

MUSIC THEORY MIDWEST

Fall 2022 Newsletter

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Music Theory Midwest Thirty-Third Annual Conference University of Kansas May 6–7, 2022

The University of Kansas will host the Thirty-Third Annual Conference of Music Theory Midwest, on May 6–7, 2022. The conference will feature a keynote panel discussion on curricular reform, moderated by Kim Loeffert (Oklahoma State University) and a pre-conference workshop, “Curricular Reform in Music Theory: Steps and Strategies,” led by Robin Attas (University of Manitoba).

Proposals should be submitted by January 31, 2022. Workshop applications should be received by March 15, 2022. See below for further details.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: INCLUSIVE PEDAGOGY RESOURCE

Music Theory Midwest is pleased to present the Inclusive Music Theory Pedagogy Resource. This is an aspirational and constantly-evolving project that is meant to inspire music theory instructors to question the norms in their own teaching practices; challenge the colonial, racist, ableist, sexist and white supremacist standards in music theory teaching today; and take ongoing steps towards a music theory pedagogy that doesn't exist yet—but perhaps one day will. You can learn more and access our archive on our website, <https://mtmw.org> (in the resources pull down menu).

This resource was created through the leadership and work of Robin Attas (2020 chair), Anna B. Gatdula, Anna Gawboy (2019-21 MTMW president), Kim Loeffert (2021 chair), Gerardo Lopez, David Orvek, Jinny Park, Toby Rush, and Alex Sallade.

To celebrate the release of the resource, MTMW is centering our 2022 conference's keynote and pre-conference workshop on curricular reform. Robin Attas will lead the pre-conference workshop on May 5th, and our keynote will be a panel discussion moderated by Kim Loeffert. The panel is composed of representatives from MTMW schools currently undergoing curricular reform: Rebecca Leydon (Oberlin College), Toby Rush (University of Dayton), Alyssa Barna (University of Minnesota), and Carla Colletti (Webster University).

We hope you will explore the resource and join us at our 2022 conference in Lawrence, KS, May 6-7.

—Jan Miyake, MTMW President

CALL FOR PAPERS

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 2022, and we welcome proposals for special sessions devoted to these or any other topics.

Notable anniversaries in 2022 include: Margaret Bonds (1913–72), Doreen Carwithen (1922–2003), Sergei Diaghilev (1872–1929), Cesar Franck (1822–90), Elton John's *Honkey Château* (1972), Carole King's *Music* (1972), Charles Mingus (1922–79), Busta Rhymes (1972), Kaija Saariaho (1952), Franz Schubert's “Unfinished” Symphony (1822), Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672), Alexander Scriabin (1872–1915), Yma Sumac (1922–2008), George Walker (1922–2018), Stevie Wonder's *Talking Book* (1972), Iannis Xenakis (1922–2001).

Individual Presentations

Papers should be planned for a twenty minute presentation. Papers should not previously have been presented at national or international conferences, nor should they have been previously published. Only one proposal per submitter will be considered.

Proposals should be submitted electronically via the MTMW website. Submissions are due by January 31, 2022. Submit the proposal and supplemental materials 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 add appreciably 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. Such information should also be removed from the metadata of the file.

Special Sessions

Proposals for special sessions have no specific page limit. The names of the organizer and all participants should be indicated on the online submission form. Special sessions should be organized in such a way that the program committee could not create them from separately submitted individual proposals. Anyone wishing to propose a special session should contact the Program Committee chair, David Byrne (pcc@mtmw.org), well in advance of the proposal deadline.

Arthur J. Komar Award

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.

Submissions

To submit a proposal, visit the Call for Papers page on the MTMW website: <https://mtmw.org/index.php/conferences/call-for-papers>.

Deadlines

Submissions must be received by January 31, 2022.

Notification

Those submitting proposals will receive notification of the program committee's decision by mid-March.

Program Committee

David Byrne (University of Manitoba), chair; Kyle Adams (Indiana University); Kara Yoo Leaman (Oberlin College and Conservatory); René Rusch (University of Michigan); Christa Cole (Indiana University, 2021 Komar winner); Jeremy Tatar (McGill, 2021 Komar winner); and Jan Miyake (Oberlin College and Conservatory), *ex officio*.

