

MTNA ANNUAL MEETING VIRTUAL CONFERENCE APRIL 21, 2020

Report of the President

If I had written this report at the end of January, it would have been so much different. I have been in a state of shock for the last two and a half months. For many days I would awaken and think, what a horrible nightmare. Then reality would hit and the nightmare would be what is happening throughout the world.

For a while in February, I would get up and hit the shower, put on makeup and dress for the day. Then when the news would saturate everything, I would discover there was no longer makeup - it had dissolved in the morning tears brought about by what had happened overnight. Then an email or a text would come from a former student, a high school best friend, a neighbor, a member of the MTNA staff, and I would know that the day would proceed with a not so heavy heart. The coronavirus has called for us to participate in social distancing. So we are alone together. It sounds like a total contradiction, but it isn't. For me, it has been over two months since I have hugged another human being. This is not right. This is not me. However, it will be me as long as virtual hugs are a necessity.

There are several things that have allowed me to look forward rather than simply camp out in front of the television each day in order to see the latest statistics. At the top of the list is MTNA. I have found purpose in my life after retiring from higher education through my involvement as your President. The 2018-2020 Division Directors, our elected officers, the unmatched MTNA staff, the new Division Directors and, of course, our Executive Director and CEO have been incredible support. Relationships with the Division Directors-Elect will grow as I move from President to immediate Past President. How lucky can I be to have these six years with MTNA. I am at the half-way mark and it has been wonderful.

Shortly after moving into the presidency after the Spokane conference, the Board of Directors started a new chapter. We went from multiple face-to-face meetings to only two board meetings - one at the Leadership Summit in September and one at the annual national conference in March. To keep the communication flowing effectively we established videoconference board meetings during the other 10 months of the year. These online meetings were not embraced with open arms at first. Much like what we are experiencing this year with our national conference, it is hard to beat face-to-face.

I am proud to report that the 2018-20 Division Directors became ZOOM czars! Who knew back in the spring of 2020 that we would be preparing ourselves for an online existence in our music careers. I applaud the multiple resources that have emerged from the music industry. Webinars on the ins and outs of online teaching have become weekly occurrences thanks to MTNA, CMS, NAMM, Frances Clark Center, publishers and individual independent and higher education teachers. We will all survive this change and we will do it together.

One of the joys of being your president is the number of state and international conferences I have attended - and hope to attend in the second year of my presidency. You have opened your arms and embraced me as "one of you." Thank you for your hospitality and for sharing what is happening within your associations.

When I became President-Elect of MTNA and people asked what my emphasis would be over the next six years, without hesitation I would say, the collegiate chapter members, the recent collegiate graduates, the young teachers throughout our country. They are the future of MTNA. They must become a vital part of our association on the local, state and national levels. The travel I have done for MTNA has allowed me to meet many of these young professionals. Allow me to say that I am impressed! As we combine the diverse generations within our association, we will go forward as a force in the music world. The future can be exciting, invigorating and a future we will all want to be a part of.

The following will give you an idea of life in the MTNA presidency before and after January of 2020:

Weekly Telephone Meetings - Tuesday afternoons with Dr. Gary Ingle

Weekly Presidents' Council Telephone Meetings - Wednesday afternoons with Immediate Past President, President, President Elect and MTNA CEO and Executive Director

Monthly ZOOM Videoconference Board Meetings

June

MTNA Conference Planning Committee, Cincinnati, OH
MTNA Finance Committee, Cincinnati, OH
MTNA State Conference, Houston, TX

July

CFMFTA Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba
NCKP, Lombard, IL

August

Oregon MTA State Conference, Eugene, OR

September

MTNA Leadership Summit, Cincinnati, OH
MTNA Board of Directors Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
MTNA Finance Committee Meeting, Cincinnati, OH
Houston Methodist Hospital, Center for Performing Arts Medicine (CPAM), tour of this amazing program

October

CAPMT State Conference, San Jose, CA
NCMTA State Conference, Cullowhee, NC

November

Kingston College, Kingston on the Thames, Greater London, England, guest presenter on careers in music

December

Memorial Service, Wayne Gibson, former President of MTNA, Fort Lauderdale, FL

January

Collegiate Chapter Symposium, Ball State University, Muncie, IN
Piano Pivot Live 2020, Melbourne, Australia

February

Piano Pedagogy Workshop, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

March

MTNA ZOOM Videoconference Board Meeting (2018-2020 Division Directors)
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MTNA National Conference, Chicago, IL **cancelled**

April

Oregon Coast Youth Symphony Festival, Newport, OR **cancelled**

May

NETMCDO Conference, Manhattan School of Music, NYC **cancelled**

June

Oklahoma MTA State Conference, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK **cancelled**
MTNA Conference Planning Committee, Atlanta 2021, Cincinnati, OH **cancelled** (will be online)
TMTA State Conference, Houston, TX **cancelled**

July

GP3, Group Piano|Piano Pedagogy Conference, Oberlin **cancelled**

August

ISME, International Society of Music Educators, Helsinki **cancelled**

September

MTNA Leadership Summit, Cincinnati, OH

MTNA Board Meeting, Cincinnati, OH

MTNA Finance Committee Meeting, Cincinnati, OH

October

Indiana MTA State Conference, South Bend, IN

WVMTA State Conference, Shepherdstown, WV Shepherdstown

November

Utah MTA State Conference, Thanksgiving Point, UT

January

Collegiate Chapter Symposium, Long Beach, CA

March

MTNA National Conference, Atlanta, GA

Until I see you at some future date and can give you an actual hug of greeting, I thank you for your support and continue to be honored to serve as your president.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha F. Hilley, NCTM

President

April 21, 2020