

**MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Albuquerque, NM
March 19 and March 24, 2010**

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present

President Ann Gipson, President-elect Benjamin Caton, Vice President Sigrid Luther, Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Pachak-Brooks, Immediate Past President Gail Berenson, Executive Director and CEO Gary Ingle (ex officio without vote), Fay Adams (Southern Division), Lezlee Bishop (Southwest Division), Thomas Ediger (West Central Division), Debra Florian (Northwest Division), Celinda Hallbauer (South Central Division), and Karen Thickstun (East Central Division)

Absent

Ellen Flint (Eastern Division)

Staff Present

Senior Deputy Executive Director Marge Bengel and Deputy Executive Director and COO Brian Shepard

CALL TO ORDER

President Ann Gipson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 19, 2010.

MINUTES

The minutes of the September 2009 meeting were approved via email in September 2009.

REPORTS

National Officer Reports

Written reports were received from the following National Officers: President Ann Gipson, President-elect Benjamin Caton, Immediate Past President Gail

Berenson, Vice President Sigrid Luther, and Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Pachak-Brooks.

Executive Director Gary Ingle led a review of the financial reports. The February 28, 2010 financial reports were the most recent reports available. Assets of MTNA are \$2,549,173.85 with liabilities of \$55,332.41, and income of \$2,203,410.34 with expenses of \$1,057,562.96. Unrestricted long-term investments are \$649,353.72. The Foundation Fund Endowment Account has assets of \$642,829.23 and the McHose Trust has assets of \$512,422.93. Assets of the MTNA Certification Program, as of February 28, 2010 are \$106,824.22 with no liabilities, and income of \$70,006.19 with expenses of \$16,674.71.

Division Directors

Written reports were received from directors of all divisions: East Central (Karen Thickstun), Eastern (Ellen Flint), Northwest (Debra Florian), South Central (Celinda Hallbauer), Southern (Fay Adams), Southwest (Lezlee Bishop) and West Central (Thomas Ediger).

National Program Chairs

A written report was received from the Composer Commissioning Chair (Ann Witherspoon).

Standing and Special Committees

Written reports from the following standing and special committees were reviewed: *AMT* Editorial Committee (William Westney), 2010 Conference Planning Committee (Scott McBride Smith), E-Journal Editorial Committee (Lesley Sisterhen McAllister), Finance Committee (Cheryl Pachak-Brooks), Membership Committee (Benjamin Caton), Nominating Committee (Gail Berenson), Partnership Review Committee (Benjamin Caton).

There were no reports submitted from Development Committee (Brian Chung), Pedagogy Saturday Planning Committee (Janet Lopinski) and Summit for MTNA Leadership Planning Committee (Benjamin Caton).

Ad Hoc Committees

A written report was received from the Year of Collaborative Music Committee (Janice Wenger).

Executive Director Report

A written report was received from the Executive Director. In it he focused on both positive and negative aspects of the preceding six months. On the positive side, he reported that the Financial Stabilization Plan, adopted by the Board one year ago, continues to serve us well. Our “belt tightening” and the turnaround of the stock market have resulted in phenomenal improvement in our financial position. Our current assets increased from \$1,973,339.95 on 2/28/09 to \$2,527,467.97 on 2/28/1, a gain of over \$550,000. Short-term cash increased from \$262,441.79 on 2/28/09 to \$363,358.30, a gain of over \$100,000. The austerity measures are fulfilling their role.

In the “troublesome” category, he reported that the pre-registration for the national conference is down about 20 percent from this time last year. And last year was down about 8 percent from the year before. Regardless of whether the decreases are temporary or the beginning of a trend, the timing of the conference in the latter part of the fiscal year, coupled with its substantial impact on our financial position, a decrease in conference revenue or an increase in expenses or a combination of both, could erase a good deal of the financial gains we have made up to this point.

Additionally, the Executive Director reported that, during the past six months, the National Headquarters staff has been stretched beyond its capacity. However, the morale remains positive, and everyone is willing to go beyond their own positions when there is a need elsewhere. He believes that MTNA is fortunate to have such a dedicated, team-driven staff to implement the operations of the association.

Ingle concluded his report by expressing his gratitude to the current board, which finishes its tenure at the conference, for its willingness to make the most difficult of decisions, during one of the most complex and trying two years in MTNA’s history.

STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

President Gipson and Executive Director Gary Ingle led a discussion and evaluation of MTNA’s progress in accomplishing its Strategic Plan as well as the Financial Stabilization Plan. Over the past year, MTNA’s financial position has increased substantially given the improving economy and belt-tightening.

