Music at Pacific Lutheran University. An artist of great breadth and versatility, she appears frequently as guest recitalist and chamber musician on concert series across the United States and abroad. She has soloed with the Seattle Symphony, St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic in Russia, Tacoma Symphony, and performed in venues such as the Phillips Collection in Washington DC, Benaroya Hall in Seattle, Davies Orchestra Hall in San Francisco, and Klassik Keyifler Festival in Turkey. A dedicated performer of new music, she has premiered works by Marilyn Shrude, Wayne Horvitz, Bern Herbolzheimer, and Laura Kaminsky, among others. She has been featured on multiple live radio broadcasts on such stations as WFMT-Chicago, KUOW and KING FM in Seattle, Maine Public Radio and NPR Performance Today. Her collaborations have included concerts with the Seattle Chamber Players, Avalon String Quartet, violinists Ian Swensen and Andrew Jennings, and cellists Johannes Moser and Anthony Elliott.

Ezhokina holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from Stony Brook University. She is the pianist of the Volta Piano Trio, whose recordings for Con Brio label received accolades in multiple international music magazines, such as The Strad, Gramophone and American Record Guide.

A sought-after teacher, she has given piano and chamber music masterclasses in colleges and universities across the US and is in demand as an adjudicator. Additionally, Ezhokina is Artistic Director of several flagship classical music programs at the Icicle Creek Center for the Arts, including the International Chamber Music Festival/Institute and Winter Piano Festival, which annually welcomes advanced pianists from the most prestigious colleges and conservatories in the US and Canada.



Please Note: The position of Secretary is still open. Does anyone have time to fulfill this? It would entail taking minutes at our meetings and supplying them to our newsletter editor, as well as a few other smaller details. Please talk to Lena if you are interested. Soon please!

Reminder: our Hosts for our meeting in October: Julie Swienty and Deanna Dent

All members of SKCMTA who would like to receive the yearbook by postal mail, please contact Lena at lena88keys@gmail.com.

Birthdays of our SKCMTA members for September & October:

Grace Cho

Frances Hunsberger



Alison Dellicker

Deanna Dent

Ruriko Helkowski

Christine Szabadi

Wendy Kwong

Please see attachments for Financials and Minutes from our last meeting!

FORMATION OF KENT YOUTH ORCHESTRA NEEDS EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

M-Power Music, begun in the summer of 2014, is a wonderful after school music program that has benefited many young people. It is based on the very successful "El Sistema" program begun in Venezuela many years ago. Several students have commented on how M-Power has literally turned their life around. Academics have improved as well as their self confidence, and how to work together for the common good. We at M-Power create opportunities for older students to mentor the beginner students under teacher supervision. This has created a positive experience for all participants.

With this positive result, the Board of M-Power Youth has decided to take a next step in advancing music for youth, from 5th grade and higher. We are expanding the program to create the Kent Youth Orchestra. We are seeking several qualified music teachers to join us in creating this positive experience for many of our youth. If you wish to discuss this opportunity, please contact Stephanie Fiskum, Music Director at (206-734-7952) or Jim Renton , President , at (253-951-5041). This is a paid position.

Meeting called to order at 10:05

We need a secretary, Anna Belen cannot continue as secretary and the position is open and necessary

Diane: We need a meeting host coordinator - 2 boxes containing items (beverages and paper supplies) that need to be brought to each meeting

Sunshine budget: collected and Gave Lisa Hogg \$145 gift

Kawaii keyboard for sale - see Dianne Nichols for information

Treasurer report: 3 reports distributed each month. Trying to run things on an accrual basis. Using Quickbooks Pro online for \$50/annual fee. Monthly financial reports will include P&L, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement

Julie Swienty VP: review of years program

Andrea Pelloquin, advertiser, moved from Wisconsin, is a piano teacher and Manager at JW Pepper store near Ikea on 180th. Hoping to get some students in the future. Offering free shipping on music if ordered directly from her, in-person, or via email. They have music for everybody. Will give free shipping all year for any of us. Let her know we met her at our meeting today. Will look for rare scores; give it a try. Can use staff in the JW Pepper store located in Philadelphia

Karen: returned from Cincinnati - reminders: conference, convention in Chicago March 21 - 25 (page 8 of year book), pedagogy by Peter Mack. WSMTA Conference June 17 - 20 2020
If you have not yet paid dues, please consider paying soon, as there are over 200 members Karen will contact that haven't paid. There is WSMTA grant money available to help teachers who need financial assistance paying dues. Please check Grants page on the website. Help needed at State level with committee chairs (chair Commission Composer Program), historian archives process person (looking to consolidate). Phishing email scam going on - WSMTA will never ask you to ever pay for anything; if you get an email asking you to buy something for an officer, mark as spam and delete it. WSMTA offers teachers, grants and enrichments, money for certifications, conference fee waivers, economic crisis, membership fee waivers, music link, Louis Whitner Grant. Please check the WSMTA website.

Julie making motion, that each member pay additional \$5 this year to make-up difference for missing deadline to increase dues from \$25 to \$30 seconded by Steve, Julie rescinded motion to table discussion for next month.

Heather: needs budgets from each person managing a program

Julie looking for help with YAMs, MAPs, and Pedagogy Fridays -

Sally Ramsden is in hospital for Addison's disease

Ana Belen is married and pregnant, therefore, need a member to volunteer as secretary

Kevin Peterson is waiting to find out if PLU is wanting leftover music

Music to share: Kabalevsky Toccata. Also, some teachers have an autumn literature challenge, suggests students play pieces regularly, piano olympics, learn 2 pieces of each genre/style, gold medal passed out at recitals. Lynnette Emme - Seasonal music online or spotify can find her brother's music, Daniel Emme

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am

South King County MTA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

January - September, 2019

	TOTAL
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	2,416.74
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	0.00
Total Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	0.00
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$2,416.74
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Opening Balance Equity	6,140.84
Net cash provided by financing activities	\$6,140.84
NET CASH INCREASE FOR PERIOD	\$8,557.58
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	\$8,557.58

South King County MTA

PROFIT AND LOSS

January - September, 2019

	TOTAL
Income	
Donations	1,048.00
Membership Dues	650.00
Service/Fee Income	4,921.50
Total Income	\$6,619.50
GROSS PROFIT	\$6,619.50
Expenses	
Charitable Contributions	500.00
Dues & subscriptions	50.00
Education and Training	1,744.50
Meals & Entertainment	544.00
Purchases	183.78
Reimbursable Expenses	20.00
Rent & Lease	165.00
Repairs & Maintenance	0.00
Total Expenses	\$3,207.28
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$3,412.22
Other Income	
Interest Earned	4.52
Total Other Income	\$4.52
Other Expenses	
Scholarship (Gibson Music Scholarship)	1,000.00
Total Other Expenses	\$1,000.00
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -995.48
NET INCOME	\$2,416.74

South King County MTA

BALANCE SHEET

As of September 30, 2019

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking (2550)	5,058.49
Member Share Savings (2526)	1,574.70
Savings (9332) Scholarship Fund	1,924.39
Total Bank Accounts	\$8,557.58
Total Current Assets	\$8,557.58
TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,557.58
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	6,140.84
Retained Earnings	
Net Income	2,416.74
Total Equity	\$8,557.58
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$8,557.58