



# *West Virginia Music Teachers Association*

**Affiliated with Music Teachers  
National Association**



**[www.wvmta.org](http://www.wvmta.org) WVMTA News Volume 49, Issue 3 April 2015**

## *Notes from the President, Gary Mullenax, NCTM*



### **Notes from the MTNA Conference**

With the MTNA Conference being nearly 3,000 miles from West Virginia, I was pleasantly surprised at the number of WVMTA members making the trip to Las Vegas. Perhaps it was the lure of the warm desert climate following another brutal winter, or could it have been the many other things Vegas has to offer? UHHMM.

Most notably, I want to congratulate Dr. James Miltenberger. Dr. Miltenberger was recognized by MTNA for his 50 years of service to the organization. His accomplishments and service to this organization are too numerous to mention here in this space. Thank you Dr. Miltenberger for the years of service you have provided to MTNA, WVMTA, and District 1! You are truly appreciated by us.

Carol Beall served on the panel of one of the sessions addressing Recreational Music Making. Carol shared some activities that have been successful in her RMM classes.

Other WVMTA members attending the conference were Johan Botes, Bonnie Miltenberger, Karen Taddie, Henning Vauth and myself. Former WVMTA members MaryLynne Bennett (Pennsylvania) and Justin Krueger were also in attendance, the WVMTA contingent, past and present, enjoyed having lunch together one day outside in the warm Nevada sun.

I have never enjoyed four consecutive nights of great concerts as I did in Vegas, hearing James and Jeanne Galway, the Canadian Brass, and Ann Schein at the convention, as well as slipping away to the Strip to hear Elton John at Caesar's Palace. I did not get to attend as many

sessions as I would like due to my obligations, but I obtained some very valuable information in those I did attend. Today's technology evolves so fast, that it is almost necessary to attend conventions just to keep up with the latest technological innovations that we can use in our profession.

Next year's convention is in San Antonio on the Riverwalk. Many have told me that the San Antonio Riverwalk is one of the best urban environments in the country. I learned last year that the Texas MTA convention is usually larger than the National Convention, so next year's event should have a large turnout. 2017 brings the MTNA Convention to Baltimore, so I hope many of you will make plans to attend that conference with its close proximity to West Virginia. you will that it will be time and money well spent.

### ***Notes from President-Elect, Dr. Jacob Womack***

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The 2015 WVMTA Convention continues to come together. The theme for 2015 Convention is "Music and Wellness."

Dr. Christian Guzman will serve as the Convention artist and will assist with adjudication. Guzman is a multiple prizewinner in many international competitions, including the Walter M. Naumburg Competition, the Seoul International Music Competition, the Isang Yun Competition and the *Concours International de Piano d'Orleans of Orleans*. A master class is also under consideration.

Jacqueline Herbein, NCTM will be the featured Convention clinician. She is known for creative approach in unraveling technical problems at the piano. Ms. Herbein has an extensive background in the physiology of piano technique; having studied with such leaders in the field as pianists Dena Golandsky and Barbara Lister-Sink. Her articles have been published in *The American Music Teacher*, *The Canadian Music Teacher*, *Clavier* and *Clavier Companion* magazines.

Dr. Johan Botes of Marshall University will also be presenting at the 2015 Convention. Furthermore, discussion is underway with the Marshall University Music and Wellness program as a potential participant in the 2015 Convention.

The convention hotel will be announced in the next newsletter. The banquet will be held on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> on the campus of Marshall University.

I hope to see you there!

Jacob Womack,  
President-Elect

## ***Notes from Composition Commissioning Chair,***

### ***Dr. Scott Beard, NCTM***

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We have been receiving applications for the next commissioned composer project for WVMTA. The committee will meet in the coming weeks to make the award, with the hope of having the commissioned work performed at either the 2015 or 2016 conference. This year's commissioned composer project will feature an "emerging" composer.

## ***Notes from WVMTA Membership Chair, Ruth Carson, NCTM***

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As of March 31, 2015, the total number of WVMTA members is 111 who have paid their dues for 2014-2015.

The MTNA National Staff send a reminder that participation in your professional association is essential to staying on top of the ever-changing music teaching environment. It's now time to renew your membership to stay involved with the local, state and national programming you have come to enjoy.

Your 2015–2016 renewal statement should be arriving shortly in the mail. However, you can renew today. [Click here](#) to renew your membership now. Your new membership card will be sent to you in the mail within a few weeks.