CALL FOR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Music Theory Midwest invites applications for a conference workshop, "Curricular Reform in Music Theory: Steps and Strategies," led by Robin Attas (University of Manitoba).

Are you keen to rethink an undergraduate or graduate music theory curriculum, course, unit, or class session? Are you looking for support and strategies for conversations with students, faculty, and administrators on changing the discipline as it's taught at your institution? Are you looking for inspiration on how to apply the many unfolding professional conversations about problematic aspects of music theory as it's taught in the territories currently known as Canada and the United States into your own teaching practice? Are you preparing to go on the job market and want to refine your ideas about curricular reform?

In this workshop, music theorist and educational developer Robin Attas (University of Manitoba) leverages her dual professional roles to help music theory instructors and instructors-to-be uncover pathways towards meaningful and lasting curricular change that is context-specific and rooted in evidence-based teaching and learning strategies. Participants will walk away with practical tips, new ideas that can be shared with others, and a deeper sense of community with pedagogically-minded colleagues from across career stages and institutions.

The conference workshop will take place on Thursday, May 5, 6:00–9:00 PM.

Eligibility

All interested scholars, including students, are encouraged to apply. Participants are not required to reside in the Midwest region.

Application Procedure

Send an email with your name, institutional affiliation, and email address to Olga Sánchez-Kisielewska (secretary@mtmw.org). Student applicants must also submit a brief statement describing their background and their interest in the workshop.

Deadline

Applications must be received by March 15, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arthur J. Komar Award Winner

The recipients of the 2021 Arthur J. Komar Award for outstanding student presentation at the annual meeting are Christa Cole (Indiana University) and Jeremy Tatar (McGill University).

Cole's talk, "And the Nightingale Sings...": Performative Effort in Elisabeth Lutyens's *The Valley of Hatsuse*, Op. 62" offers a highly satisfying way of thinking about and understanding the complexities of performance, providing the scholar with dual goods: an insightful and eloquent analysis of a particular work, and a clear presentation of an original analytical method that has significant potential for wider application.

Tatar's presentation, "Emergent Timbres in Screw Music," adeptly blends ideas from multiple disciplines to contribute innovative and important thought to the still-neglected areas of timbre and critical race studies, well handling the precarities of each and ultimately captivating the viewer from beginning to end.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the Komar Award Committee: Scott Murphy (University of Kansas), chair; Stefanie Acevedo (University of Connecticut); Aaron Grant (Missouri Western State University); and Stephanie Lind (Queen's University).

Executive Committee Election Results

Elections were held in spring 2021 for four positions. New members of the Executive Committee are Jan Miyake (Oberlin College and Conservatory), President; Jonathan De Souza (Western University), Treasurer; Cara Stroud (Michigan State University), Area I Representative; Rebecca Simpson-Litke (University of Manitoba), Area III Representative; and Rina Sugawara (University of Chicago), Student Representative, Areas II and IV.

Sincere thanks to the outgoing members for their service: Anna Gawboy (Ohio State University), President; Daphne Tan (University of Toronto), Treasurer; Christopher Brody (University of Louisville), Area I Representative; Sumanth Gopinath (University of Minnesota), Area III Representative; and Christa Cole (Indiana University), Student Representative, Areas II and IV.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In spring 2022, Music Theory Midwest will hold elections for the positions of Secretary, Area II Representative (Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin), Area IV Representative (Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee) and Student Representative for Areas I and III (Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Western Ontario, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Manitoba).

Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome. Qualified nominees should be music theorists who reside 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. Elected members of the Executive Committee should plan to attend the annual conference and participate in the business meeting. Further information concerning the duties of Executive Committee members and election procedures may be found in the bylaws, available on the MTMW website.

John Cuciurean (Western University) will be Chair of the Nominating Committee. Please send nominations to (nominate@mtmw.org) by January 15, 2022.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in Music Theory Midwest is for the calendar year. The financial well-being of the society relies on a consistent membership base. Renewing your membership in early 2022 will enable you to vote in the elections and attend the annual conference.

MTMW is continuing the flexible approach to membership renewal adopted in 2020. You can join or renew at any of the fee levels, irrespective of your status: \$35, \$25, \$15, \$10, or \$5. Donations to the Arthur J. Komar Award are always welcome. You can check your membership status and pay annual dues at the MTMW website:

<https://mtmw.org/index.php/my-mtmw/renew-membership>