



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

**December 2008**

*Diane Lindsay, Newsletter Editor*

*Ruth Daube, Mailing Coordinator*

**THE CORRECT DATE FOR THE AIM PERFORMANCE EXAM IS SATURDAY,  
MARCH 7, 2009, NOT MARCH 1 AS STATED EARLIER.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sat. Nov. 22, 2008 ..... **AIM Theory Exams**, Wheaton College. See additional information in this issue.

Thurs. Dec. 4, 2008 ..... 9:30 a.m. **MONTHLY MEETING AND PRESENTATION** at Trinity Church, Wheaton.  
**Bruce Berr "Repertoire-by-Request"**

Sun. Dec. 7, 2008..... **STUDENT RECITAL** at Pierce Chapel 104, Wheaton College. Coordinator: Joanna Tokarz. **More student performers are needed for this recital!**

Thurs. Jan 8, 2009..... **MANDATORY** Performance Judging Sessions for AIM. Please arrange your schedules now so that you can attend this meeting, which include breakout sessions for upper and lower levels.

**Thurs. Jan. 22, 2009..... Executive Board Meeting at Bonnie Brewster's home is CANCELLED.**

Thurs. Jan. 29, 2009..... 9:30 a.m. **TIE Meeting** at home of Michael Fritsch, 1401 Blackburn, Wheaton. Please call if you plan on attending – 630-690-1169.

Sat. Mar 7, 2009 ..... **AIM Performance Exams**, Wheaton College.

**DEADLINES**

Sun. Nov. 23, 2008..... **INFORMATION DEADLINE** for December 7 Student Recital. Coordinator: Joanna Tokarz. Telephone: 630-350-7783.

Thurs. Jan 15, 2009..... **DEADLINE** to request repertoire substitutions for the March 7, 2009 AIM Performance Exams. See details in the AIM information section.



## **LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS**

### **To All Members of The Joint West Suburban Chapters of ISMTA,**

I wish to thank all local ISMTA members who contributed in many ways to the recently concluded state conference at Wheaton College. Many of you brought refreshments, and many more helped welcome members from all across the state as they gathered on campus. Quite a few people spoke to me about how much they enjoyed the conference's varied presentations, and how much they appreciated the thought and care that went into the planning for this event. I know all too well that the conference was a success only because so many helped make it so. I may never know all that was done behind the scenes, but on behalf of the Wheaton College Conservatory and the state ISMTA organization, let me say that we are grateful to all of you.

Cordially, Daniel Paul Horn, D.M.A.  
2008 ISMTA Local Conference Chair  
Professor of Piano and Chair of Keyboard Studies, Wheaton College Conservatory of Music

## **MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**

Our November meeting had some important items of business. Please see the proposed constitutional changes presented by the Board Reorganization committee elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks to Melissa Dalley, Linda Krueger, Daphne Ball, Rita Brown, and chair Lynette Zelis for their input and ideas to streamline the running of our local association. The constitutional changes were an outgrowth of that committee, and will be voted on in December.

The Steinway Educator Grant recipient was chosen by secret ballot from three worthy applicants. The winner of \$400 for a needy student scholarship is Lynne LaForge. Lynne is giving free lessons to students whose parents are unemployed and would have had to discontinue Patrick's lessons. Patrick has a challenging situation with the physical development of his hands, but has been a bright and talented student for many years. Lynne was devastated at the prospect of losing Patrick, and wrote a very touching essay about her struggle with the situation. Congratulations, Lynne!

I think everyone who attended the ISMTA fall conference at Wheaton College on November 14 and 15 will agree it was wonderful! We were treated to a dynamic clinician in Dr. Robert Duke, an astonishing recital by Marc-Andre Hamelin, and many wonderful small sessions on a variety of interesting topics.

The conference included several presentations by members of our local association. Carol Beilke, Beth Bauer, and Kathlyn Sbarboro all contributed to workshop sessions at the conference. Thanks to all who contributed refreshments for the hospitality tables and to Linda Krueger and Liz Mackenzie for keeping the coffee pots full in the Pierce Chapel lounge.

# SPEAKER PRESENTATION

Our program for December is "Repertoire-by-Request" presented by Bruce Berr.  
His program will include the following pieces:

- CPE Bach, March, BWV Anh. 124
- Latour, Sonatina in C major, 1st movmt.
- Kabalevsky, Sonatina in Am, Op. 27, #18
  - Carolyn Miller, "Arabian Dance"
  - Liszt, Consolation #3 in Db
  - Debussy, Des pas sur la neige

BRUCE BERR has been teaching piano to children for over thirty-five years, both as an independent teacher and as a faculty member of numerous community music schools and colleges. During the thirteen years that he was an associate professor of piano and pedagogy at Roosevelt University, one of his main assignments was to provide training for young piano teachers and to oversee their teaching internships with children and young adults.