Membership in MTNA is the best professional investment you can make. [Click here](#) for a video with past Vice President and Membership Committee Chair Debra Florian, NCTM, details why MTNA membership is so important for career development.

## ***Treasurer's Report, Dr. Henning Vauth***

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Our checking account balance as of April 15, 2015 is \$23,763.72.

As of March 31, 2015, our Credit Union certificates are worth \$10,329.37 (1-year certificate) and \$10,430.93 (5-year certificate).

Respectfully submitted,  
Henning Vauth  
Treasurer

## ***WVMTA Teacher of the Year Award***

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**June 1st is the deadline to submit nominations for the 2015 WVMTA Teacher of the Year.** According to rules as set up by the WVMTA Administrative Board on October 25, 1996, "Nominations will be limited to three." Also according to rules, the qualifications are:

- ♦ demonstrates innovative teaching and creative musicianship
- ♦ has held membership in WVMTA for at least five years

Nominees will be introduced in the June issue of WVMTA NEWS. Mail nominations to: Gary Mullenax, 18 Shady Lane, Martinsburg, WV 25401, or email to garymullenax(at)aol(dot)com

### ***Past Teacher of the Year Award Recipients:***

1991 Peggy Johnston, NCTM	1992 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM
1993 Carol Beall, NCTM	1994 Linda Seime, NCTM
1995 Lena Lim, NCTM	1996 Mary Wilson
1997 Ray Martin, NCTM	1998 Leslie Petteys, NCTM
1999 Ruth Carder, NCTM	2000 Catherine Crotty, NCTM
2001 Bonnie Miltenberger	2002 no award given
2003 Lya Cartwright	2004 Olive Meyer, NCTM
2005 Mila Markun, NCTM	2006 Scott Beard, NCTM
2007 Elaine Tutt	2008 Vicki B. Cavendish
2009 Harriet Tucker, NCTM	2010 Jan Jemison Smith, NCTM
2011 Mary Ellen Morrison, NCTM	2012 Hooi Yin Booeey
2013 Christine Kefferstan, NCTM	2014 Carole Kriewaldt

## ***WVMTA Distinguished Leader of the Year***

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- ♦ This award is based on accumulated years of leadership and service contributed to the organization, over and above 10 years.
- ♦ This award will be based on whether the award was or was not already received by a particular member previously. The award CAN be granted to the same individual more than once.
- ♦ This award will be based on the recommendation, every year, of the current committees' research and records (If you are interested in becoming a future member of the Awards Committee, please notify Gary Mullenax, NCTM or Dr. Jacob Womack). The Distinguished Leader of the Year Award was begun in 2006, replacing the "Member of the Year Award. The 2015 winner will be announced in the June 2015 Newsletter.

### ***Member of the Year Honorees***

1991 Mary Shep Mann, NCTM	1998 Jean Douglass, NCTM
1992 Bobby Loftis, NCTM	1999 Connie Arrau Sturm, NCTM
1993 Judy Lambert, NCTM	2000 Olive Meyer, NCTM
1994 Jane Mangus, NCTM	2001-02 no awards given
Sandra Hastings	2003 James Miltenberger
1995 Mila Markun	2004-05 no awards given
1996 Marija Sommer, NCTM	
1997 Marguerite Bostonia, NCTM	

### ***Distinguished Leader of the Year Honorees***

2006 Barbara Heckert	2010 Gary Mullenax, NCTM
2007 Carol Beall, NCTM	2011 Janna Kisner, NCTM
2008 Mary Wilson	2012 Scott Beard, NCTM
2009 Karen Taddie, NCTM	2013 Mary Lynne, Bennett, NCTM
	2014 No award given

## **MTNA Membership Campaign WVMTA Challenge and Incentive**

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### ***MTNA Professional Certification***

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Do you want to take your professionalism to the next level? Did you know that the [MTNA Professional Certification Program](#) exists to accomplish that goal? Certification is a process that validates an individual's qualifications for a specific field of professional practice. It demonstrates to employers, clients and peers that which the individual knows and is able to do. It signifies commitment to continued excellence in professional practice. In addition, it increases visibility, builds credibility, provides a goal for personal professional achievement, and validates expertise for the individual and to those outside the field. The MTNA Certification Program exists for teachers who teach music to students of any age level in private or group settings. The program is based upon a set of five standards defining what a competent music teacher should know and be able to do.