Currently, MTNA is in the fourth phase of the stabilization plan and focused on its core programs: conferences, publications, competitions, foundation fund, and certification. In addition, the emphasis is to continue to operate efficiently and effectively but in fewer areas that are more germane to our mission. The discussion emphasized the need for MTNA to determine the few things it does better than anyone else or that it alone provides. MTNA must continue to reduce

its costs and at the same time properly and adequately fund the programs and services it performs. And MTNA must be sure that what it is doing adds value to the music teacher and the music teaching profession.

BUSINESS

Presidential Appointments

Motion and second that the Board of Directors ratify the following appointment:

**National Composition Competition Coordinator
Chris Goldston (IL)**

PASSED (unanimous)

Officer Assignments

Motion and second that the Board of Directors approve the following officer assignments:

President-elect Benjamin Caton as chair of the 2011 Conference Planning Committee

Vice President Sigrid Luther as chair of the Membership Committee

Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Pachak-Brooks as an ‘ex officio’ member of the Development Committee

PASSED (unanimous)

Summit Proposal

President Gipson submitted a proposal to reinvent the Summit for MTNA Leadership in 2011 as an afternoon event in conjunction with the MTNA conference in Milwaukee. Given the continued uncertainties of the economy and its impact on MTNA, Gipson believes that the Summit for MTNA Leadership should become a part of the Milwaukee conference in March 2011. An afternoon would be devoted to leadership training and called “Summit.” It would have the same goals and objectives of the preceding Summits and would provide several benefits:

1. The conference experience would be enhanced with the addition of leadership activities
2. The Summit could also be attended by local leadership as well as by more of the state leadership who attend the conference.

3. It eliminates the need for our leaders to be away during the month of September, which tends to be the start of both independent studios and college classes.
4. MTNA's costs would be minimal, especially compared to the cost of past Summits.

Motion and second to reinvent the Summit for MTNA Leadership in 2011 as an afternoon event at the MTNA conference in Milwaukee.

PASSED (unanimous)

2011 Pedagogy Saturday

The Year of Collaborative Music will conclude at the 2011 MTNA Conference in Milwaukee. In recognition of its importance, President Gipson proposed that the 2011 Pedagogy Saturday be devoted to Collaborative Music. Since the YCM committee has served as a driving force in developing and organizing the YCM, she felt this committee should be charged with designing and implementing the 2011 Pedagogy Saturday.

Motion and second that the Board of Directors designate the 2011 Pedagogy Saturday as the culmination of the Year of Collaborative Music and to ratify the appointment of the Year of Collaborative Music Committee as the 2011 Pedagogy Saturday Committee:

Janice Wenger, chair	University of Missouri
Jean Barr	Eastman
Gail Berenson	Ohio University
Andrew Campbell	Arizona State
Ann Epperson	University of Texas
Alexandra Nguyen	University of Colorado
Jennifer Snow	UCLA

PASSED (unanimous)

Exhibit Booth Assignment Policy

Motion and second to approve the revision of the MTNA policy on the placement and assignment of exhibit booths at the MTNA National Conference as follows:

PLACEMENT/ASSIGNMENT OF EXHIBIT BOOTH POLICY

In order to facilitate the exchange of product information for the benefit of Members, and to foster show access for new products and manufacturers, Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) has established the following Exhibit Booth Placement/Assignment Policy (which MTNA, at its sole option, may amend, modify, alter, cancel or repeal).

A. The initial assignment of Exhibit Booths will be made from the Exhibitor Contracts received on or before October 12, 2010, and accompanied by full payment.

MTNA will assign Booths at its discretion and without any guarantee that an Exhibitor will be assigned their preference of Exhibit Booth(s). The initial assignment of Exhibit Booths will be based on, but not limited to, consideration of the following factors:

- Date of receipt of Exhibitor Contract and total payment**
- Number of Exhibit Booths applied for the current year and any previous years**
- Previous compliance with MTNA's Exhibitor Rules and Regulations**

MTNA, in its sole discretion, may also take into account the history of previous MTNA conference participation by (i) an affiliate of the applying Exhibitor, (ii) a previous Exhibitor whose assets have been acquired by an applying Exhibitor, or (iii) an applying Exhibitor with a history of sharing Exhibit Booths. Such factors will be given consideration along with the demand for the desired Exhibit Booth(s), the needs and purposes of the Event, and other factors. This additional deliberation will not necessarily result in assignment of Exhibit Booth(s).

