



**Illinois State Music Teachers Association
Newsletter
West Suburban Chicago Area Chapter
www.wsismta.org**

April 2009

Diane Lindsay, Newsletter Editor

Ruth Daube, Mailing Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thurs. Mar. 19.....9:30 a.m. **T.I.E Meeting** at Home of Joanne King. Please contact Joanne if you will be attending.
- Sun. Apr. 5.....3:00 p.m. **Student Recital.** Pierce Chapel Room 104, Wheaton College. Coordinator: Elinor Lee. Deadline: March 22, 2009.
- Thurs. Apr. 9.....9:30 a.m. **Monthly Meeting and Presentation by Heidi Mayer.** “Off the Beaten Path: Exploring Modern Musical Gems for the Intermediate Through Advanced Level Student”. Trinity Episcopal Church.
- Thurs. Apr. 16.....9:30 a.m. **Teachers Performance Group.** Home of Michael Fritsch. Please contact Michael if you will be attending.
- Sat. Apr. 25.....**Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition**, McAninch Arts Center, College of DuPage. Applications are available online from our chapter’s website. Contact Marilyn Andersen at 630-834-2704 if you have questions. Send all forms to Deb Bridenbaugh, 346 Normandie Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554. Her phone number is 630-308-0349 or dbbridenbaugh@yahoo.com. Postmark deadline is March 20, 2009. All the information, rules and forms are on the West Suburban ISMTA website. Go to www.wsismta.org and click on Berkley-Pendell Competition.
- Sun. May 3.....3:00 p.m. **Student Recital.** Pierce Chapel Room 104, Wheaton College. Coordinator: Joanne King. Deadline: April 19, 2009.

DEADLINES

- Fri. Mar. 20.....*POSTMARK DEADLINE* to send **Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition** forms to Deb Bridenbaugh, Competition Chairman. Her address is listed above.
- Sat. Mar. 21.....*DEADLINE* for AIM Performance makeup exam completion. Please encourage your students to make the necessary arrangements for their exam as soon as possible. Complete instructions for makeup exams were given out to all AIM teachers.
- Sun. Mar 22.....*DEADLINE* for April 5 **Student Recital.** Coordinator: Elinor Lee.
- Sun. Apr. 19.....*DEADLINE* for May 3 **Student Recital.** Coordinator: Joanne King.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

We're very excited to announce the unanimous election of officers for 2009-2010. Thanks to Rita Brown and her committee of Carol Beilke and Judy Linhardt on the nominating committee! Our new officers for 2009-2010 are President Lynette Zelis, First Vice-President for Programs Stephanie Myers, and Third Vice-President for Membership Kathy Christian. Thanks and congratulations to all of you!

Bonnie Brewster

SPEAKER PRESENTATION

Our speaker for April 9th is Heidi Mayer. Heidi will discuss various aspects of successfully presenting contemporary music to students and will perform selections of lesser-known 20th century repertoire appropriate for the late elementary through early advanced piano student. Heidi Mayer holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University in Piano Performance and Choral Music Education. She was awarded a Fulbright scholarship for vocal accompanying in Vienna, Austria .

She is the recipient of several awards and grants and is in demand as a clinician and adjudicator. As an MTNA-certified piano instructor, she maintains a large private piano studio in Park Ridge . She is also an active accompanist, soloist, and clinician, and recently recorded a CD containing the works of Beethoven, Franck, Chopin, and Poulenc. Her most recent solo performance was the Bach d minor solo and the a-minor quadruple harpsichord concerto with chamber orchestra in Minnesota .

Past teachers include Charles Fisher, Hans Graf, Edna Golandsky, Flavio Varani, and Joseph Gurt. She has performed in the master classes of John Browning, Dorothy Taubman, and Joseph Banowetz. She currently studies piano with Annie Sherter in Geneva , Illinois , and harpsichord with Edward Parmentier, in Ann Arbor , Michigan .

National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy
July 30 to August 1
Westin Hotel at Yorktown, Lombard

Fees: \$225 for 3 days, if received before May 1
or \$275 after May 1 or \$125 per day.