For more information about the Certification Program, visit the [website](#) or contact janakisner(at)yahoo(dot)com, the national headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or [mtnacertification@mtna.org](mailto:mtnacertification@mtna.org).

## **MTNA Certification - WVMTA Challenge and Incentive**

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### **\$100 Reimbursement Check Available**

#### **For any newly certified NCTM!**

Yes, for anyone who successfully becomes a NEW NCTM! No stipulations. Receive a \$100 award from the WVMTA board for completing certification which covers half of the current \$200 fee. Find out the latest information on requirements for the national certification program at <http://www.mtnacertification.org/>

(This award does not apply to people who complete their renewals or their permanent professional certificates. This award is only for newly certified.)

#### **Certification Drawing**

##### **Value: \$200**

Our certification program has a drawing at each year's state conference to allow one person to win a free \$200 application fee for MTNA certification. This year, any member (regular or collegiate) may enter your name in the drawing prior to the state conference and the winner will be drawn at the state conference. The winner need not be present to win, although we encourage all members to attend state conferences.

This \$200 scholarship is available as a reimbursement upon the successful completion of all requirements for certification within the next two years.

Contact Janna Kisner, NCTM, certification chair, to enter the drawing.

[jannakisner@yahoo.com](mailto:jannakisner@yahoo.com)

Find out the latest information on requirements for the national certification program at <http://www.mtnacertification.org/>

**Collegiate Members** are eligible to enter the certification drawing.

## ***2015 Siegel-Hoffmann Concerto Competition***

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The WVMTA Siegel-Hoffmann Concerto competition was held Saturday, February 14, 2015 in the W.H. Shipley Recital Hall on the campus of Shepherd University. The competition was started by Dr. Scott Beard in honor of his former teachers Helen Hoffmann and Judith Siegel, who stressed the importance of studying ensemble and chamber music, especially concerti.

20 students from the studios of Scott Beard, Carole Kriewaldt, Yu-Hsuan Liao and Gary Mullenax participated in the event. Judges for the various levels were: Dr. Scott Hippensteel (Coordinator of Instrumental Activities at Shepherd University), Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao (Director of Keyboard Studies at Shepherd University) and Mr. Gary Mullenax (President, WVMTA).

Students competed for cash prizes, performance opportunities with the Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Hippensteel. The following students were winners at the event:



Junior I: Anna Asch Concerto No. 1

1st Place: Jason Riedel, student of Carole Kriewaldt, \$25 prize

2nd Place: William Cai, student of Carole Kriewaldt

Junior II: Alexander Peskanov, Concerto No. 1 in C Major

Movement I

1st Place: Julianna Perkowski, student of Suzanne Tabb, \$25 prize

2nd Place: Mewenn LeGuellec, student of Carole Kriewaldt

Hon. Mention: Eliza Strand, Student of Carole Kriewaldt

Movement II

1st Place: Katie Lee, student of Carole Kriewaldt, \$25 prize

2nd Place: Katherine Chen, student of Carole Kriewaldt

Movement III

1st Place: A. J. Canby, student of Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao, \$25 prize

Intermediate: J. S. Bach, Concerto in f minor (various movements)

1st Place: Leon Jia, student of Carole Kriewaldt, \$50 prize

2nd Place (tie): Joannie Shia and Jessica Wu, students of Carole Kriewaldt and Scott Beard

Senior:

1st Place: Jackie Liu, student of Scott Beard, \$100 prize

A.J. Canby, student of Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao and Leon Jia, student of Carole Kriewaldt were selected as winners of the performance prizes with the Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra. A. J. will perform the third movement of Alexander Peskanov's Concerto No. 1 in C Major and Leon Jia will perform the third movement presto from J. S. Bach's Concerto in f minor. They will perform at the orchestra's April 29th concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Frank Center Theater.

Go to [www.shepherd.edu/musicweb](http://www.shepherd.edu/musicweb) under calendar for more information.

## ***Royal Conservatory Music Development Program***

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Morgantown & Shepherdstown will both be offering national RCM-MDP Examinations this Spring.

Performance exams in Morgantown will be held on Saturday & Sunday May 30 & 31, at the Creative Arts Center of West Virginia University. Written Theory Exams at both West Virginia sites will be offered on Friday & Saturday, May 8 & 9. The RCM Practical Examinations will be held Tuesday, May 14 at Shepherd University.

