



**West
Suburban
MTA**
www.wsismta.org

**An Affiliate of the Illinois State
Music Teachers Association**
Monthly Newsletter

October 2011

Diane Lindsay, Newsletter Editor

Ruth Daube, Mailing Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thurs. Sept. 22, 2011* **9:15 a.m. Board Meeting at Home of Kathy Sbarboro.**
- Thurs. Sept. 29, 2011*..... **10:00 a.m. Joint Chapters Board Meeting.** Trinity Episcopal Church, Wheaton.
- Thurs. Oct. 6, 2011* **9:30 a.m. Monthly Meeting and AIM Theory Meeting.** Trinity Episcopal Church, Wheaton.
- Thurs. Oct. 13, 2011*..... **9:30 a.m. Teacher Performance Group** at the Home of Kathy Christian. Call Kathy at 630-784-0200 if you plan to attend.
- Thurs. Oct. 20, 2011* **9:30 a.m. Teacher Information Exchange (TIE) Meeting** at the Studio of Lynette Zelis, 1403 N. Main, Ste. 106, Wheaton – in the rear of the ReMax building. Please call Lynette at 630-260-9544 if you plan to attend.
- Thurs. Nov. 3, 2011*..... **9:30 a.m. Monthly Meeting and Presentation: Mary Clare Barker: The Sacred Side of Jazz.** Trinity Episcopal Church, Wheaton.
- Thurs. Nov. 10, 2011* **9:15 a.m. AiM Theory Packet Stuffing Meeting** at the Home of Stephanie Myers.
- Fri. Nov. 11-13, 2011* **ISMTA State Conference** at Illinois State University.
- Sat. Nov. 19, 2011*..... **AiM Theory Exams.** McAlister Hall, Wheaton College.
- Sat. March 10, 2012* **AiM Performance Exams.** McAlister hall, Wheaton College.

DEADLINES

- Sat., October 15* **DEADLINE for November Newsletter.** Please send articles and information to Diane Lindsay via email dmlindsay@ameritech.net or 630-363-7513. Issue will be mailed on Monday, October 17th.
- Wed. October 19* **DEADLINE for AIM Theory Enrollment. This is firm – NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Directory Changes

Please update your directory with these changes!

- **Carol Beilke's** correct e-mail address is carol.beilke@wheaton.edu.
- **Judy Linhardt's** correct e-mail address is linhardthanford@comcast.net

NEED MORE STUDENTS?

Starting in late September, our Website will include teacher listings in the 'Find a music Teacher' section! If you have openings for new students, you can list your name and contact information (name, city, phone or email) on the web page. We will have a sign-up for those who wish to have their information posted at our October meeting, or you can email the information to ADMIN@WSISMTA.org.

A **Student Performance Signup Sheet** was forwarded via email to the entire membership. All teachers should be encouraged to involve your students to play for our ISMTA monthly meetings. If interested, please contact Marcia Lehe by email or phone: marcia.lehe@sbcglobal.net or 630-653-9376. If more than one teacher signs up for the same month, a compromise will be negotiated.

Thank you, Marcia Lehe

RECITAL NEWS

The month of April will feature two recitals this year. On April 15 at 2:00, we will hold our Student Recital, open to students from teachers from the Joint West Suburban Chapters. Then at 4:00 we will hold our first AiM Honors Recital. This recital will feature outstanding students from the AiM Performance Exams, who will be selected and nominated by the AiM judges. What a great way to honor these students for their dedicated practice and hard work!

Attend Our State Conference – Have Fun And Learn Something New!

Save the date and make plans now to attend this year's ISMTA State Conference. Our annual conference will be held on November 11th -13th at Illinois State University. The format has been expanded to three days this year, with sessions and concerts on Friday and Saturday, and competitions running Saturday and Sunday. It is always so refreshing to take a break from the usual schedule, meet up with old friends, hear outstanding performances, and pick up lots of new ideas for teaching. Carpool anyone?

On **Friday evening, October 21, at 7:30 p.m.** In Pierce Chapel, **Daniel Paul Horn will be presenting *Pilgrimages: A Recital for the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Franz Liszt (October 22, 1811 - July 31, 1886)***. The program includes Liszt's complete *Second Year of Pilgrimage, "Italy,"* containing the famous Petrarch Sonnets and the "Dante" Sonata. Also being performed are the Bach Toccata in G Major, and the first performance of *Antiphonale I: The Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel*, commissioned by Daniel Horn from the gifted young composer Jacob Bancks, an alumnus of the Wheaton College Conservatory and the Eastman School of Music. Bancks is completing his doctorate at the University of Chicago, and just joined the faculty of Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.