Dr. Berr has presented master classes and clinics for piano teachers in more than a dozen states, and has done lectures and demonstrations for numerous national music conferences. He is currently an associate editor for a magazine written specifically for piano teachers, *Keyboard Companion*, and his column "ad lib" appears regularly in *American Music Teacher* magazine.

Berr is also known as a composer and arranger of educational piano music. His materials are published by Hal Leonard, FJH Music Co., and Warner Bros, and are widely available in music stores and on the internet.

He received a bachelors and masters degree in piano from Washington University in St. Louis, and a doctoral degree in piano teaching and performance from Northwestern University.

The *Glen Ellyn-Wheaton Music Club* will sponsor a scholarship contest for young musicians on Saturday, February 7, 2009. There is a division for high school pianists. Eligibility includes residence in DuPage County and performance of 2 pieces of contrasting styles. Winners will receive cash prizes and an opportunity to perform in a winners' concert in March 2009.

For additional information and registration forms, please contact Chairman JoAnn Snyder (630-629-9032 or [zieglerhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:zieglerhouse@yahoo.com)) or Judy Linhardt (630-653-0449 or [hanford9@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hanford9@sbcglobal.net)).

## BEYOND THE SCORE UPDATE

The Beyond the Score following has been overwhelming. This year, subscribers have filled most of the seats. I still have some seats held for us for the next two concerts. They are in the upper balcony and gallery. Tickets are \$20 upper balcony and \$15 gallery. If you are interested in either concert, please let me know as soon as possible!

May 17, 2009 at 3 p.m. Sibelius -- Symphony No. 5  
June 7, 2009 at 3 p.m. Dvorak -- New World Sym.

Contact: Emi Murata  
[emipiano@aol.com](mailto:emipiano@aol.com) or 708-386-5678.

## College Faculty Certification

Some questions have arisen concerning the CF (College Faculty) Certification indication in our directory (see the last page of your directory.) MTNA has varying codes to indicate the different kinds of certification teachers have earned and uses these codes when sending the membership printouts to local affiliation Membership Chairs. We then list those teachers who are certified as such in the directory. If we have mistakenly not included your certification indication in the directory, please notify Debi Inch so she can check to make sure MTNA has your certification listed correctly. If you are college faculty and are not currently certified, but would like to have the CF certification, please go to [MTNA.org](http://MTNA.org) and click on Certification to find out about the two-step process.

If you missed the Monster Concert presentation at the ISMTA conference and would like a packet of information sent to you, please contact Carol Beilke at 630-251-7879 or [Carol.L.Beilke@wheaton.edu](mailto:Carol.L.Beilke@wheaton.edu). The cost is \$5.

## AIM RECAP

### AIM PARTICIPANTS PLEASE NOTE!

The new mentoring program is intended as a means of assisting teachers in preparing their students and themselves for AIM, and is NOT intended as a substitute for attending mandatory judging sessions. Please arrange your schedules now so that you can attend the January 8, 2009 meeting, which will have breakout sessions for upper and lower levels.

### AIM PERFORMANCE EXAMS INFORMATION – MARCH 7, 2009

**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. Please refer to the performance guidelines in the syllabus, pages ix-xi.

**Repertoire Substitutions:** Thursday, January 15 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 (telephone 630-668-0649)** for the correct level.
- \* 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 4-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 her information above). Also, be careful to have **Federation Contest Pieces** approved for level by Rita Brown.

### **AIM PERFORMANCE EXAMS FOR LEVELS 11 AND 12**

The deadline to complete the performance of repertoire is July 1 for all students in level 11, and those in level 12 who are playing their pieces for a judge, but not giving a recital. Level 12 students who are playing a recital have until August 31 to complete it. Please note the following guidelines:

- 1 - The technique portion of the exam must still be completed on the regular Performance Exam day.
- 2 - The enrollment deadline is still the same for all levels. Schedulers need to know how much time to allot, so when enrolling students for 11 & 12, indicate which of the 3 options the student will be doing:
  - a. Playing technique and repertoire on exam day
  - b. Playing technique on exam day and their repertoire on a later day (to be completed by July 1)
  - c. Playing technique on exam day and giving a recital (level 12 only; to be completed by August 31)
- 3 - Judges and later exam/recital dates must be arranged through the AIM coordinator.

### **Proposed Amendments to the West Suburban ISMTA Constitution**

As an outgrowth of the committee to streamline our board, it was felt that the most effective changes would require amendments to our local association constitution. The background and reasons for the changes are in italics following each proposed article. These proposed changes [in brackets within the constitution] were presented at the November meeting. Voting will take place at our December 4, 2008 meeting.