The Royal Conservatory MDP is a comprehensive program (theory, technique, ear training, sight reading, studies, repertoire) that assesses and certifies student progress (for most all instruments) according to national standards. Trained examiners are sent to sites to evaluate

student presentations. National headquarters has now opened the registration process for Spring exams. The LAST date to register without a late fee will be February 17. All registration is done online by students/parents. There is very little that individual teachers are required to do except to continue the preparation that has hopefully already been in process anyway! And Teachers: there is no additional membership required, to any organizations, although you can register yourself through MDP (for free) to obtain a teacher-number and get access to results of students who register under you.

You can access the online national exams site by googling music development program, or Royal Conservatory Music Development Program, or to get directly to the site: [musicdevelopmentprogram.org](http://musicdevelopmentprogram.org)

When students/parents register for the first time, they will need to create a log-in user-name/email & password. Remember this info for easy access for future exams.

Each registrant will also need to have available: the teacher's permanent number (if applicable), or teacher phone number or teacher email address.

Once registration is completed, each student then gets a permanent, forever, "student number". Either remind each student/parent to remember this number for easy access for future exams, or copy this number down in teacher files for future retrieval. The registration process itself is relatively easy...just a series of drop-down menu choices mostly.

## ***Royal Conservatory Music Development Program Awards***

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The RCM Music Development Program announces the following awards given to participants of the Morgantown Centre examination site, for the 2014 academic school year:

2014 Students of Mary Morrison, NCTM

Sylvia Diaz Piano performance Prep A Center and State High Scorer Award (parents Andrea & Sebastian Diaz of Morgantown)

Giorgi Heiko Piano performance Prep B Center and State High Scorer Award (parents Mr & Mrs J Heiko of Morgantown)

Adam Adkins Cello Performance Level 4 Center and State High Scorer Award (parent Kristine Knott of Morgantown)

2014 Student of Karen Taddie, NCTM

Hannah Vorndran Piano performance Level 1 Center and State High Scorer Award (parents Ken & Michelle Vorndran of Cheat Lake)

2014 Student of Natalia Liston

Olivia Botros Piano performance Level 4 Center and State High Scorer Award (parent Irina Botros of Morgantown)



***“The Intersection of Jazz and Classical Music”  
Piano Festival and Competition, June 28 – July 1, 2015  
at the WVU School of Music, Morgantown, WV,  
with 2015 Guest Artists: Ann Schein & Stefan Karlsson***

The Intersection of Jazz and Classical Music – the only festival of its kind – offers outstanding artists, teachers, workshops, concerts, panel discussions, competitions and more. The festival has something for everyone interested in exploring the connections of jazz and classical repertoire, with 2015 featured guest artists Ann Schein and Stefan Karlsson, invited presenters from across the US, and WVU faculty.

In a 4-day celebration of the piano set in the beautiful mountains of West Virginia, students, teachers and audience members explore how both jazz and classical styles inform, inspire and enliven the great art of playing the piano.

Plan to join us this summer for the coolest festival around!



Our Mission: Any child who has musical potential deserves the opportunity to nurture this talent to its full extent. Many children lack the chance to receive music lessons due to financial need. The MusicLink Foundation reaches out to low income families by linking these students with professional music teachers willing to reduce their fee to make the lessons more affordable for the child. The MusicLink Foundation does not reimburse teachers for this scholarship donation, but supports them in a variety of ways.

West Virginia is currently one of four states not currently participating in MusicLink, and a coordinator is needed for our state. Please contact <http://www.musiclinkfoundation.org/> for more information.

Our Impact in numbers:

- Over 6000 students have received MusicLink lessons nationwide
- 99% of our students go to college (18+ years old and 5 yrs. in MusicLink) - colleges include Juilliard, MIT, Stanford, Berklee, and Indiana University
- 39% received college scholarships
- Our teachers have donated in-kind instruction equivalent to over \$10 million
- Minimal operational costs (10%) provide program services to students & teachers

## **District Reports**

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### **Morgantown MTA/District I Report:**

Spring event dates are set as follows:

Strings (open to all stringed instruments) Adjudicated Performances were held at the Creative Arts Center of WVU on Friday, April 24th. Mary Wilson, Chair.

Statewide ("TheoryTime") written Theory tests will be held in various classrooms throughout the Creative Arts Center, on Friday May 1st, 4:30-6:30pm. Mary Morrison NCTM, Chair.

