



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Washington State Music Teachers Association

Address:
12525 Madison Ave NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Contact:
(206) 734-8985
<https://wsmta.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Our purpose is to the advancement of music knowledge and education. Activities of the Association are aimed at the promotion of the art of music and the advancement of music knowledge by providing educational opportunities that further the appreciation of music throughout the state.

Date of Award:	Level:
2024 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Washington State Music Teachers Association.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with

MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271-9694

April 16, 2025

RE: Grant Report Q3 2024 14.2
WSMTA website: <https://wsmta.org>

Washington State Music Teachers Association (WSMTA)

- **800 music teachers and 28,000 music students.**
- **Created diversity prizes for student piano competition.**
 - **Open to 3,000+ music students.**
 - **Age of Participants: 11-18.**
 - **More than 1/3 of participants chose to include repertoire by BIPOC/Women/Underrepresented Composers.**

Dear Marilyn and the Tulalip Tribes Council,

We are beyond thrilled to be a recipient of Tulalip Tribe's grant! This grant supported our special student awards of the best performances of works by Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), Women, and Underrepresented Composers, as well as the operation of Washington State Music Teachers Association's Outstanding Artist Piano Competition (OAPC). OAPC is a statewide piano competition open to the students of our 800+ members, as well as of nonmembers. Conservatively your grant has created new learning and performance opportunities for more than 3,000 music students statewide. Given the current political attacks on Diversity programs nationwide, we are especially grateful for Tulalip Tribes' support. We are committed to continue our special student awards to encourage the research and study of works by composers who have been unjustly overlooked by the classical music community, and to encourage students to study repertoire that connect to their cultural heritage.

Our inaugural year of the special student awards was an astounding success. On Veteran's Day weekend our volunteers from all over the state arrived at Central Washington University to assist with the competition. We were impressed by the level of enthusiasm for the special student awards: of 45 students (ages 11-18) participated, 17 opted to include repertoire by BIPOC/Women/ Underrepresented Composers. Daniel Luan (pictured below), the junior division award winner, performed *Dreaming* by 19th Century American woman composer Amy Beach. Maria Horja (also pictured below), the senior division award winner, performed *Duo Ye* by contemporary Chinese-American woman composer Chen Yi. To illustrate the diversity of repertoire performed, the complete list of pieces considered for the special student award is included in the Appendix.

We are also attaching a personal note from Cherie Felts, our outgoing OAPC Chair, who spearheaded the effort to create the special student awards.

As soon as we received the grant, we updated our website to acknowledge the support of Tulalip Tribes. We also sent a Clarion (our membership news) article to our entire membership (800+ statewide).

WSMTA website link to OAPC:

<https://wsmta.org/programs-for-students/competitions/outstanding-artist-competition/>

Clarion article link:

<https://wsmta.org/tulalip-tribes-supports-oapc-special-student-awards/>

On behalf of our entire Board of Directors, we would like to thank you for this precious partnership.

Sincerely,

Colleen Hunter

Colleen Hunter, NCTM
President, WSMTA



1. Special Student Award Winner Maria Horja (Senior Division, Bellingham Chapter)



2. Special Student Award Winner Daniel Luan (Junior Division, Seattle Chapter)



3. CWU Recital Hall where the competition took place.



4. 2024 OAPC volunteers (from left to right: Amora Bussey (Puyallup Valley Chapter), Jani Stoehr (Pullman Chapter), Michelle Mielke (Pullman Chapter), Cherie Felts (Olympia Chapter) and Patti Robertson (Tri-City Richland Chapter).

To Tulalip Tribes Foundation:

Washington State Music Teachers Association expresses heartfelt gratitude to you for bestowing grant monies recently for our Outstanding Artist Piano Competition as we grow the new and exciting new aspect of this annual competition.

Several colleagues and committee members presented a Motion to our WSM TA Education Board and Board of Directors to institute the BIPOC, Women & Underrepresented Composers as an enhancement to our well-established traditional competition. Folks, including our Judges, had expressed interest in hearing more variety from our gifted students so we went to “work” on this adventure! The Judges enjoy listening to Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and Chopin but what a joy to hear new and different repertoire!

Our first year was successful and we look forward to many more and anticipate growth. In November, we had 45 students in performance and 17 of them opted to include BIPOC suited repertoire as one of their pieces. Ten of these students were in Junior Division and 7 in Senior Division. We awarded 2 Winners with one from each division. One performance was composed by an American woman named Amy Beach and the other by Chinese Chen Yi. These students will be invited to perform their pieces at our annual WSM TA State Conference in June of this year.

Our Committee Research colleague is continuing to search and add in composers and titles to suggested lists that are helpful for jump starts in choosing new and exciting music. Two names that are at the front of my “mind’s ear” for instance are Navajo pianist Connor Chee whom I/we had the opportunity to enjoy in June of 2024 at our state conference. He is amazing and his artistry carries you to the southwest. The other composer and artist that I wish EVERYBODY could listen to is William Gutierrez with his Native American flute music. My husband and I had the rare and good fortune to hear him when we visited Crazy Horse National Monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The haunting and beautiful melodies will stay with us forever I believe!

Thank you for your vision and help to our musician world!

Sincerely,

Cherie Felts, Outgoing OAPC Chair for WSM TA

Amora Bussey, OAPC Chair

Lark Powers, BIPOC Committee Member and Research (vetting proposed composers)

WSM TA Education Board

WSM TA Board of Directors

Appendix: List of Works Performed in Qualifying for Special Student Award

Composer	Works
Lera Auerbach	Twenty-Four Preludes, Op.41
Gamal Abdel-Rahim	Variations on an Egyptian Folksong
James Lee III	Souls of Alkebulan
Takashi Yoshimatsu	Pleiades Dances Book II, Op. 28
Amy Beach	Four Sketches, Op. 15
Sofia Gubaidulina	Musical Toys
Astor Piazzolla	Milonga del Angel
Germaine Tailleferre	Two Pieces for Piano
Wang Jianzhong	Silver Clouds Chasing the Moon
Thierry Escaich	Etudes Baroques
Oscar Peterson	Jazz Exercises, Minuets, Etudes, and Pieces for Piano
Oswald Russell	Three Jamaican Dances
Makiko Kinoshita	Forest of Memories, No.6
Chen Yi	Duo Ye
Alexina Louie	I Leap Through the Sky with Stars
Komitas-Andriasyan	The Spring
Fanny Mendelssohn	Das Jahr, H. 385