

**MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Spokane, Washington  
March 15, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES**

**Present**

President Scott McBride Smith, President-elect Martha Hilley, Vice President Peter Mack, Secretary-Treasurer Debra Florian, Immediate Past President Rebecca Grooms Johnson, Diane Blanchard (Southern Division), Sharon Callahan (South Central Division), Geri Gibbs (Southwest Division), Cindy Peterson- Peart (Northwest Division), Janice Razaq (East Central Division), Nanette Solomon (Eastern Division), and Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle (ex officio without vote)

**Not Present**

Jill Hanrahan (West Central Division) due to weather-related travel delays.

**Staff Present**

COO Brian Shepard and Deputy Executive Director for Administration Diana Viltrakis

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the MTNA Board of Directors was called to order by MTNA President Scott McBride Smith at 9:14 a.m. on March 15, 2019.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the December 2018 meeting of the Board were entered into the record, the documents having been approved unanimously as submitted via email vote on December 20, 2018.

The minutes of the January 10, 2019 and January 18, 2019 electronic meetings were approved as submitted.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

Written reports were received from the following National Officers: President Scott McBride Smith, President-elect Martha Hilley, Vice President Peter Mack, Secretary-Treasurer Debra Florian, and Immediate Past President Rebecca Johnson.

During the Officer reports, President Scott McBride Smith gave an update on MTNA China and the invitation to join the Global Music Education League formed by China Conservatory.

Secretary-Treasurer Debra Florian recognized Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle to present an overview of the February 28, 2019 financial reports. Assets of MTNA are \$4,977,783.25 with liabilities of \$34,248,24. The balance of the MTNA Trust account is \$895,496.20. The Foundation Fund Endowment account has assets of \$1,716,355.11 and the McHose Trust has assets of \$629,498.36. Income is \$2,379,880 with expenses of \$1,377,932,97. Ingle's presentation included his financial projections for the fiscal year end.

## **DIRECTORS REPORTS**

Written reports from all seven Division Directors were reviewed: Janice Razaq (East Central Division), Nanette Solomon (Eastern Division), Cindy Peterson-Peart (Northwest Division), Sharon Callahan (South Central Division), Diane Blanchard (Southern Division), Geri Gibbs (Southwest Division), and Jill Hanrahan (West Central Division).

President Smith thanked the Directors for their hard work and "grassroots" efforts.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO REPORT**

Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle reviewed his written report as follows:

### **Federal Trade Commission**

- MTNA continues to comply with all the terms and specific actions required by the FTC Decision and Order (Consent Decree).
- All state and local affiliate presidents received a copy of the *MTNA Antitrust Compliance Guide* on March 6, 2019.
- The Five-Year Compliance Report is in the process of being written. The report will be filed on or before April 3, 2019.
- The five-year anniversary of the FTC Consent Order and Decree is April 3, 2019. At that time, many of the requirements in the order expire. On that date, MTNA is no longer required to:
  1. Post and maintain on the Code of Ethics page of MTNA's website an FTC agreement statement, the FTC Settlement Statement, and a link to the FTC's website.
  2. Distribute electronically a copy of the FTC Settlement Statement to its leaders, employees, and Affiliates.
  3. Distribute electronically a copy of the FTC Settlement Statement to each new Affiliate, new members, and renewing members.
  4. Provide in-person annual training to its leaders and employees concerning MTNA's obligations under the order and an overview of the Antitrust Laws as they apply to MTNA's activities, behaviors, and conduct.
  5. Conduct a presentation at each annual meeting of MTNA and the State President's Advisory Council that summarizes MTNA's obligations under the order and provide context-appropriate guidance on compliance with the Antitrust Laws.

6. Provide an antitrust compliance guide to Affiliates to use at each annual meeting of the Affiliates that summarizes MTNA's obligations under this order and provides context-appropriate guidance on compliance with Antitrust Laws.

7. File a verified written report with the Federal Trade Commission setting forth in detail the manner and form in which MTNA has complied with the order.

The remaining obligations in the FTC Consent Order and Decree are ongoing until 2034, including maintaining its antitrust compliance program, appointing an Antitrust Compliance officer, terminating until remedied any affiliate that engages in any prohibited practice, disciplining any leader or employee who fail to comply with the order, and not placing any restrictions on solicitation of music teaching work.

