

***MUSIC THEORY MIDWEST***  
***FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER***

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**Music Theory Midwest**  
Twenty-Ninth Annual Conference  
University of Western Ontario  
London, Ontario  
May 18-19, 2018

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Tuesday, January 16, 2018

The twenty-ninth annual conference of Music Theory Midwest will be held in London, Ontario on May 18-19, 2018. London is located midway between Detroit and Toronto, and it is home to Western University, one of Canada's most picturesque campuses. After conference events on Friday, attendees might wish to head downtown for a program of Haydn, Mendelssohn, and Tchaikovsky, performed by the Cecilia String Quartet with violist Sharon Wei and cellist Thomas Wiebe. We look forward to welcoming you to "the Forest City"!

A block of hotel rooms has been set aside at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre. Rates are \$115 (Canadian) per night, and this conference rate is available until April 2, 2018, subject to availability. To reserve a room, please use the following link:

<https://aws.passkey.com/go/MusicTheoryMidWestConf>.

(More local arrangements information will be made available as the conference approaches.)

This year, both the keynote address and workshop will focus on music theory pedagogy. The keynote address will be given by Dr. J. Daniel Jenkins of the University of South Carolina and is entitled "What I Learned from Schoenberg, and Where to Go from Here."

Our pre-conference workshop, titled "Teaching Music Theory in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," will be led by Dr. Jennifer Snodgrass, professor and coordinator of music theory in the Hayes School of Music at Appalachian State University. She will examine current trends in music theory pedagogy in order to address how teachers can best equip music theory classrooms in terms of environment and content in order to reach the twenty-first century music student.

Music Theory Midwest invites scholars from all geographic regions to submit proposals on any area of music theory and analysis for our annual conference. As is traditional at MTMW, we encourage proposals on composers, musicians, and events with significant anniversaries in 2018, and we welcome proposals for special sessions devoted to these or any other particular topic.

Notable anniversaries in 2018:

- Leonard Bernstein (born 1918)
- Claude Debussy (died 1918)
- Charles Gounod (born 1818)
- Gioachino Rossini (died 1868)
- Scott Joplin (born 1868)
- Release of the Beatles' "White Album" (1968)
- Premiere of the musicals "Hair" and "Cabaret" (1968)
- Formation of the bands Led Zeppelin, Yes, Rush, and King Crimson (1968)

## PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS: Papers should be planned for twenty minutes followed by ten minutes for questions. In some cases the program committee may recommend that a proposal be presented as a poster. Submitters may indicate a preference to present their work in a poster session. Papers should not have been previously presented at national or international conferences nor previously published. Only one proposal per submitter will be considered.

Proposals should be submitted electronically via the MTMW website at <http://www.mtmw.org/index.php/conferences>. Submissions are due no later than January 16, 2018. The online form serves as the cover letter, while the proposal and any supplemental materials are to be submitted as a single document in .pdf format. The proposal should not exceed 500 words, including any footnotes or endnotes but not including the title. A maximum of four pages of supplementary materials (such as musical examples, diagrams, and bibliography) may be appended, and are excluded from the word count, but these materials should not appreciably add to the proposal's content. The proposal must include the title of the paper but exclude the author's name and any other identifying information, including in the metadata of the electronic file.

SPECIAL SESSIONS: Proposals for Special Sessions have no specific page limit and should include the names of the organizer and all participants. Special sessions should be organized in a way such that the program committee could not create them from separately submitted individual proposals. Anyone wishing to propose a special session should contact the program chair (Andrew Pau, [apau@oberlin.edu](mailto:apau@oberlin.edu)) well in advance of the proposal deadline.

KOMAR AWARD: The Arthur J. Komar Award for best student paper will be presented at the conclusion of the meeting. Student presenters who wish to be considered for this award must indicate their eligibility in the online submission form. For the purposes of this award, "student" status terminates with the receipt of a terminal degree or employment in a full-time position. Additional information and a list of past recipients can be found at the MTMW website ([www.mtmw.org](http://www.mtmw.org)).

NOTIFICATION: Those submitting proposals will receive notification of the program committee's decision by early March.

### 2018 PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Andrew Pau, chair (Oberlin College), [apau@oberlin.edu](mailto:apau@oberlin.edu)

Sarah Ellis (University of Oklahoma)

John Lawrence\* (University of Chicago)

Victoria Malawey (Macalester College)

Somangshu Mukherji (University of Michigan)

Christopher Segall (University of Cincinnati)

Kristen Wallentinsen\* (University of Northern Colorado)

Stanley Kleppinger (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) *ex-officio* as MTMW President

\* indicates winners of the 2017 Komar Award.

### 2018 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Jonathan De Souza (University of Western Ontario)

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Music Theory Midwest is pleased to announce its Pre-Conference Workshop, “Teaching Music Theory in the 21st Century” led by Jennifer Snodgrass (Appalachian State University). MTMW pre-conference workshops are open to both students and faculty. This year’s workshop will be held on the campus of the University of Western Ontario, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, 2018, immediately prior to the annual meeting on Friday and Saturday, May 18–19.

