

Collaborative Forum Minutes
MTNA National Conference
Grand Hyatt Hotel
April 5, 2016

After Southern Division Director Hebda welcomed everyone, the following points were brought forward for discussion:

- Forum members were especially pleased to see sessions at the conference focused on pre-college duet playing as well as on how to incorporate collaboration into the pre-college studio.
- Forum members expressed the desire for sessions to be programmed that would support musicians who wish to have more training in the collaborative arts—"nuts and bolts" types of sessions.
- Forum members would like to see more sessions dedicated to appropriately leveled chamber music for younger performers.
- They also emphasized how lacking chamber music was in the displays in the exhibit halls. The vendors need to be encouraged to bring more of this type of repertoire to sell.
- It was suggested to add a collaborative performance track to Pedagogy Saturday. It was acknowledged that there were some collaborative presenters at this year's Pedagogy Saturday, but they were often speaking on panels, which did not allow for as much depth.
- Tennessee mentioned that they are now hosting more collaborative guest artists at their conference, including the Peabody Trio as well as a violin/piano duo.
- The chamber music database needs to be updated regularly.
- Commissioned pre-college works need to be better publicized, and vendors need to be encouraged to bring former commissioned works to sell at the conference.
- State collaborative chairs need more guidance from the national office on what their position entails. Perhaps the national office could draft a suggested job description? Also, perhaps an on-line forum could be available for state chairs.
- A request was made for more intermediate level chamber music masterclasses.
- The topic of reduced fees for members of other professional music organizations was raised.
- It was suggested to delay the deadline for the chamber music MTNA competitions and perhaps eliminate the state competitions because groups are not yet formed at most schools in time to enter with the current deadline.
- It was suggested that pre-college chamber music be incorporated into the upcoming MTNA e-festival.

One forum member raised the point that when looking at how best to support the collaborative arts that MTNA has to look at this from a three-pronged approach. We need sessions or training on how to teach collaborative playing. We need sessions or training on where to find the works that can be taught at all levels of instruction. We need sessions or training on how to successfully incorporate these ideas into our studios.