### **Board and Governance.**

- The voting process for National Officers concluded on March 1. A total of 1,164 members voted. Online and email votes accounted for 95% of the total votes cast. The following candidates received a majority of the votes in their respective positions and have been certified as MTNA National Officers for the 2019-21 biennium. Their terms of office will begin on March 20, 2019 at the conclusion of the 2019 MTNA National Conference.

President-elect: Karen Thickstun  
Vice President: Kevin Chance  
Secretary-Treasurer: Beth Klingenstein

- An MTNA Diversity and Inclusion Statement and Policy is still under development.
- President-elect Martha Hilley and he attended the Symposium for Chief Executive and Chief Elected Officers in Orlando, Florida on February 7-8, 2019. The event is a program of the American Society for Association Executives to provide an opportunity for the two leaders to explore how to best work together to effectively and efficiently carry out the association's mission to enhance future success. Every president-elect and he have attended this symposium since 1999.

### **Conferences and Meetings**

- The eighth MTNA Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium was held on January 4-5, 2019, at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The event was quite successful, in large part because of the exceptional work of Chapter President Arielle Suhkram, and the entire JMU Collegiate Chapter. A total of 158 registered for the event. an increase of 29 or 22% from the previous year in Austin. The breakdown of attendees was as follows:

89 Collegiate Members  
11 Student Nonmembers  
35 Active Members  
23 Nonmembers  
02 MTNA Staff

- The 2019 National Conference in Spokane, Washington was the primary focus of the staff's attention after the Collegiate Symposium. The responsibility for managing the thousands of moving parts falls to Brian Shepard and Tonya Schauer, both of whom are highly competent and experienced in all things related to the conference. The conference

will feature over 100 sessions, showcases, teaching demonstrations and master classes on topics ranging from teaching methods, literature, and performance to entrepreneurship, studio management and business practices. An extensive Exhibit Hall of print music, instruments, software and pedagogical materials; the MTNA Student Competitions; and Pedagogy Saturday round out the event. The internationally-renowned pianist, Ingrid Fliter, and the Transcontinental Saxophone Quartet will highlight the evening recitals. The conference keynote address will be given by noted musicologist, Alan Walker. Master classes will be led by well-known pedagogues Barry Snyder and Helen Marlais.

**International**

- On January 25, 2019, Ingle attended a meeting in San Gabriel, California, with representatives of MTNA China and Yamaha China to foster cooperation and partnership between the two organizations. He joined Jeffrey Fang and Charles Hung in engaging with a dozen significant Chinese piano teachers and Yamaha China staff for the event.
- On February 21, 2019, MTNA President Scott McBride Smith and he met with Janice Englehart, Cultural Affairs specialist, and Benjamin Sand, Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer for the U. S. Embassy in Beijing, China. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the embassy of MTNA's activities in China, especially as they relate to MTNA China. Englehart and Sand were very appreciative of our visit, and offered insights into the Chinese culture and the U. S. relationship with the Chinese government. In addition, they offered the use of embassy facilities and other assistance for any event we may want to have in China.
- On February 22, 2019, they met with Liguang Wang, president of the China Conservatory of Music. President Wang is the founder and chairman of the Global Music Education League (GMEL), a global nongovernmental nonprofit academic organization of 30 top music institutions from North America, Europe, Oceania, and Asia. The purpose is to build an academic community and a platform for world-class training, research, creation and performance and communication and cooperation among music institutions. MTNA was invited to become a member of this important organization, and this meeting represented our entry into the League.

**Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy**

- MTNA again partnered with *Americans for the Arts* as a sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day in Washington D.C. on March 4-5, 2019. It is the day members of the arts community from all across the country converge to advocate for the arts with members of Congress.

**Strategic Partnerships**

- Following is the list of MTNA partnerships/relationships maintained by the staff and provided for Board review:

Partnerships		
Organization	Affiliation Description	Written Agreement
Amazon.com	.5% royalty given to MTNA on purchases made by using www.smile.amazon.com and naming MTNA as their charity of choice	no
American Speech-Language Hearing Association	MTNA promotes ASHA's Listen to Your Buds campaign to its members to prevent hearing loss	yes