BERKLEY-PENDELL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition will be on hiatus in 2011-2012. All interested ISMTA members are invited to participate in a review committee to determine the future course of the competition. The committee will solicit feedback from ISMTA members to find out the strengths and weaknesses of the competition, and what changes could be made to encourage more teachers to enter their students.

The Berkley-Pendell Fund, named after the two founding members of West Suburban ISMTA, was established in 1986. Its purpose is to provide ongoing financial support for the Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition, held every spring until 2011. Money is raised each year from entrance fees for the competition and contributions from the four joint West Suburban chapters (Naperville, Salt Creek, Waubensee, and West Suburban.)

The competition is open to students through grade 12 who study with ISMTA members. In the past five years, there have been anywhere from 11 to 18 teachers participating, and from 22 to 62 students. The lowest numbers were in 2011, and the highest in 2010.

Many reasons have been cited as to why enrollment is down, from insufficient award money to the high level of the other competitors. The current enrollment fee is \$25, and the prize money ranges from \$75 to \$175, with 10 possible prizes totaling \$1075. There were only 6 prizes awarded in 2011, totaling \$700.

Committee members are sought from all the joint ISMTA groups—West Suburban, Naperville, Waubensee and Salt Creek. If you can help, please contact Bonnie Brewster, Joint Chapter President, at bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com, or 630.615.0413.

AiM THEORY INFORMATION

The Thurs. October 6th monthly meeting will be devoted to AiM Theory and Mandatory Judges Meeting

Please attend this meeting if you are planning to enroll students in the November AIM Theory Exams. This will be the only Judges Meeting (held **during** the monthly meeting time), and your attendance is required in order to enroll students.

IMPORTANT DATES!

October 19 – Deadline for **on-line enrollment**, for **on-line judges form**, and for **enrollment fees**.
(\$15/student – one check made out to WSISMTA)

November 10 – **9:15 a.m. Packet Stuffing Meeting** at the Home of Stephanie Myers.

November 19 – **AiM Theory Exam**

At September’s monthly meeting, Linda Krueger shared that some new changes will be implemented to make the registration process all online. Since we did not have time for Q & A, please contact either Linda Krueger (Lkruegerpno@comcast.net), Kathy Christian (kpxian@ameritech.net) or Stephanie Myers (myers_stephanie@yahoo.com) prior to the October 6th meeting.

Kathy Christian & Stephanie Myers
AIM Theory Coordinators

NEW AIM THEORY ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS 2011

AIM TEACHER LIST - If you did not participate in AiM last spring or did not add your name to the AiM teacher list at the September meeting, but plan on entering students in the Theory Exam this fall, contact Linda Krueger to make sure your name is added to the on-line enrollment form.

