



# NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

July 10, 2017

Dear NMTA Members,

On behalf of the NMTA Executive Board, I am pleased to provide details of the 2017 Nebraska Music Teachers Association State Conference, Competition and Festival events. The campus of Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, Nebraska will host all events.

**NMTA State Conference and MTNA Competitions, October 12-13**  
**NMTA Performance Competitions, October 14**  
**NMTA State Festival, October 14-15**

The NMTA State Conference will include workshop sessions, performances, as well as a master class for the winning soloists of the MTNA Junior, Senior and Young Artists Piano Competitions. The main highlights of the conference include the following guests:

**Marvin Blickenstaff** is known among piano teachers throughout the country for his teaching, lecturing, performing, and publishing. For sixteen summers he was on the faculty of the International Workshops where he performed and lectured in Canada, Austria, Scotland, Norway, France and Switzerland. He was honored in 2009 with MTNA's highest honor, the MTNA Achievement Award and was selected in 2013 by the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy for its Lifetime Achievement Award. Formerly the head of the piano departments at the University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill and Goshen College in Indiana, he has taught on the faculties of the Westminster Choir College and The College of New Jersey. He currently maintains a private studio in the Philadelphia area and teaches at The New School for Music Study in Princeton.

**Michael Stephens**, composer, saxophonist, and music educator, serves as a Professor of Music at Chadron State College, where he teaches music theory, composition, saxophone, and directs the jazz band. Stephens earned his doctorate in music composition and theory at the University of Pittsburgh, where he studied with Mathew Rosenblum, Eric Moe, and Roger Zahab. His music has been performed by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Duquesne Contemporary Ensemble, the Ion Sound Project, Amy Likar, David Russell, Diba Alvi, and Jeff Price.

**Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Andre Watts** The Orpheus Chamber Orchestra is one of the world's foremost chamber orchestras and will return to the Lied Center for the first time since 1999. Based in New York City, this unique group performs as a unified ensemble without a conductor and will be joined at the Lied by superstar pianist Andre Watts playing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 in E-flat Major, K. 271, "Jeunehomme"

Biographies of our guest artists/clinicians are available on the NMTA website: [www.nebmta.org](http://www.nebmta.org)

Please remember that the MTNA student members receive a significant discount on registration and may attend all conference sessions and concert for just \$10.00!

We look forward to seeing you in Lincoln for the Conference!

Gail Dunning  
NMTA President-elect  
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Omaha, NE 68144  
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## 2017 NMTA STATE CONFERENCE - TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

- 11:00-11:55 a.m. Registration  
12:00-1:15 p.m. I: "Warm-ups? Who, Me? Technical Routines for All Ages"  
Marvin Blickenstaff, guest clinician  
1:15-2:05 p.m. II: "The Science of Learning and the Art of Practicing"  
Ruth Meints, NMTA member  
2:05-2:25 p.m. Break  
2:25-3:15 p.m. III: "Philip Glass at 80: A Retrospective on the Aesthetic Journey of Philip Glass from  
Einstein to the Etudes"  
Paul Barnes, NMTA member  
3:15-4:30 p.m. IV: "Pedagogy 101: A Review of the Basics"  
Marvin Blickenstaff, guest clinician  
4:45-6:30 p.m. NMTA Board Meeting  
7:30-9:00 p.m. Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Andre Watts  
Lied Center

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 8:20-9:35 a.m. IV: "Private Studio Q & A: A Round Table Discussion"  
Paul Barnes, Regina Carnazzo, Charlotte Heermann, Paul Parker, NMTA  
members  
9:35-10:00 a.m. Break  
10:00-11:15 a.m. V: "Doing What Comes Naturally: Nature's Clues to Interpretation"  
Marvin Blickenstaff, guest artist/clinician  
11:30-1:00 p.m. NMTA Luncheon and Annual Meeting  
1:15-2:05 p.m. VI: "Relics and Remnants" for saxophone and piano  
Michael Stephens, 2017 NMTA Commissioned Composer  
Michael Stephens, Saxophone  
James Margetts, Piano  
2:05-2:55 p.m. VII: "Songs My Fathers Taught Me: Considering the *Ländler, German Dances and  
Polkas* from Classical and Folk Traditions"  
Jonathan Sokasits, NMTA member  
2:55-3:30 p.m. Foundation Raffle and Break  
3:30-5:00 p.m. VIII: MTNA Competition Winners Master Class  
Marvin Blickenstaff, guest clinician

### HOTEL INFORMATION

#### NMTA 2017 STATE CONFERENCE, COMPETITIONS AND FESTIVAL

#### Quality Inn & Suites

7333 Husker Circle  
Lincoln, NE 68504

#### Special Rate:

2 Queen	Oct. 11-12: \$74.00*
	Oct. 13-14: \$79.00*
1 King	Oct. 11-12: \$74.00*
	Oct. 13-14: \$79.00*

#### RESERVATIONS

(402) 435-8100

\*Be sure to ask for the Nebraska Music Teachers Association Conference Rate (**Code: NMTA**)

Please cancel any group room reservations by 4:00 p.m. local hotel time, 5 days prior to arrival to avoid a cancellation penalty.

