



**West
Suburban
MTA**

www.wsismta.org

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

Monthly Newsletter

April 2013

Diane Lindsay, Newsletter Editor

Ruth Daube, Mailing Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sun. Mar. 24, 2013.....* **3:00 p.m. STUDENT RECITAL** at Gary United Methodist Church. *This recital was formerly scheduled for Sunday, March 3rd.* Information deadline: February 24.
Fee: \$7 for WS-ISMTA members and \$15 for non-WS-ISMTA members.
Coordinator: Joanne King. 630-690-1759.
- Thurs. April 4, 2013.....* **9:30 a.m. MONTHLY MEETING AND PRESENTATION: "Mary Helen Ekstam: The Miracles of Music.** Trinity Episcopal Church.
- Sun. April 7, 2013.....* **2:00 p.m. STUDENT RECITAL** at [Trinity Episcopal Church](#). Information deadline is Saturday, March 23rd. Fee: \$7 for WS-ISMTA members and \$15 for non-WS-ISMTA members. Coordinator: Joanne King. 630-690-1759.
- Sun. April 7, 2013.....* **4:00 p.m. AIM HONORS RECITAL** at Trinity Episcopal Church. Open only to West Suburban chapter AIM students by judge's nomination. All are welcome to attend. Coordinator: Liz Mackenzie at 630-790-9823.
- Thurs. April 11, 2013.....* **9:30 a.m. TEACHER PERFORMANCE GROUP** at the Home of Marcelyn Peterson. Call if you are planning on attending. 630-784-0569.
- Sun. April 21, 2013.....* **1:00-7:00 p.m. BERKLEY-PENDELL COMPETITION** at Wentz Fine Arts Center (Rooms 114 & 138), North Central College. Awards Presentation Following. Application Due Date is March 21, 2013.

DEADLINES

*Thurs. March 21, 2013.....***APPLICATION DEADLINE** for **April 21st Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition.**

*Sat. March 23, 2013.....***INFORMATION DEADLINE** for **April 7th Student Recital.** Coordinator: Joanne King. 630-690-1759.

*Sat. March 30, 2013.....***DEADLINE** for all **AIM Make-ups Exams** to Lynette Zelis.

Thurs. April 4, 2013 **RSVP DEADLINE** for **May 2nd Luncheon** to Debi Inch. See more information in this issue.

Mon. April 15, 2013 **DEADLINE** for **May 2013 Newsletter.** Please send articles and information to Diane Lindsay via email dmlindsay@ameritech.net or call 630-363-7513.

MONTHLY PROGRAM

MARY HELEN EKSTAM, MT-BC

Mary Helen Ekstam is a board certified music therapist currently working in hospice and palliative care as well as holding a private practice in Naperville, Illinois. She received her undergraduate degree in vocal performance and counseling psychology from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She continued her graduate studies in music therapy from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS. and has maintained her board certification since 1986. Within the past 26 years, Ms. Ekstam has presented at over 400 national and regional conferences and has implemented and directed six music therapy programs in Kansas City, Des Moines, and the Chicago area. Ms. Ekstam has specialized in the field of neurological rehabilitation, hospice, and palliative care and continues to educate physicians, insurance companies, case managers, therapists, and other allied health professionals as to the viability of music therapy throughout the United States and Canada.

Throughout her career as a music therapist, composer, performer, and health care executive, she has developed many workshops such as “The Challenge of Change: Using Music to Restore Your Mind, Body, and Spirit”, in which music is explored to enhance optimum health or to assist in dealing with an illness or injury.

In addition to her work as a music therapist, Ms. Ekstam performs professionally with Mr. Phil Spencer. They formed their musical group in 1994 and have been performing throughout the Chicago area. They released a holiday CD in 2002 and Ms. Ekstam also completed a CD in 2001 called “Songs from My Heart”, all original compositions. Currently, she is working on a third CD titled “Songs for Hope and Healing” recorded in Long Beach, California to be released in 2012.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Barbara Githen's new telephone number is:
(847) 807-5342

Students are needed for the **Gellert Modos Master class on May 2, 2013**. There will be a total of 4 students. 2 students (6th - 8th grades) and 2 students (9th - 12th grades). Please contact Carol Beilke, if you have a student that can participate in this Master class. Please include name, age and repertoire title.
carol.beilke@wheaton.edu

MAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 2, 2013
At 11:30 a.m. (after monthly meeting)
Wok 'n Fire
120 East Liberty Drive
Wheaton, IL

The luncheon will include soup or salad, sushi or stir-fried entrée and a soft drink. The cost is \$12.50 per person with an additional \$2.50 for coffee. RSVP to Debi Inch by Thurs. April 4th 630-802-3466 to reserve your spot. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WEST SUBURBAN ISMTA. This restaurant has a lovely atmosphere and is sure to be a wonderful celebration of year together at WS-ISMTA.

To our AIM teachers:

Thank you for all your efforts last Saturday, March 9th. We had 229 students participate this year. I think everything went well considering that this is Peggy and my first go at running the Performance exams. I especially want to thank Elinor Lee and her office staff for keeping us all on task and being so efficient! A special thank you to Elinor's husband who spent the entire day helping out.

An important reminder - Deadline for AIM Performance exams is Saturday, March 30. Please e-mail me with the students score, teacher and judge so that I can enter this information on the ISMTA computer.

Thanks again and have a wonderful Easter!
Lynette Zelis



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