WORKSHOP TITLE: “Teaching Music Theory in the 21st Century”

DESCRIPTION: With evidence from the many publications citing the College Music Society (CMS) report *Transforming Music Study from its Foundations: A Manifesto for Progressive Change in the Undergraduate Preparation of Music Majors* and the most recent Pedagogy into Practice conference, there seems to be a renewed interest for faculty and pedagogues to find new and challenging ways to present and disseminate the new ideals in music theory pedagogy. The result of this interest can be narrowed down to the following question: How can we best equip our classrooms, both in terms of environment and content, to better support the 21st century music student?

This interactive workshop will highlight some of the emerging teaching trends found in classrooms across the country and offer insight into how instructors are seeking to make music theory and aural skills applicable and accessible to all students. Topics to be discussed include integration of music beyond the canon, new means of assessment through technology, the importance of classroom environment, and restructuring of content within the undergraduate core. Through small group response, collaborative assignment building, hands-on teaching demonstrations, and interactive conversation, participants will be challenged to answer the questions of how and why we teach music theory and aural skills, particularly in a musical and institutional environment that is constantly evolving.

ELIGIBILITY: All interested faculty and graduate students are encouraged to apply following the instructions below. Participants are not required to reside in the Midwest region.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

**Faculty:** Send an email indicating your interest in the workshop to Haley Beverburg, MTMW Secretary, at [haleybee@gmail.com](mailto:haleybee@gmail.com). Include your name, institutional affiliation, academic status, mailing address, email address, and telephone number. Faculty participants will be selected randomly from those who have applied.

**Students:** Submit a statement of no more than 500 words, in .pdf, .docx, or .doc format, describing your background and the reasons for your interest in this workshop. Your statement should indicate your institutional affiliation and your academic status, but should not include your name, as the statements will be read blind. Submit the statement as an email attachment to Haley Beverburg, MTMW Secretary, at [haleybee@gmail.com](mailto:haleybee@gmail.com). In the body of the email, include your name, institutional affiliation, academic status, mailing address, email address, and telephone number. The workshop leaders will select the student participants after reading the statements.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 16, 2018. Workshop applicants can expect to receive notification of acceptance decisions by mid-February. Questions may be directed to MTMW secretary, Haley Beverburg ([haleybee@gmail.com](mailto:haleybee@gmail.com)).

## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

If your membership has expired, please consider renewing your membership in MTMW at this time. The financial well-being of the society relies on a consistent membership base. Membership renewal is currently available at <http://www.mtmw.org>. Conference registration will be available in early 2018.

After much deliberation, the Executive Committee recently voted to increase fees for regular membership from \$20 to \$25 and fees for joint membership from \$30 to \$35. Doing so allows for the creation of a new, subsidized membership rate of \$15 for those who have completed their graduate study and whose income is \$35,000 or less, while also allowing MTMW to continue to serve our members and our discipline in a fiscally responsible way. (Membership fees for students and emeriti will remain unchanged at \$10 and \$15, respectively.)

## 2018 ELECTIONS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

During 2018, the terms of Secretary, Area II Representative (IL, IN, WI), Area IV Representative (AR, KS, MO, OK, TN), and Student Representative for Areas I and III (KY, MI, OH; IA, MN, NE, ND, SD) will expire. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Leigh VanHandel (Michigan State University), will develop a slate of candidates. Nominations (including self-nominations) are welcome. Qualified nominees should be music theorists who teach or are otherwise engaged in theory studies in the Midwest United States, or appropriate regions in Canada. Area representatives must reside and/or teach in the areas that they represent. Student representatives should be engaged in graduate studies and should expect to continue their student status for at least one year after taking office. Students may not serve as officers or area representatives. All officers of the Executive Committee are expected to attend plenary sessions and the business meeting at the annual conference. Further information concerning the duties of Executive Committee Officers and election procedures is available at <http://www.mtmw.org/index.php/about-mtmw/bylaws>.

Please send nominations for the above offices to Leigh VanHandel, Chair of the Nominating Committee ([lvh@msu.edu](mailto:lvh@msu.edu)), on or before January 16, 2018.

*We look forward to seeing everyone in London, Ontario this spring!*

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Beverburg, for the Executive Committee:

President: Stanley Kleppinger (University of Nebraska-Lincoln): [kleppinger@unl.edu](mailto:kleppinger@unl.edu)

Secretary: Haley Beverburg: [haleybee@gmail.com](mailto:haleybee@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Daphne Tan (University of Toronto): [daphne.tan@utoronto.ca](mailto:daphne.tan@utoronto.ca)

Area I Representative: René Rusch (University of Michigan)

Area II Representative: Blair Johnston (Indiana University)

Area III Representative: Gretchen Foley (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Area IV Representative: Dave Easley (Oklahoma City University)

Student Representative, Areas I/III: Jesse Kinne (University of Cincinnati—Conservatory of Music)

Student Representative, Areas II/IV: Miriam Piilonen (Northwestern University)