B. Assignment of Exhibit Booths for Exhibitor Contracts received after October 12, 2010 will be made on a first-come, first-served basis in accordance with the factors previously stated herein.

C. MTNA believes that it can best serve the needs and interests of its Members and Exhibitors by retaining the ability to adapt to an ever-changing music industry. Changes in conference sites, convention hall configurations, or industry product mix, as well as the emergence of new products or manufacturers, render impractical any rigid formula for Booth allocation. MTNA retains the flexibility to act at its discretion with regard to changing circumstances.

PASSED (unanimous)

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. on March 19, 2010.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:15 a.m. on March 24, 2010.

President Gipson called the meeting to order and recognized Gail Berenson, chair of the Nominating Committee. Berenson announced the slate of officers for the 2011-2013 biennium.

President-elect

Kenneth Christensen	Montana
Thomas Ediger	Nebraska

Vice President

Lezlee Bishop	Utah
Rebecca Johnson	Ohio

Secretary-Treasurer

Celinda Hallbauer	Texas
Roy Wylie	Texas

YCM Composition Proposal

A proposal was submitted by Janice Wenger (2011 Pedagogy Saturday chair) and Ann Witherspoon (Distinguished Composer of the Year chair) to create a special YCM Composition Competition for instrumental ensemble music involving piano, and to partner with the Society of American Composers and Chamber Music America.

After discussion, Board was uncomfortable with the proposal as submitted. The Board directed President Gipson to discuss some alternatives with Wenger and Witherspoon.

As a result of these discussions, the original proposal was withdrawn and a new proposal was submitted.

Motion and second to accept the revised proposal as follows.

GOALS:

- 1. To provide a composition component to YCM**
- 2. To support the creation of intermediate chamber music that will be accessible and available to MTNA members and students, including RMM**

PROJECT:

MTNA will commission up to three composers to create intermediate chamber trios (including piano). The composers, selected by the committee before May 1, will complete the pieces by January 1, 2011, so that they can be premiered at the Milwaukee Conference.

DETAILS:

- 1. Composers will be chosen who currently write effectively for intermediate-level piano, and who are associated with a publisher. Preference will be given to those who have a long-standing affiliation with and who support MTNA. Effort will be made to involve three different publishers, in order to generate interest in publication of the commissioned works as well as to provide a catalyst for possible future interest in publication of pedagogical chamber works.**
- 2. The committee will specify the instrumentation for the commissions, making the three different from one another. Under-represented combinations and consideration of all instrument families will be given priority in the selection.**
- 3. MTNA will pay each composer a commission fee of \$2,500. These awards will be presented in Milwaukee.**
- 4. A contract, similar to the DCY contract regarding rights, etc., will be created by the MTNA staff.**
- 5. The committee in consultation with each composer will coordinate local performers for the premieres. Modest stipends will only be offered in a pinch.**

PASSED (9 yes, 1 no)

Motion and second to ratify Janice Wenger and Ann Witherspoon as members of the YCM Composition Selection Committee.

PASSED (unanimous)

Recognition of Outgoing Officers

Motion and second that the Board express its profound gratitude and appreciation to the following Board Directors for their service to the association as Board members for 2008-2010:

**Fay Adams (Southern Division)
Lezlee Bishop (Southwest Division)
Thomas Ediger (West Central Division)**

**Ellen Flint (Eastern Division)
Debra Florian (Northwest Division)
Celinda Hallbauer (South Central Division)
Karen Thickstun (East Central)**

PASSED (unanimous)

Recognition of Staff

Motion and Second to ratify the following motion regarding the MTNA Staff, which will be signed on the Board's behalf by President Gipson and Executive Director Ingle:

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

**recognizes the outstanding work of the MTNA staff,
their professionalism, commitment and extraordinary effort to serve,
even in times of uncertainty and economic challenge for our association.**

In Recognition Of Outstanding Service

MARGE BENGEL	MARCIE LINDSEY	BRIAN SHEPPARD
MELISSA CURTICE	BRIAN PIEPER	PEGGY STITES
ELAINE DONALDSON	TONYA SCHAUER	LINDA STUMP
KRISSY FELDKAMP	CHAD SCHWALBACH	JENNY THOMASON

**Presented with profound gratitude by
The Board of Directors
Music Teachers National Association
Friday, March 19, 2010 at the MTNA National Conference in
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

PASSED (unanimous)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on March 24, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Pachak-Brooks, NCTM
Secretary-Treasurer