Arthur J. Gallagher	Discount program on travel, prescriptions and office supplies	yes
Arts Advocacy Day	National co-sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day in Washington D.C.	no
Athletes and the Arts	Initiative focused on linking the athletic and performing arts communities through collaborative exchange and application of wellness, training and performance research and initiatives	yes
Better Practice App	Practice app with 30 day free trial for MTNA members	no
Collabra Music	60 day free trial for up to 10 students and waived the setup fee for any organizations that are affiliated of MTNA.	no
Elavon	Credit card processing service for members and affiliates at a discounted rate	yes
Elite One Media	Discounted rates for MTNA members on websites and social media marketing	no
I.C. System, Inc.	Member benefit program to assist teachers in collecting outstanding fees	yes
Joytunes	MTNA Certified Teacher Directory linked in Joytunes app	no
Make Music Magazine	\$4 discount off subscription price to MTNA members	no
Musical America	10% discount off subscription price to MTNA members and collaboration on Musical America directories	yes
Music Teachers Helper	10% discount off subscription price to MTNA members	no
NAMM Foundation (Formerly SupportMusic.com)	Music advocacy	no
National Piano Foundation	Partnership to present Pedagogy Saturday RMM Track and RMM Scholarship	no
Oxford University Press	Portal for MTNA members to receive discounts off certain publications	no
Performing Arts Medicine Association	To work with MTNA to promote wellness in schools of music	no
Piano Buyer	27% discount for MTNA members to advertise	no
Piano Technicians Guild	Certified Teacher Scholarships in the amount of \$1,750	no
Pizzicato	Educational theory software program discounted for educators	no
Bradley Sowash Online Creativity Courses	MTNA members receive \$50 discount	no
Steinway & Sons	Steinway provided Model S grand piano to MTNA for its recital room with a renewable year to year contract	yes
Taxbot	MTNA members receive free two week trial on an app that helps small businesses track expenses	yes
Woodsongs	MTNA publicizes this public radio program, free teachers resources and workshops in exchange for logo and partnership credit	no
Yamaha Corporation of America	Yamaha provided a DC3X Disklavier to MTNA for its recital room	yes
Your Mechanic	MTNA members receive a \$10 discount for at home car repairs booked through Your Mechanic	no

Event Sponsorships		
Faber Piano Adventures	Certified Teacher Reception sponsorship in the amount of \$2000	no
Piano Technicians Guild	New Member Reception sponsorship in the amount of \$2,000	no
The Royal Conservatory	Collegiate Chapters/Young Professionals Reception sponsorship in the amount of \$2,000	no
Yamaha Corporation of America	GP3 Reception sponsorship in the amount of \$2000	no
MTNA Competition Sponsorships		
Chopin Foundation of the United States	Prizes awarded for best Chopin performance; Junior: \$500; Senior \$1,000 scholarship	yes
Kawai America Corp	Junior Piano Competition; \$7,400	yes
Alfred Music	Elementary and Junior Composition Competitions; \$2,650	no
Stecher & Horowitz	Two Piano Competition awards; \$10,000	yes
Steinway & Sons	Young Artist Piano Competition; \$15,000	yes
Dallas Weekley & Nancy Arganbright	Senior Piano Duet Competition: \$3,000	yes
Yamaha Corporation of America	Junior Strings/Senior Piano Competitions; \$11,900	no

## Programs

- Implementation of the eFestival program continues to progress. The registration fee was reduced to \$25 by eliminating substantial overhead including the use of Accept'd and the part-time eFestival Director position. The number of participants remain dismal.
- The MTNA Webinars continue to be popular. On January 25, 2019, Rebecca Pennington and Amy Glennon presented "Music in Every Child; Strategies for Success." It was attended by a total of 444 teachers, the fourth largest attendance since the beginning in 2015. On February 15, 2019, Jonathan Kuuskoski presented "Ready to Launch: Entrepreneurial Tools for Your Studio."
- *Music Teacher Monday* is an innovative, once-a-month, online continuing education opportunity for the time-challenged music teacher. On February 4, 2019, MTNA live streamed on Facebook a master class with Michael Chertock, professor of piano and piano department chair at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Chertock provided tips and ideas for teaching Beethoven's Sonata Op. 10, No. 3.
- The new online-only Division competitions were successfully implemented without any problems or issues. The new process was overseen by Linda Stump and Brian Shepard, and it couldn't have run smoother. Kudos to them and the rest of the division coordinators for their excellent work.

## State and Local Affiliates

- Assistance was provided to Kassandra Weleck, president of the Arizona MTA, on the issue of escheatment.
- Counsel was provided to a local association in North Dakota on dealing with a troublesome leadership problem.

