



# West Suburban MTA

*www.wsismta.org*

An Affiliate of the Illinois State  
Music Teachers Association

*Monthly Newsletter*

**Summer 2011**

*Diane Lindsay, Newsletter Editor*

*Ruth Daube, Mailing Coordinator*

## DEADLINES

*Thurs. June 30 .....DEADLINE to renew your **MNTA Membership** in order to be included in our next directory. See short article in this issue! Call Bonnie Brewster at 630-615-0413 if you have questions.*

*Mon. August 15 .....DEADLINE for **September Newsletter**. Please send articles and information to Diane Lindsay via email [dmlindsay@ameritech.net](mailto:dmlindsay@ameritech.net) or 630-363-7513. Issue will be sent out Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.*

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### Congratulations to the Following Berkley-Pendell Winners

The Berkley/Pendell Competition was held on Sat. April 16, 2011 at College of DuPage

#### Elementary Track 1

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Allison Lie, student of Elvina Pearce
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Eric Yuill, student of Sonja Epting

#### Elementary Track 2

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Jacquelyne Qi, student of Julia Tsien

#### Junior

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Nova Xu, student of Julia Tsien
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Siqi Lui, student of Julia Tsien

Honorable Mention – Jonathan Hu, student of Elvina Pearce

Senior 1st – Brian Chen, student of Marilyn Andersen

OPEN POSITIONS FOR THE FALL

Our group has 3 open positions starting this Fall:

- 3rd Vice President for Membership
  - Recital Coordinator
  - Hospitality

Please contact Kathy Sbarboro at 630-932-1217 or email at Sbarboro.k@att.net if you are interested.

I'd like to thank you for a wonderful two years as your president. We have an amazing group of teachers here in the western suburbs. Please keep involved with ISMTA and continue coming to meetings. We are all needed to keep our teaching inspired and to keep learning new ways of teaching.

Take care,  
Lynette Zelis



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MTNA Membership Renewal 2011-2012

Membership renewals were sent via email and postal mail in early April. Please send in your renewal! Members can go online to or [mtnanet@mtna.org](mailto:mtnanet@mtna.org), using their member number and zip codes, to facilitate this process. Now, more than ever, is the time to connect with your colleagues and the music teaching profession.



The NCKP (National Council on Keyboard Pedagogy) convention will be held July 27-30, 2011 at the Westin Yorktown in Lombard. Register today at 1-800-824-5087 or [online at www.francesClarkCenter.org](http://www.francesClarkCenter.org).

We extend our condolences to the Sterba Family on the loss of Edwin Sterba, husband of our long time member, Lydia Sterba and beloved father of Doreen Sterba Jezur. Our thoughts and sympathy are with you and your family at this difficult time.

For the upcoming 2011-2012 Directory - if you'd like to have your website listed along with your name and number, please send this to Bonnie Brewster at [bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com](mailto:bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com)

The new brochures for WS-ISMTA are available at monthly meetings! Pick up several copies to share in your communities. Lynette Zelis would like your suggestions and feedback.

### **UPCOMING NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

If you miss this deadline information can still be sent to Diane Lindsay at [dmlindsay@ameritech.net](mailto:dmlindsay@ameritech.net), who will forward your email to most of our members.

<b><u>Issue</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline Date</u></b>
September 2011	August 15

### **DO NOT CLICK REPLY WHEN RESPONDING TO GROUP EMAILS!**

Click **FORWARD** button and type in the email address of the original sender on the "To" line. Your response will be sent directly to the sender rather than the Newsletter Editor. Thanks for your help!

### **AIM MENTOR PROGRAM**

*If anyone is interested in participating in the Achievement in Music program for the first time this year, please contact our Mentor Coordinator, Linda Krueger (630-665-8276, [lkruegerpno@comcast.net](mailto:lkruegerpno@comcast.net)).*

*She will match you up with a mentor who will answer your questions and guide you through the student preparation process as well as help you prepare for judging students. Our board instated this mentoring program in 2007 to encourage participation and to ensure the successful preparation of each teacher new to AIM.*

*Thank you to teachers who have acted as mentors the past years. Please continue to check in with those you have been mentoring as they add new levels. Anyone willing to mentor new teachers this year please contact Linda Krueger.*

### **FIVE FREE BAND CONCERTS**

The 12th annual Wheaton Band Festival is scheduled for the evenings of July 15 and 16 in Memorial Park (W. Seminary and N. Hale) in downtown Wheaton. Five different types of bands will participate: brass, jazz, concert, steel drum and military.

On Friday the Chicago Brass Band and the Switch Time Jazz Ensemble will play starting at 7:15 p.m. The Fox Valley Concert Band, the Salvation Story Steel Orchestra and the Navy Ceremonial Band Great Lakes will perform beginning at 6 p.m. on Saturday. Carl Grapentine of WFMT-FM (98.7) returns as festival announcer. All the concerts are free.

The Salvation Story Steel Orchestra is comprised of 20 young people from Chicago's Englewood neighborhood. This spirited steel drum ensemble with flag team specializes in Calypso music from the West Indies. Salvation Army Captain Julian Champion founded the group as part of his vision to transform the lives of inner-city youth.

The Navy Band Great Lakes celebrates its 100th anniversary this year as the "Navy's Ambassadors to the Midwest." Lt. John Philip Sousa served as the band's director starting in 1917.

More information is available at 630-653-0310 and [www.wheatonbandfestival.org](http://www.wheatonbandfestival.org).

## Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition Update

After five years of dedicated service, Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition chair Deb Bridenbaugh of our Waubensee chapter has announced her resignation. The Joint Board of the four West Suburban ISMTA chapters met in late May to discuss the future of the piano competition.

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 (formerly known as the Scholarship Competition.) 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.)

Due to a dramatic decrease in enrollment this year, as well as having no chair to take it over, the Joint Board has decided to suspend the competition for 2012. In the meantime, a Review Committee will be appointed to evaluate the competition's current state of affairs, seek feedback from ISMTA members, and investigate how to best reinvent the competition in order to serve the needs of our members better.

The competition is open to students through grade 12 who study with ISMTA members who earn enough points through attending meetings and workshops, serving on the board, and in other ways. Students come from all our member chapters most years. 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 this year, and the highest last year. (The total number of teachers in the four groups is somewhere around 300.)

Many reasons have been cited as to why enrollment is down. The award money could be seen as insufficient incentive for students to enter, given 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. However, fewer prizes were awarded this year due to the low enrollment—6 prizes totaling \$700.

There is also a perception that the class of students entering is particularly competitive, playing very difficult repertoire in all divisions. Teachers of students with less intense drive may not encourage their students to enter, feeling that they have no chance of winning a prize.

Feedback and suggestions can be directed to Bonnie Brewster, Joint Chapter President, at [bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com](mailto:bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com), or 630.615.0413. Representatives from each of the four chapters will be asked to serve on the Review Committee, to begin this fall.

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