An early departure fee of one night's room and tax will apply if attendee checks out prior to the confirmed checkout date.

**Reservation cut-off date: September 11, 2017**

## MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

MTNA/NMTA dues to the national office deadline: August 31, 2017. Entrants will be assessed a \$150.00 nonmember teacher fee if the membership is not paid for 2017-2018 membership year.

### **MTNA Junior, Senior and Young Artists Performance Competitions Thursday and Friday, October 12-13, 2017**

The MTNA sponsored student Performance Competitions will be held on Thursday and Friday, October 12-13, 2017 at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Nebraska in conjunction with the conference. Application deadline is 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at the MTNA website: [www.mtna.org/programs/competitions](http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions). For more information visit [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) or contact Brooks Hafey, MTNA Competitions Chair: [bhafey@csc.edu](mailto:bhafey@csc.edu)

### **MTNA Elementary, Junior, Senior and Young Artists Composition Competitions**

The application deadline for participation in the MTNA Composition Competition is 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at the MTNA website: [www.mtna.org/programs/competitions](http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions). For more information visit [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) or contact Regina Carnazzo, MTNA Composition Competition Coordinator: [carnazzo@cox.net](mailto:carnazzo@cox.net)

## NMTA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

MTNA/NMTA dues to the national office deadline: August 31, 2017. Entrants will be assessed a \$150.00 nonmember teacher fee if the membership is not paid for 2017-2018 membership year.

### **NMTA Junior, Senior and Collegiate Performance Competitions Saturday, October 14, 2017**

The NMTA sponsored student Performance Competitions will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. Postmark deadline for the NMTA Performance Competitions is Friday, September 8, 2017.

Please note the following NMTA Performance Competition categories:

#### **1. LEVELS AND REQUIREMENTS:**

**JUNIOR:** Students aged 11-14, as of the date of the competition. Repertoire will be at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 10 minutes.

**SENIOR:** Students aged 15-18, as of the date of the competition. Repertoire will be at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 15 minutes.

**COLLEGIATE LEVEL 1:** Freshman/Sophomore (current enrollment in 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> semester of study). Repertoire will be at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 20 minutes.

**COLLEGIATE LEVEL 2:** Junior/Senior (current enrollment in 5<sup>th</sup> or higher semester of study). Repertoire will be at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 20 minutes.

**COLLEGIATE LEVEL 3:** Graduate. Repertoire will be at least two pieces of contrasting style, with a maximum performance time of 20 minutes.

- Any student of a NMTA teacher is eligible, with the exception as noted in #3 below. District Festival participation is not required.
- Any student entered in the MTNA competitions will not be eligible for the NMTA Performance Competitions.
- Only one judge will be provided for each level of competition.
- There will be three awards per division: First Place, Second Place and Third Place.

Entry forms will be available on the NMTA website later this summer. Entry form and check payable to NMTA mailed to the State Chair: Jennifer Meyer, 13406 S. 29<sup>th</sup> Ave., Bellevue, NE 68123 [jjlm@cox.net](mailto:jjlm@cox.net)

## NMTA STATE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

MTNA/NMTA dues to the national office deadline: August 31, 2017.

### NMTA State Festival

**Saturday, October 14, 2017, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, October 15, 2017 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.**

The NMTA State Festival will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 14-15, 2017 at Nebraska Wesleyan University. The registration deadline for participation in the State Festival is Friday, September 8, 2017. Entry fees are non-refundable.

#### Reminders:

Students who qualify at the District Festival may advance to the NMTA State Festival. Qualification includes receiving a I or II performance rating and 60% or better on the theory test.

Students who have previously scored 90% or above on the 4B Theory Exam may opt to take the Honors Test.

No sight reading is given at the State Festival.

Online entries after the September 8, 2017 deadline will not be accepted.

For more information, including entry requirements, the online registration link and the NMTA Student Festival and Competition Manual (Revised 2011), please see the NMTA website: [www.nebmta.org](http://www.nebmta.org) (Click on "Festivals" and scroll down to "Nebraska State Festival.")

Entries will be made online at [nebmta.org](http://nebmta.org). Mail check to Festival Chair: Erin Blake, 37874 SW 103<sup>rd</sup> Rd., Odell, Nebraska 68415 For questions: [ecblake@hotmail.com](mailto:ecblake@hotmail.com) Phone: 402.239.5839

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

August 31	Deadline for paying 2017-2018 MTNA/NMTA teacher membership dues
September 8	Postmark deadline for NMTA State Festival and NMTA Performance Competitions entries
September 11	Deadline for Conference hotel reservations
September 11	Postmark deadline for NMTA State Conference Registration. Registrations postmarked after September 11 will be accepted at the late registration rate (see registration form)
September 11	Deadline for Conference luncheon reservation (see registration form)
September 13	Deadline for online MTNA Competitions entries
October 12-13	NMTA State Conference-Nebraska Wesleyan University MTNA sponsored Competitions- Nebraska Wesleyan University
October 14	NMTA sponsored Performance Competitions-Nebraska Wesleyan University
October 14-15	NMTA State Festival-Nebraska Wesleyan University