- 1) **DO NOT USE THE ENROLLMENT FORMS IN THE HANDBOOK.** These are obsolete and will no longer be accepted. All past instructions are now obsolete as well.
- 2) **NEW AIM ENROLLMENT LETTER** – There is now a new updated form letter available for teachers to fill out and send home to parents inviting them to enroll their child(ren) in the AIM Theory Exam. The letter provides specific instructions for the parent to successfully enroll their child on-line on the new enrollment form. When they have completed the enrollment form, a window appears reminding them to contact their teacher to confirm the process has been completed. This form letter will be sent via email (to those on the AIM Teacher List), is available on the website and can be seen here in the newsletter for those who do not use computers (a few hard copies will be available at the October meeting). Because this letter will be in a word document form rather than PDF, teachers can revise it if they so desire to fit their needs. They can type in the required information and email it to each parent if they desire. Or they can print it out and fill in the info by hand if they desire. In its present form it is specific to this year, but can easily be updated year by year. If any teacher does not trust their parents to properly enroll the student by the **enrollment deadline of October 19, 2011**, they are welcome to do the on-line enrolling themselves - one student per enrollment form.
- 3) **THEORY EXAM ENROLLMENT FORM** – The links to both of the new on-line forms (enrollment and judging) are available on our website, and will also be emailed to the teachers on the AIM Teacher list mentioned above. In addition, AIM teachers will be emailed a link that allows them to view the data spreadsheet to see if their students have indeed enrolled.
- 4) **WSMTA AIM JUDGING FORM** – Every teacher who enrolls students in the AIM Theory Exam MUST fill out this form on-line by the **enrollment deadline of October 19, 2011** in order for their students to qualify for enrollment. It provides information for the AIM co-chairs and schedulers about how many students you are enrolling, levels entered, total fees due, how many hours you are required to judge, and your preference of shift.
- 5) **ENROLLMENT FEE** - The fee is still \$15, but on the form letter invitation there is a blank for you to fill in the fee yourself. Some teachers include an extra amount to cover the cost of the workbooks or medals. Teachers must still collect the fees from the parents, write a single check to West Suburban ISMTA for the total amount due and turn it in to the co-chairs by the enrollment deadline of October 19, 2011.
- 6) **OCTOBER 6 MEETING** – Our program is devoted to AIM. It will include an opportunity for us to again explain the new enrollment process and for questions to be answered. If you have enrollment questions please send them to Stephanie Myers or Lind Krueger so we will be sure to address them at the meeting. This is also when our **MANDATORY JUDGES MEETING** takes place. Plan on attending the entire program as well as the judging session.
- 7) **OCTOBER 19, 2011 is the enrollment deadline for all forms and fees. This is firm. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.** Anyone missing this deadline in any way will be disappointing his or her students.
- 8) **SCHEDULING REQUESTS** – The enrollment form offers the opportunity to request an AM or PM time as well as something listed as TA. The TA option is for those who require a Teacher Approved make-up. It is vital that all teachers stress to their parents that the opportunity to request an AM or PM time is not to be abused. It is for legitimate, unavoidable conflicts **ONLY**. If we find that too many people request am or pm, we will be unable to offer this opportunity in the future. The invitation letter states that “no preference” should be selected on the form unless a legitimate conflict has been discussed with the teacher.
- 9) **NO SCHEDULE CHANGES** will be allowed this year once the schedule goes out. This is a new policy. If students develop a conflict, they will need to make a choice as to which is most important to them. If this results in a great increase in make-ups, we will need to address that option as well since more teachers will be asked to do make-ups. Our reasoning:
 - This has been by far the most challenging part of organizing the exams for the co-chairs. Making schedule changes is far more complicated than just marking a change in time on the chart.
 - We are a professional organization. Other similar functions do not allow schedule changes much less requests for special times. (i.e. – solo ensemble contest, tournaments, meets)
 - We deserve the same level of respect and importance as other events.

Illinois State Music Teachers Association
Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

ISMTA Central Office • 113 South Walnut Street • Champaign, IL 61820
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Dear Parents,

My students have been working on the **Achievement in Music (AIM)** program. The Illinois State Music Teachers Association (ISMTA) has developed this nationally recognized curriculum that focuses on comprehensive musicianship skills for private music students. As students progress from beginning through advanced levels, they receive a rich training in performance and theory. Yearly examinations give students the incentive to set goals and experience the rewards of musical accomplishment. Students are evaluated privately on their knowledge of music theory, technical skills, and pieces that have been prepared. Written comments will be given and a Certificate of Merit and state pin will be awarded.

I would like your child to be enrolled in the ISMTA AIM Examinations, which are an annual event, participated in by over 4,000 students across Illinois and by many more across the nation. Levels 1A, 1B, 1C and 2 do not require a separate Theory Examination. Levels 3-12 are more comprehensive and require two separate test days. Theory Examinations are held in November, and the Performance Examinations are scheduled in March.

This year the West Suburban Music Teachers Association is piloting a new enrollment process. Enrollment will be done by the parent on-line via a link on the WSMTA web-site. Please go to www.wsismta.org to find the enrollment link and fill out the required information. Fill out a separate form for each student if you have more than one child participating. The instructions below will help you be certain of providing the correct information on the enrollment form:

- Select my name for “Teacher’s name.”
- _____ Level ____ Sibling? ____ New Student? ____
Student name
- _____ Level ____ Sibling? ____ New Student? ____
2nd Student name
- For the question about morning or afternoon time please select “no preference” unless you have discussed with me a legitimate conflict that requires a different request.
- Be sure to click on “submit” when the form is completed. A page will appear confirming your success and reminding you to notify me that you have enrolled your child.