## Staff and Headquarters

- Teasha O'Connell, Communications Associate, resigned her position in late December, 2018. Her final day was January 10. At this point, a decision to replace the position has not been made.
- On February 26, 2019, Diana Viltrakis, Deputy Executive Director for Administration, submitted her letter of resignation, effective April 5, in order to become a full-time mom. It is a bitter-sweet moment for all of us. Diana has been an integral part of the leadership team over the past six years. Executive Director Ingle relied on her wisdom and judgment in every aspect of his work. She has proven exceptional in every area of extensive responsibilities. But more than that, she is beloved by everyone. She truly was the right person at the right time for the position. We thank her for her exceptional service to MTNA, and wish her the very best.

## American Classical Music Hall of Fame

- MTNA continues its day-to-day management of the Hall of Fame. On February 23, 2019, Brian Shepard inducted into the Hall of Fame H. Robert Reynolds, Principal Wind Ensemble Conductor of the University of Southern California, at the College Band Directors National Association Conference in Tempe, Arizona.

## Travel and Meetings

### December

Dec 03, 2018	Meeting with Linda He & Tim Blair	New York, NY
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### January

Jan 03-06, 2019	Collegiate Chapters Symposium	Blacksburg, VA
Jan 17-20, 2019	Carolina/CMS Summit 2.0	Columbia, SC
Jan 24-26, 2019	MTNA China Meeting	San Gabriel, CA

### February

Feb 06-09, 2019	ASAE CEO Symposium	San Diego, CA
Feb 19-23, 2019	China Conservatory/U.S. Embassy	Beijing, China

### March

Mar 14-15, 2019	MTNA Board of Directors Meetings	Spokane WA
Mar 16-20, 2019	MTNA National Conference	Spokane, WA

In addition to his written report, Ingle reported that he was notified by MTNA attorney Scott Gilligan that the trademark application for MTNA China was denied. He indicated that there are two options: appeal the denial at a high cost, or resubmit the application with minor modifications and cost. He will direct Gilligan to resubmit the application.

Ingle informed the Board of a serious breach of fiduciary responsibility related to an officer in a Florida State MTA District. He will meet with FSMTA President Mary Beth Purchase during conference to discuss various solutions.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Written reports were received from the Nominating Committee (Rebecca Johnson), Finance Committee (Debra Florian), State Presidents Advisory Council (Noreen Wenjen), 2019 Artist Teacher Conference (Peter Mack), 2019 National Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy Forum (Andi McAllister), 2019 Conference Planning Committee (Nicholas Phillips), 2019 Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium (Ruby Chou), *AMT* Editorial Committee (James Litzelman), eJournal Editorial Committee (Linda Cockey), Foundation Fund Development Committee (Brian Chung), Membership Committee (Peter Mack), Select Committee on Collegiate and Young Professional Development (Jovanni Rey de Pedro), Global Initiatives Task Force (Scott McBride Smith), and Composer Commissioning Program (Ann Witherspoon).

During the report on the Artist Teacher Conference, President Smith recognized Secretary-Treasurer Debra Florian. She indicated that the Finance Committee discussed several issues related to the Artist Teacher Conference, scheduled for August 9-10, 2019. Concerns were expressed about the lack of staffing and the late start to planning the event.

**Motion from the Finance Committee that the Board of Directors postpone the Artist Teacher Conference, scheduled for August 9-10, 2019, until August 2021.**

**PASSED**

During the Membership Committee report, there was continued discussion on how to grow and maintain membership, including local association president meetings at state conferences and other ways to improve communication between national and its members.

**Motion and second to expand the National Association's care and support of its state and local affiliates.**

**PASSED**

## **BUSINESS**

By general consent, the Board of Directors went into Executive Session at 10:40 a.m. on March 15, 2019 and reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

President Smith reported that, based on a recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board approved in Executive Session the following two items:

1. that MTNA increase the salary of Executive Director & CEO Dr. Gary Ingle in the amount of \$564.34 per month plus taxes to offset the loss of the MTNA health insurance benefit due to Medicare.
2. that MTNA allow Dr. Gary Ingle to fly business class for flights of six or more hours in duration, up to four flights per year.



