
Welcome

Jamie Henke & Bruce Benward

Greetings fellow musician! We hope that the second volume of our journal, *Musical Insights*, will spark your imagination for various applications of the macro analysis system. If you are not already a member of MACRO, we hope that the articles you read in this publication will encourage you to join in our activities. Our membership has grown significantly since MACRO was first organized in 1995, and our members literally span the globe. We continue to offer student scholarships, opportunities to make presentations at our annual *Musician's Workshop*, opportunities to publish articles in our newsletter and this publication, as well as travel funds to make all of these things possible. Since the publication of our first journal, we have expanded our offerings in several ways. We now provide an exciting new composition competition, co-sponsored by Truman State University. We also offer research grants, and have already funded a range of projects, from computer software programming to the creation of recordings. We continue to work toward developing a teaching award, and to expand our publications to include works outside our journal.

However, our work has only begun, and we have yet to truly tap the resources that are provided for us. Our grant at the University of Wisconsin Foundation has reached the half-million dollar mark, and we are now in a position where our interest income is sufficient to support a wider range of activities among our members. Please partake of these opportunities. We are still looking for new ideas in all aspects of music and music pedagogy. When we established the research grants we specifically suggested as a possible topic some kind of collaborative project involving both students and faculty. We are still looking to fund a project of this nature.

If you are a teacher, please encourage your students to participate in MACRO. We not only allow, but encourage student participation in our activities and offerings. This year, for the first time, we were able to fund multiple student scholarships, so please encourage your students to participate in this program. And if you are a student, we invite you to apply for our *Robert Fountain Memorial Award* and other awards.

We are always looking for items for our newsletter, the *Macro Circular*, particularly from faculty and students. How wonderful it would be to hear things from the student perspective in addition to the teacher's. Please take a minute to write an email now and then with an idea for our "Features for Teachers" section of our newsletter to share with the rest of

us. All musicians, whether they be teachers, students, or artists in non-academic fields, may submit items for the newsletter at any time by going to our web site, writing an email message, and submitting it through the site.

Our web site is located at **www.macromusic.org** and provides all types of information about our organization, as well as necessary forms to apply for various activities. You can find back issues of our newsletters, as well as articles from our journals.

We would like to acknowledge the talent, hard work, and expertise of our journal editor, Marilyn Saker. It is not too much to say that this publication would not exist without her dedication to the journal project, and the MACRO organization as a whole. We hope you enjoy this issue of *Musical Insights*, and find the information to be thought provoking and useful, not only for your own approach to the understanding of music, but for your musicianship as well.

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