Contact: Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy at
1-800-824-5087 (phone)
1-609-392-6822 (fax)
www.francesclarkcenter.org (online registration)

MUSIKGARTEN ADULTS - GROUP PIANO WHEATON PARK DISTRICT

Linda Krueger will be teaching "Musikgarten Adults - Group Piano" on Tuesday evenings April 7 - May 26 from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Wheaton North HS. Contact Linda at 630-665-8276 if you have any questions. Registration forms are online at the www.wheatonparkdistrict.com

TEACHING PIECES & BOOKS **I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT!**

Some of My Favorite Music Submitted by Linda Krueger

1. Anything by Melody Bober. Favorites include:
 - My First Recital Book, Vol. 2 (EE)
 - Just For Fun, Book 1 (LE/EI) – AIM 4C/D
 - The Best of Melody Bober, Bk. 1 (EI/I) – AIM 5C/D
 - Cyclone (I) – AIM 6C/D, last song 7 C/D
 - Ride the Wind (solo – I)
 - Itasca Sunrise (solo – LI) – AIM 7C/D by permission
2. Good solo pieces for recitals:
 - Blue Windmill – Glover (E) - good for AIM 1B
 - Night Train – Chris Goldston (EI?)
 - Midnight Chase – Chris Goldston (I)
 - The Great Smoky Mountains - Glover AIM 5C/D (It's also the last song in the new Alfred Premier Piano Course Lesson book 4)
 - Newport Rock – Alexander – AIM 5C/D
 - Toccata in F Minor – Vandall – AIM 6C/D by permission
3. Excellent collection for AIM levels 8-10:
 - Standard Piano Classics, ed. Small, Alfred pub.
4. Duets:
 - The Little Tin Soldier - N. Faber (2B, LE)
 - Celebration Overture - Rollin (I)
 - Dynamic Duets, book 1 – Bober; includes “The Phantom” (I/LI)
 - The Grand Finale – Rollin (LI)
5. Favorite trio (most requested by my students):
 - Triple Dip – Vandall (I)

Please submit your favorites to Diane Lindsay at dmlindsay@ameritech.net (preferably) or telephone 630-363-7513 by the 15th of month deadline. List the title, composer, level, and whether it is available in book/sheet music. You may include any number of pieces you wish, but space is limited. Categorize as you choose.



Illinois State Music
Teachers Association

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Illinois State Music Teachers Association (ISMTA) is accepting proposals for the 2009 State Conference at Eastern Illinois University (Charleston, IL) on November 6 & 7. Panels, workshops, papers, and lecture-recitals are welcome. Please follow the guidelines below when submitting your proposal:

- Include your name, address, phone-number, and e-mail address
- Title of Presentation
- A brief summary of the presentation (one paragraph)
- Length of presentation
- Equipment needs
- A brief bio of the presenter.

Proposals can be submitted via e-mail or mail to:

Dr. Chung-Ha Kim
School of Music
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL 61455
C-Kim@wiu.edu

Submission deadline is May 15, 2009.

FORMAT REQUESTS FOR MAY 7TH **EMI MURATA MASTER CLASS**

Lynette Zelis is requesting ideas for different formats for our discussions at the above-listed master class. Some possibilities being considered include using ensembles, having fewer students, and each playing two pieces at different levels of progress. Contact Lynette at 630-260-9544 with your suggestions.

West Suburban Joint Workshop Update

After our most successful workshop, evaluations were given to those attending. Responses were extremely positive. Many people wanted further information about specific things of interest or further Brain Gym® training. We contacted Barbara Bednarz about the specific questions. Below are some comments from Barbara and answers to the questions received. Questions are in bold print. (BB* are Barbara's responses.)

First, I'd like to preface my remarks by letting people know about a feature of the Brain Gym®: the message board. I invite everyone to visit it to pick up tidbits of information and/or scan for your topic of interest. You can also submit questions. The caretaker of the board is a longtime Brain Gym® instructor, Dave Saunders.

Can Brain Gym® slow the progression of MS?

BB* MS: personally I have not worked with anyone with MS, but investigated this issue several years ago for a friend; I was told that there had been feedback from some instructors that Brain Gym® had been helpful with MS (not a cure, though)

I have significant tinnitus in right ear. Can BG help?

BB* Tinnitus: I haven't heard, but it can't hurt and might help; Several times a day I'd try: Thinking Cap, Owl, Cross Crawl (standing, sitting and lying down); Elephant (which we didn't do); Water; Hook-ups;

Teens/others with many piercings (ears, lips, umbilicus), how does that affect Brain Gym? (Metal parts, etc,? short circuit electric?)