The Theory Exam is Saturday, November 19, 2011. The enrollment deadline is Wed., October 19, 2011. **No exceptions will be made if this deadline is missed.** The fee for enrollment is _____ to be paid directly to me by the enrollment deadline. The fee cannot be paid on-line.

Your interest and encouragement are a very essential part of your child’s success. Care is taken to make this a positive and rewarding experience. If you have any questions, please feel free to discuss them with me.

Sincerely,

Beyond the Score – How to Apply for Teachers Bringing Students

Please include the following items postmarked no later than **October 5th**:

1. application form
2. **one check** from your entire studio **payable to CAMTA**.
3. **one self-addressed stamped envelope**.

Checks are non-refundable once the tickets have been purchased. We will need to purchase at least 10 seats per concert in order to receive the group rate.

Please send application form, one check for entire amount, **and stamped envelope** to:

Emi Murata, 325 S. Ridgeland Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302-3519.

Questions??? Call 708-386-5678 or e-mail: emipiano@aol.com.

NOVEMBER 20

Self-Indulgence?

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Semyon Bychkov conductor Gerard McBurney narrator & host Strauss Ein Heldenleben Richard Strauss' outrageously exuberant, exaggerated and deliberately tongue-in-cheek self-portrait for an enormous symphony orchestra dates from the very end of the 19th century. This was a time of wild social and artistic flux when traditional European values were being challenged both by the experiments of modernism and by the rapidly growing power of commercial mass culture. Strauss' score brilliantly and gaudily reflects all the overwhelming vulgarity and self-confidence that surrounded him at this critical moment. Don't miss this newly revised production of Strauss' Ein Heldenleben, never before seen in Chicago!

FEBRUARY 26

Sounds Strange?

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Pierre Boulez conductor Gerard McBurney narrator & host Schoenberg Pierrot lunaire Vienna in the years leading up to the First World War was one of the most intellectually and artistically daring cities in Europe—the birthplace of Freud's psychoanalysis, the symphonies of Mahler and the paintings of Klimt. In 1912, the young Arnold Schoenberg, who was already at the center of this ferment, composed his extraordinary "three times seven poems," a miniature drama for one singer and five instruments. To its astonished first listeners, this eerily beautiful music seemed like no musical sounds they had ever heard before.

JUNE 17

Fate Knocks?

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Riccardo Muti conductor Gerard McBurney narrator & host Beethoven Symphony No. 5 Few pieces in the history of music have achieved the iconic power and reputation of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. In this awe-inspiringly concentrated composition, Beethoven not only invented a musical language of an unparalleled originality and overpowering force which still influences us today, but also swept music out of the concert hall and into the wider world of human thought and experience. For more than 200 years, this symphony has shown us that music has the power to transform the way we live and think. Hear this iconic symphony with the CSO and Music Director Riccardo Muti in his first appearance on the Beyond the Score series!

Beyond the Score Group Tickets Application Form

PLEASE PRINT

Teacher/Studio Name: _____

Teacher's Address: _____
Street City State/Zip Code

Teacher's E-mail Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

_____ Sunday, November 20 at 3 p.m. (Strauss: Ein Heldenleben)

Prices: _____ # of Gallery @ \$20 ea _____ # of Upper Balcony @ \$30 ea _____ # Lower Balcony @ \$50 ea
_____ # of Main @ \$30 ea _____ # Main @ \$40 ea _____ # of Main @ \$60 ea

_____ Sunday, February 26 at 3 p.m. (Schoenberg: Pierrot lunaire)

Prices: _____ # of Gallery @ \$20 ea _____ # of Upper Balcony @ \$30 ea _____ # Lower Balcony @ \$50 ea
_____ # of Main @ \$30 ea _____ # Main @ \$40 ea _____ # of Main @ \$60 ea

_____ Sunday, June 17 at 3 p.m. (Beethoven: Symphony No. 5)

Prices: _____ # of Gallery @ \$20 ea _____ # of Upper Balcony @ \$30 ea _____ # Lower Balcony @ \$50 ea
_____ # of Main @ \$30 ea _____ # Main @ \$40 ea _____ # of Main @ \$60 ea

Diane M. Lindsay
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