



**West
Suburban
MTA**

www.wsismta.org

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

Monthly Newsletter

September 2014

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2014..... 9:30 am: Monthly Meeting and Program. Dr. William Koehler: The Life and Compositions of Jan Dussek: An Alternative to Clementi and Kuhlau Sonatinas.

Thurs., Oct. 2, 2014..... 9:45 am: Mandatory Aim Theory Judges Meeting. Program following the meeting: Panel on "Theory: The Old and the New" - Rita Brown, Diane Jankiewicz and Stephanie Myers.

Sat., Nov. 1, 2014..... AIM Theory Exam at Wheaton College. The coordinators are Diane Jankiewicz and Janel Greaves.

Nov. 7-9, 2014..... ISMTA State Conference, Millikin University, Decatur.

Sat., March 7, 2015..... AIM Performance Exam.

DEADLINES

Mon. Sept. 1, 2014..... DEADLINE for teachers who are new to AIM to request a mentor. Contact AIM mentor Coordinator: Linda Krueger

Mon., Sept. 15, 2014..... DEADLINE for October 2014 Newsletter. Please send articles and information to LINDA KRUEGER via email lkruegerpno@comcast.net or call 630-665-8276.

Wed., Oct. 1, 2014 DEADLINE for enrolling students online in AIM Theory Exam (Level 3 and up) and completion of AIM Judges Form.

Thurs., Oct. 2, 2014..... DEADLINE for AIM Theory Enrollment Fees (\$20.00 per student) due at judges meeting.

MONTHLY PROGRAM

Dr. William Koehler

The Life and Compositions of Jan Dussek: An Alternative to Clementi and Kuhlau Sonatinas

The Czech composer Jan Ladislav Dussek was one of the first concert pianists to perform internationally. His emphasis on the piano's rich range of sound and the emotional drama of his compositions probably influenced Beethoven and the early Romantics.

This presentation will describe his eventful life, including his professional acquaintance with Joseph Haydn, France's Marie Antoinette, and Russia's Catherine the Great, and will focus on six of his shorter works for keyboard: the intermediate-level Sonatinas Opus 19/20.



William Koehler has taught piano at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb since 1985. He studied with Moreland Roller, Adele Marcus, and William Race, and his competition awards include first prizes in the 1984 San Antonio International Keyboard Competition and the 1989 New Orleans International Piano Competition. Koehler received his doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1986. Prior to teaching at NIU, he was on the piano faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1981 and 1982.

A recipient of a 2001 Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award from NIU, he was named a Presidential Teaching Professor in 2005.

He is an active performer of chamber music throughout the Midwest and has recorded for Cedille Records, Canti Classics, and Centaur Records as a collaborative pianist. He has performed with violinists David Perry, William Preucil, Cuauhtémoc Rivera, and Brian Lewis, violists Luis Llácer and Kathy Basrak, oboist Alex Klein, bass-baritone William Warfield, trombonist Jörgen van Rijen, and the Vermeer, Arianna, Avalon, and Prague string quartets.

Last October, he taught master classes and appeared on chamber music concerts at PAAXFEST in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas State, Mexico, where he had performed two years earlier at the Fernando Soria Piano Festival. Koehler is a past president of the Waubensee Valley chapter of the Illinois State Music Teachers Association and is pianist for DeKalb's First United Methodist Church.



AIM Theory

The ISMTA Aim Theory Exam is November 1 at Wheaton College. Any teacher new to AIM Theory will need to have a mentor assigned to them by September 1. Please contact Linda Krueger if you need a mentor.

Student enrollment must be done online by each teacher by midnight October 1. All teachers entering students must go to the enrollment link at www.wsismta.org and fill out the required information. Please be sure to correctly enter student name, AIM Level, if there is a sibling also entering in AIM, and if the student is new to the AIM program. If you have entered students in AIM in previous years, your name will appear in the judges list. If you are new to AIM and have been mentored but your name does not appear, please contact Diane Jankiewicz. Select "no preference" for time unless a student has discussed with you a legitimate conflict and needs a morning or afternoon time. Be sure to click on "submit" only once. Enrollment will begin on September 1.

Each teacher entering students must also complete a judging form by October 1. This form is also on the website and must be done online. All teachers must judge or work the required hours on the AIM Theory Exam Day. (4 hours=1-10 students, 4 1/2 hours=11-15 students, 5 hours=16-20 students, 5 1/2 hours=21-25 students, 6 hours=26 or more students)

Teachers are expected to double check the online student enrollment form to see that all their students have been properly enrolled (check for name and level). The link for this will be emailed out in September. **There will be no exceptions to the October 1 deadline.** The \$20 per student enrollment fee is due October 2. This is the same day as the judges meeting. Please submit one check for all students entered made payable to West Suburban ISMTA. The check can be given to Diane Jankiewicz or Janel Greaves.

There is a mandatory AIM judges meeting on Thursday, October 2 at 9:45 am. Anyone entering students in AIM Theory Level 3 or above must attend the entire meeting.

Teachers will be given the exact times for their students 2-3 weeks prior to the exam date. **No requests for changes will be accepted.** Students who need a makeup exam will be required to pay a \$20 makeup fee to the teacher who does the makeup exam. Teachers are encouraged to review their AIM syllabus manual for the specific requirements for each level they are entering students. If you have any questions regarding the AIM Theory Exam you may contact Diane Jankiewicz or Janel Greaves.

The latest information is that the revisions in the theory syllabus will not take effect this year.

Diane Jankiewicz has an extra level 3, 4, or 7 Student Workbook. Please contact her if you need one and would like to buy it.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please pick up your new directory at the September meeting!



Illinois State Music
Teachers Association

**Plan on attending the State Conference:
Nov. 7-9, 2014 at Millikin University, Decatur, IL.**



Many thanks to all my friends and colleagues who sent cards following my mother's passing early June. It warmed my heart to feel your care and support. Liz Mackenzie

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