BB* Piercings: the issue is not how they affect Brain Gym®, it's how they affect the functioning of the brain/body connections. I inquired about this a few years ago and several people agreed (among them a chiropractor) that piercings disrupt the body's energy flow; in other words, they mess with the meridian system and since the meridians are channels through which the energy flows, that system is compromised.

One wouldn't punch holes in one's arteries or veins, so why mess with the meridians; I'm not sure about the metal in relation to our electricity; but it would seem that Brain Gym® could compensate at least a bit for these disruptions. An acupuncturist said that piercings cause scar tissue; this affects functioning/sensitivity of nerve endings FOREVER; The Thinking Cap is therefore less effective, but still good and much needed.

Are these techniques used in special ed programs in public schools?

BB* Special ed/public schools: Brain Gym® is used in many schools throughout the country, both in public and private schools and both in special ed classes and in regular ed classes; I myself used it in regular ed classes into which many special ed students had been mainstreamed.

I am wondering what BG exercises would be best to do before a recital for my students.

BB* Prior to recitals: do the PACE sequence and add : the Owl; Thinking Cap; Earth Buttons; Space Buttons; Lazy 8s For the Eyes.

Please give some specific applications to piano teaching and music memorization – help in practicing.

BB* Teaching/memorization: please see above (prior to recitals). Especially make sure to do Water, the Thinking Cap and Cross Crawl frequently;

We want to learn more. (What is the next step?)

BB* For more learning about Brain Gym®, you would want to take the entry- level class called Brain Gym® 101; it provides all the basic information you need like the brain/body connection; the 26 basic movements; the balance process with 10 variations; the re-patterning process with 2 variations; personal & professional applications; you could contact me for my 101 schedule, or check the Brain Gym® website (www.braingym.org) to find a class;

A FREE Musikgarten opportunity to:

- Discover the magic of working with young children in music and movement.
 - Participate in activities for infants through elementary-age children.
 - Observe a demonstration class with children taught by a master teacher.
- Learn how Musikgarten can nurture your growth as a teacher and entrepreneur.

This free 3-hour seminar gives piano teachers an overview of the materials and curricula offered by Musikgarten. You can hear the recordings, experience some of the activities, and discuss the effects the presenters have observed in their students and their own teaching careers. The highlight of the day will be the live demonstration class of young children, so participants can see the possibilities for themselves!

Sat. April 25, 2009
College Church
332 East Seminary, Wheaton, IL 60187

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Presenter:

Lianne Brewer

Lianne Brewer currently reaches over 350 children in her Springfield (IL) studio **The Music Factory**, which she founded in 1995. She has been active in music teaching for over 25 years, and she is certified with both the Orff Association and the Early Childhood Music and Movement Association.



Special Offer: Take home *Nature's Music*: a complete summer kit for teachers of toddlers. Includes lesson planner, activity cards, and CD.
A \$31 value for only \$20.
(Offer is limited to 1 per person only at the preview and is non-refundable)



Yes, I'm ready to learn more about Musikgarten!

Chicago Preview Registration

Enclosed is \$20 for **Nature's Music** (Make checks payable to Musikgarten)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Charge to my: Visa/MC Card # _____

Exp. Date: ____ / ____ CVV Code (3 digits, on back of card) _____

Billing Address (if different): _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who made this year's AIM Performance exams run smoothly - schedulers Diane Jankiewicz and Stephanie Myers; Rita Brown for repertoire checking; Carol Beilke for commandeering the office; Rita Brown and Linda Krueger for hospitality; Katie Stephen for certificates and pins; and for everyone who spent hours judging.

As a reminder to teachers of Levels 11 and 12 students: be sure to contact Russell Callender or Adrienne Rose to arrange for judges for their Performance exams. Level 11 students need to have their exams completed before July 1. Level 12 has the same deadline, unless a recital is planned. Then the deadline is August 31.

Adrienne Rose & Russell Callender



West Suburban Member Alexander Djordjevic recently released a new CD called "[Gray Clouds: Piano Music of Franz Liszt](#)". "I am very proud of this project which contains dark, profound, extremely beautiful, rarely heard late piano works of Franz Liszt. It has received great reviews, and people are saying that nothing exists out there that is quite like it," states Djordjevic.

Please visit <http://www.AlexanderDjordjevic.com> or <http://www.youtube.com/adjpiano> for more information. Click [CDBaby.com](http://www.CDBaby.com) to purchase the CD.



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