

**Illinois State Music Teachers Association
Newsletter
West Suburban Chicago Area Chapter**

December 2006

Bonnie Brewster, Newsletter Editor

Diane Linday, Mailing Coordinator

This Month's Events

- Dec. 3 STUDENT RECITAL: 3:00 P.M. Pierce Chapel 104, Wheaton College.
Joanna Tokarz, coordinator. Deadline November 17.
- Dec. 14 MONTHLY MEETING (NOTE DATE OF MEETING): Trinity Episcopal
Church, West/Wesley St., Wheaton. 9:00 Coffee & Conversation; 9:30
Business meeting/program. Program: AIM PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.
Please bring cookies for the gathering after our program.

Deadlines

- Dec. 15 DEADLINE: January newsletter. Please send items to:
Bonnie Brewster, 1220 N. Main St. Wheaton, or email to
Bonnie@extremespin.com.



Upcoming Events

- Jan. 11 MONTHLY MEETING--HANFORD LINHARDT: GUIDELINES FOR
BUSINESS PRACTICES AND TAXES
- Jan. 18 T.I.E. MEETING: 9:30 A.M., ENSEMBLE REPERTOIRE: Home of
Linda Krueger. Please call Linda if you plan to attend.
- Jan. 25 TEACHER PERFORMANCE GROUP: 9:30 A.M. Home of Kathy Christian.
Please call Kathy if you plan to attend.



This Month's Program



Our December 14th meeting will be an AIM Performance Program. A panel of members will give tips for organizing and teaching the material on different levels. Liz Mackenzie will talk about Levels 1-3, Linda Krueger will present Levels 4-7, and Stephanie Myers will discuss Levels 8-12.

In addition, Michael Fritsch will speak about judging performance exams. Rita Brown (who is on the State Board) will discuss issues from the state level and will answer questions about repertoire.

There will also be a discussion of the results of the recent survey which was mailed to members. If you haven't returned your survey, you can still mail it in.

Please note that this informative and helpful meeting is on the second Thursday of the month. Please bring cookies for the gathering after our program.



AIM THEORY EXAM NEWS

The West Suburban chapter of ISMTA held the AIM Theory Exam at Wheaton College on November 11, 2006. 27 teachers enrolled 216 students. It was a great day and went very smoothly. We are very appreciative of the Wheaton Conservatory of Music for their continued support through the use of the piano studios, practice rooms, and faculty lounge for our hospitality room. We want to thank Ruth Daube for her work in the faculty lounge to have our hospitality room amply supplied and running smoothly all day. Thanks for everyone for bringing such delicious food to keep our strength up! Thanks to Elinor Lee and all who gave of their time in the Office. Thanks to all the teachers who judged, graded tests and monitored the written test. This exam runs smoothly due to a team effort which is displayed by ALL the teachers involved. Thanks to everyone. It was a very successful and great day for all our students. We are now looking forward to the AIM Performance Exam in March.

Sincerely, Debi Inch and Melissa Dalley
Co-Coordinators for the Theory Exam 2006





**AIM PERFORMANCE EXAMS
INFORMATION —MARCH 3, 2007**



Reminder: There is NO performance sight-reading and NO oral questions at Levels 3-12. The technique sheets list the key requirements for scales, arpeggios, and chords in addition to chord progressions. Copies of the Level 3-12 technique rating sheets will be available at each meeting, or you can call Kathy Micheli (790-0214) or Joanne King (690-1759).

Repertoire Substitutions: January 15th is the deadline to request repertoire substitutions. A copy of the work (first and last pages if the work is extensive) and the written request are to be submitted to **Marie Rutter, 1731 Epping Place, Schaumburg, IL 60194-4010**. If more than one request is included, please be sure they are organized according to level and list. The lists of repertoire of the National Federation should also be checked. Any piece listed there is valid and does not need to be checked with Marie Rutter but needs to be checked with **Rita Brown (668-0649)** for the correct level by January 15th. If you do not have a listing of National Federation repertoire, please contact Rita. If you are substituting upper level repertoire in Level 3, be sure the musical periods are consistent with Level 3. For example, do not refer to list B, Level 4 to find a piece for List B, Level 3. The student will end up performing another classical work rather than romantic or 20th Century.

Technic Fingering: Students will be evaluated on the fingering listed in the syllabus, unless the teacher submits the form for alternate fingering. The finger numbers in parenthesis are optional. **Fingering will be evaluated for all scales, arpeggios, and tonic triad inversions.** Fingering will not be evaluated for four-note chords or chord progressions. Suggested fingering for four-note chords, however, is included.

Repertoire Sheets: In filling out the repertoire sheets, teachers MUST include the syllabus page number for each piece. NOTE: The page number of the particular collection is not required, but helpful.



IMPORTANT AIM REPERTOIRE INFORMATION!

Teachers entering their students in AIM Performance Examinations need to take note that **the repertoire lists for Levels 3-6 were revised in 2003.** Any repertoire from past syllabus lists that are not on the current, revised lists, must be approved by Marie Rutter (see above information). Also, be careful to have **Federation Contest Pieces** approved for level by Rita Brown.

DO YOU WANT TO GET YOUR STUDENTS STARTED IN AIM?



If you have never entered students in the AIM program, this is a good time to start. You may enter students in Levels 1A, 1B, 1C or 2 in March without having entered them in the November Theory AIM exam. There is a list of repertoire selections for Level 2, but you are free to choose whatever you wish for levels 1A, 1B, or 1C. The latter 3 levels are meant for your 1st or 2nd year students and include playing 2 memorized solos, some 5-finger patterns, some aural skills and some sight reading. We have sight reading examples available as well as lists of suggested repertoire. Kathy Micheli (790-0214) loves to help teachers get started in these levels and will be happy to meet with you or chat on the phone to help you. This year Kathy is an "official" AIM coordinator, and she would like to see MANY new teachers entering! Something to keep in mind is that you will need to have attended at least 2 full monthly meetings before the exam. Also, there is a mandatory judging session following the March meeting, and you need to serve 4 hours in the office or judging on the day of the exam in order to be eligible to enter students.



A Note From Your President




I would like to express sincere gratitude to all the members who contributed their time in making the Helen Berkley celebration a success. Please bring concerns, questions and suggestions to the panel discussion about the AIM performance exams December 14. Also please bring holiday cookies to exchange after the meeting. Wishing you a blessed holiday season!

--Carol Beilke

Keyboard Companion Subscriptions Available

It is time again for renewals or additional subscriptions to Keyboard Companion Magazine. Our subscriptions expire with the Winter 2006 issue. **Renewals or new subscriptions are available to us for the group rate of \$20 per person.**

This year they have made a change and want only one check per group for all subscriptions. If you would like to continue your subscription or create a subscription, please send your check to me and I will make sure everyone gets  new copies at the group rate. Make checks out to Carol Ishman and send them to 290 S. Kenilworth Ave. Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6585. **The deadline is December 15.** If you have any questions, please contact me.

Special Note about AIM exams: At our AIM judging session on November 9, a number of testing issues came up for discussion and were put on hold. If you had a suggestion at the meeting, please write it down and either email or mail to Melissa Dalley. The suggestions will be compiled, discussed, and decided upon before next year's theory exam.