## **Presidential Appointments**

**Motion to ratify the following Presidential Appointments:**

### **2020 Conference Planning Committee**

**Paul Adams, Kansas**

**Yeeseon Kwon, Illinois**

**Heather Smith, Utah**

**Meggie Young, Ohio**

### **2019-2021 MTNA Foundation Fund Development Committee**

**Timothy Blair, chair, Pennsylvania**

**Heather Smith, Utah (reappointment)**

### **2019-2021 Collegiate Chapters Pedagogy Symposium**

**Sarah Hartley, chair, Florida**

**PASSED**

## **Wellness Event Proposal**

The Board discussed a proposal submitted by Gail Berenson and Charles Turon to establish a Wellness program for MTNA members. There was extensive discussion on the ways to make this program viable for MTNA. Given some of the uncertainties, the Board asked President-elect Martha Hilley and Executive Director Gary Ingle to visit with Gail and Charles to discuss ways that the proposal could be modified to assure its viability.

## **Collegiate Chapter of the Year Nomination Process**

The Board discussed a proposal from Cindy Peterson-Peart to revise the nominating process for Collegiate Chapter of the Year. The current process allows only a state president to officially nominate a collegiate chapter, which severely limits the number of nominations. After discussion it was concluded that the award needs to be further linked to the Collegiate Symposium. The Board asked Director Peart to work with the Executive Director and staff to devise revisions for the process.

## **Division Competitions Recordings Proposal**

The Board discussed a suggestion received by Cindy Peterson-Peart to require that a recording made at the state competition would be used for the division round competition. After discussion, the Board took no action.

## **Process and Timeline for Monthly Board Video Meetings**

The Board discussed the meeting scenarios presented by Executive Director Ingle at the December Board meeting.

**Motion and second that the MTNA Board of Directors adopt the following schedule for Board meetings:**

**Conference Meeting: 14 hours**

**Arrive Wednesday evening**

**Meet Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (4 hours)**

**Meet Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (8 hours)**

**Meet Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (2 hours)**

**Summit Meeting: 13 hours**

**Arrive Thursday evening**

**Meet Friday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (9 hours)**

**Meet Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (4 hours)**

**Depart Monday morning**

**Monthly Video Conferences: 10 hours**

**PASSED**

**Elected Officer Assignments**

President-elect Martha Hilley proposed the following assignments:

1. To designate the 2019-2021 Vice President as chair of the Membership Committee, and
2. To designate the 2019-2021 Immediate Past President as Chairman of Global Initiatives.

**Motion and second to approve these assignments.**

**PASSED**

**Nominating Committee Representatives Election**

President Scott McBride Smith opened the floor for nominations for two Board representatives to the 2019-2021 Nominating Committee. Jill Hanrahan and Janice Razaq were nominated.

**Motion and second to elect Jill Hanrahan and Janice Razaq as Board representatives to the 2019-2021 Nominating Committee.**

**PASSED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Motion and second that the Board authorize Executive Director Ingle to immediately begin exploring the development and staffing of an MTNA App.**

**PASSED**

**Interlochen Scholarship Offer**

The Board discussed an offer by Interlochen for discounts and scholarships to its year-round and summer programs for MTNA competitions winners and finalists.

**Motion and second to decline the offer and to explore ideas for additional competition winner opportunities over the next year.**

**PASSED**

The meeting was recessed at 3:23 p.m. on March 15, 2019 and was reconvened at 9:33 a.m. on March 20, 2019.

The 2019-2021 Officers attended the meeting.

**Report from MTNA China**

President Smith related a meeting with the executive director of MTNA China, Jie Bu, who will submit reports to the MTNA Board for its September and March Board meetings.

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**Motion and second that the Board of Directors express its profound gratitude and appreciation to the following officers for their service to the association 2017-2019:**

**Scott McBride Smith, President  
Rebecca Grooms Johnson, Immediate Past President  
Martha Hilley, President-elect  
Peter Mack, Vice President  
Debra Florian, Secretary-Treasurer**

**PASSED**

**Lifetime Membership**

**Motion and second that the Board of Directors confer MTNA Lifetime Membership status on Scott McBride Smith in honor of his outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the association as National President 2017-2019.**

**PASSED**

The Board also presented President Smith with a personalized leather folio to demonstrate its appreciation and good wishes for his leadership and service as national president.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be September 6, 2019 at the MTNA Summit for Leadership in Cincinnati, Ohio.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:57 a.m. on March 20, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Florian  
Secretary-Treasurer