#### **Article IV – Officers**

Officers of the association shall be a President, the immediate past President, First Vice-President in charge of Programs, Second Vice-President in charge of Publicity and Historian, [Third Vice-President in charge of Membership,] Secretary, and Treasurer. The manner of election and the duties of each officer shall be defined in the [West Suburban ISMTA Handbook].

*The need for changing the membership chair to an elected position became clear last year. Just as all the membership information should have been submitted to the directory coordinator, our newly appointed chair dropped out of our organization in late summer. This very chaotic situation took several months to sort out. We now have two co-chairs for membership, and would like to have an elected chair starting next year, with a co-chair to help. (We have also substituted the correct word “Handbook” for “Bylaws” as the location of the duties of each officer, as the Bylaws are a different document.)*

### Article V – Board of Directors

Section 2. In order to transact business, the President and a quorum consisting of [a simple majority] of the Board of Directors must be present.

*Change from 2/3 majority to simple (51%) majority. Our board is very large, and the 2/3 quorum was not being achieved. (Many other groups consider a simple majority to be a quorum.) With this change, a reduction in the size of the board is not deemed an immediate need.*

### Article VIII – Nominations and Elections

Section 3. The nominating committee shall submit a slate of officers for a 2-year term at the [February] meeting. President, First Vice-President [in charge of Programs], [and Third Vice-President in charge of Membership] [will be elected] in odd[-numbered] years. Second Vice-President [in charge of Publicity and Historian], Secretary and Treasurer [will be elected] in even[-numbered] years.

Section 4. Election of officers shall take place at the [March] business meeting. A quorum must be present, and a majority vote is necessary to elect. If there is only one nominee for each office, the vote may be by acclamation.

*To give more time for succession planning and transition of positions to new people, it is proposed to move the elections one month earlier. The slate would be presented in February and voted on in March. Then there would be adequate time for the old and new officers to work together to fill the open positions, a very challenging task! (Other changes are grammatical.)*

## AIM Thank Yous

We would like to thank all those that helped on the judges’ packet-stuffing day, which was Thursday, November 13. We accomplished a lot in a short time, thanks to so many who came to help. Also, thanks in advance to all who work to make our exam day possible.



The women's madrigal group, *The Elizabethans*, directed by fellow ISMTA member Linda Krueger, is currently recruiting for new members in all sections, Soprano I & II, Alto I & II. Would you be interested or know anyone who might be interested?

Here are some details about us:

- We rehearse and perform September through May each year. We average 8-12 concerts each year, with the most performances during December (maxi. of 6).
- We rehearse Tuesday mornings from 9:45 – 11:45 at Gary Methodist Church in downtown Wheaton.
- Concerts can be anywhere in the Chicago area at varying times of day/evening.
- Membership is free. We are self-supporting, with concert fees covering costs for our gowns and music. The only expense for joining is getting to rehearsals. We reimburse mileage to concerts for those who drive.
- There is a lot more information about our group, along with music samples, on our website: <http://www.theelizabethans.org/>.

Ideal candidates love to sing, have extensive music experience and/or training, and are blessed with good blending voices. An excellent opportunity to hear the group sing is our annual concert at Gary Methodist Church on Monday, December 1 at 7:30 PM.

Please forward this message to anyone you think would be a good fit for our group and might be interested. Prospective members should call or email the director, Linda Krueger, for more information: (630) 665-8276 / [lkruegerpno@comcast.net](mailto:lkruegerpno@comcast.net).

## AIM Exam MakeUps

Your student will arrange for the makeup exam. In an effort to maintain some anonymity, your name (as the teacher) should not be associated with the student.

1. Provide the student with a copy of the list of judges, which you received with your judging schedule.
2. The student should check to make sure the judge is grading his/her level this year. For the most part, we ask judges to judge the levels for which they are entering students this year. Some exceptions are made when a judge has entered students in certain levels for many years and feels comfortable judging additional levels. If you would like to add judging levels to your name, please contact Janna or Melissa.
3. The student or parent will call a judge and arrange for a time for a makeup exam. Generally, these makeup exams are given in the judge's home or studio.
4. Place the student's exam in a sealed envelope and send it with him/her.

Some additional information:

- The deadline for makeup exams to be completed is December 13. Three weeks are allowed due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.
- If you have judged a makeup exam, please call or email Janna Williamson (630-390-9677 or [jannawilliamson@gmail.com](mailto:jannawilliamson@gmail.com)) with the student's name and score.

Diane M. Lindsay  
242 S. Edgewood Avenue  
Lombard, IL 60148