(National RCM-MDP written Theory/Harmony/History examinations will be held one week later, on Friday & Saturday May 8th & 9th. Karen Taddie NCTM, Site Representative.)

General Adjudicated Performances (including piano, winds, voice, etc) will be held at the Creative Arts Center on Saturday morning & afternoon, May 9th. Mary Morrison NCTM, Chair.

**Mary Morrison, NCTM; and Mary Wilson, Co-Chairs**

### **Clarksburg MTA/District II Report:**

Spring Adjudicated Performances will be held on Saturday May 2, 2015 at Wilcox Chapel, Alderson Broaddus University, Philippi.

**Dr. Hooi Yin Boey, Chair**

### **Charleston MTA/District III Report**

District III held their Spring Adjudicated Performances for Piano, Strings and Voice at West Virginia State University on April 11. Dr. Johan Botes of Marshall University adjudicated the piano players. West Virginia Symphony violinist Darrell Murray adjudicated the string players.

Participating teachers were: Vicki Cavendish, Margie Cooper, Sandra Groce, Dr. Mark Hornbaker, Ian Jessee, Mary Beth Kirkpatrick, Karen Morris, and Jacob Womack,

**Karen Morris and Mary Beth Kirkpatrick, Co-Chairs**

### **Mid-Ohio Valley MTA/District IV Report:**

District IV held theory-technique tests on March 21 and April 10 at Ohio Valley University. 75 tests were given. Tests assisting were Laura Hamm, Jan Smith, Linda Toomey, Marie Mallory and Barbara Heckert. Spring performances are scheduled for May 16th at Trinity Episcopal Church.

**Barbara Heckert, Chair**

### **Huntington MTA/District V Report:**

District 5 held their annual Theory and Technic exams on Saturday March 21, 2015 at Marshall University. We administered 96 theory tests and 107 technique tests representing 120 students and 11 teachers. We are proud to announce that this is a 20% increase over 2014. Big things are happening in district 5.

We will hold our Spring Performances on May 16, 2015 at Marshall University. Adjudicators will be Vicki Cavendish and Henning Vauth.

**D'Neil Hartley and Kim Wiebe, Co-Chairs**

### **Eastern Panhandle MTA/District VI Report:**

District VI, WVMTA (Eastern Panhandle Music Teachers Association) held WVMTA Theory/Technique Testing

Saturday, March 14th, 2015 in Frank Center for the Performing Arts, Shepherd University. A total of 43 students participated in Theory Exam and 49 in the Technique Exam.

EPMTA Spring Recitals was held on Saturday, April 11th, 2015 in Frank Center for the Performing Arts, Shepherd University. A total of 49 students performed in two recitals. Students from the studios of Jenny Anderson, Ruth Carson, Yu-Hsuan Liao, Gary Mullenax and Suzanne Tabb performed.

WVMTA Spring Adjudications will be held on Saturday, May 16 2015 at Shepherd University.  
**Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao, NCTM, Chair**



Dear Valued MTNA Members,

In December, we announced the new *Members-Only Section* of the website. We hope that you have had time to look at the site and see the content. We update the website with new and updated information as we get it, so be sure to check back often! Remember to have your member number handy when you go to the [Members-Only section](#).

Be sure to check out the updates and new programs!

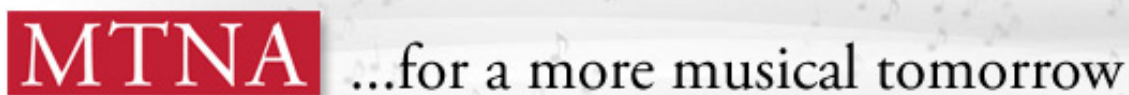
**Legal Documents by Scott Gilligan, MTNA Legal Counsel** *Reporting Child Abuse—are teachers obligated to report suspected child abuse? Negotiating Leases—how to better negotiate leases when renting teaching space.*

**Discount Programs Updates** Office Depot \*NEW—Better Practice

**IC Systems Webinars** These business webinars are free and available from IC Systems—MTNA’s Debt Collection Solutions Partner. Any member can access these webinars and watch at your own convenience. Be sure to check the webinar page for additions from IC Systems.

If you have any questions, please let me know! Thank you again for being a member of MTNA!

Rachel Kramer, Director of Member Development



Debra Florian, NCTM  
Outgoing MTNA Vice President  
Outgoing MTNA Membership Committee Chair  
April 2015 Issue 24

Spring has arrived! Like many of you, I have been freshly reinvigorated and inspired by another successful MTNA National Conference. Like you, I am eager to bring fresh energy and new ideas back to my state and local associations. For those of us who organize our teaching around the academic calendar, we are preparing to wrap up another year packed with lessons, festivals, adjudications, competitions and the like.

This is that wonderful time of year when we have both the opportunity to assess the year we are finishing AND take a creative look at the upcoming year. As leaders, we want all of our members to regard involvement in MTNA as an essential element in their professional planning.

**Membership Renewal** notices will be sent out this month. Among the biggest factors that keep members coming back are the relationships they have built with other teachers, and the value they perceive for their teaching and for their students.

Some ideas to consider as our state and local associations look to inject new life into next year’s plans, always with an eye to **Membership Recruitment, Engagement and Retention**:

- Survey your membership for their assessment and ideas regarding programming and student activities.

- Plan programming that will foster relationship-building among your members.

- Work toward more diverse programming, to include topics also of interest to instrumental and voice teachers.

- Partner a newer member with a more experienced member to co-chair an event or activity so that newer members are already *invested* in next year’s plans, and to encourage mentoring.

Remind members of the many benefits they receive through membership:

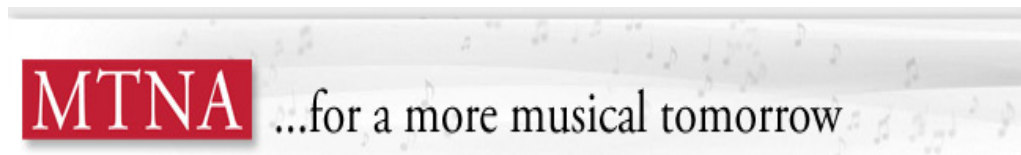
- \* Student Opportunities
  - \* Networking
  - \* Legal Consultation
  - \* Debt Collection
  - \* Personal and Professional Insurance
  - \* Discount Programs
  - \* Professional Support Hotline
  - \* Much More
- Remind members locally and statewide to renew in the spring with e-mail blasts and newsletters. Promote upcoming state conferences and events, and local programming for fall that members won't want to miss!
  - Offer an incentive contest at the state level for the 1st local association with 100 percent renewal.

It has been my privilege to chair the MTNA Membership Committee, a group of gifted leaders passionate and dedicated to the continued growth and strength of MTNA. It has also been a distinct honor to partner with all of you toward attaining our membership goals. With the conclusion of my term as MTNA Vice President, I am pleased to welcome our new Vice President, Karen Thickstun, and to extend my warmest wishes. I have been fortunate to work with Karen for a number of years, and I know she brings passion, creative vision and energy as she assumes leadership responsibilities for the Membership Committee.

**We are better together!** Through our MTNA membership—local, state and national—

- We are a more powerful voice and positive force for the arts in our nation and in our local communities;
- We are continually challenged and empowered to grow professionally;
- And we are immeasurably enriched through our relationships with one another.

Best wishes as we continue together in the pursuit of our common goals!



MTNA's forums recently met at the 2015 National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. The minutes of their individual meetings are now available on MTNA's website. The forums provide a medium for open discussion and expression of ideas related to the appropriate forums. The forums meet annually at the MTNA conference where initiatives, projects and services are discussed with the best ideas recommended to the MTNA Board of Directors for their consideration. Currently, the forums include: Arts Awareness and Advocacy; Collaborative Performance; College Faculty; Collegiate Chapters; Independent Music Teachers; Local Associations; and Wellness.

To learn more about what the individual forums discussed, [click here](#).

## FOOTPRINTS

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2015 MTNA Award Recipient, Dr. James Miltenberger (center) of Morgantown, WV, with Gary Ingle and Kenneth Christensen at the MTNA National Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada, in recognition of his 50 years of service to MTNA.

News is published quarterly online at [www.wvmta.org](http://www.wvmta.org) and mailed to members who do not have an email address. If you have a change of street address or email address, contact MTNA at <http://www.mtna.org> or call 888-512-5278

Ruth Carson, Newsletter Editor [carsonruth\(at\)verizon\(dot\)net](mailto:carsonruth@verizon.net)