



**West
Suburban
MTA**

www.wsismta.org

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

Monthly Newsletter

Summer 2015

Linda Krueger, Newsletter Editor

*Bonnie Brewster, Mailing Coordinator
Diane Lindsay, E-mail coordinator*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs., Sept. 3, 2015..... 9:30 am: Monthly Meeting and Program. Learning to Teach Students of all Reading Abilities, by Kristine Conrad. Trinity Episcopal Church in Wheaton.

Thurs., Oct., 1, 2015 9:45 am: Mandatory Aim Theory Judges Meeting.

Sat., Nov. 14, 2015 AIM Theory Exam at Wheaton College. The coordinators are Janel Greaves and Julie Crull.

Nov. 6-8, 2015..... ISMTA State Conference, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

Sat., March 12, 2016..... AIM Performance Exam.

DEADLINES

Sat., Aug. 15, 2015.....DEADLINE for September 2015 newsletter. Please send articles and information to Bonnie Brewster via email: bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com

Tues. Sept. 1, 2015..... DEADLINE for teachers who are new to AIM to request a mentor. Contact AIM mentor Coordinator: Linda Krueger

Thurs., Oct. 1, 2015DEADLINE for enrolling students in AIM Theory Exam (Level 3 and up) and completion of AIM Judges Form.

Thurs., Oct. 1, 2015..... DEADLINE for AIM Theory Enrollment Fees (\$20.00 per student) due at judges meeting,



MONTHLY PROGRAM

Learning to teach students of all reading abilities Kristine Conrad and Heidi Hamerick

On September 3, our program, "Learning to teach students of all reading abilities", will be presented by Kristine Conrad (M.A. in Piano Pedagogy) and Heidi Hamerick (Ph. D in clinical psychology). They have spoken at area chapters and at Piano Pedagogy classes at Concordia University in River Forest. This should be a stimulating way to start our teaching year as we encounter students of various levels and learning styles.



AIM THEORY

The deadline for enrolling students in the AIM Theory Exam is by midnight October 1st. Only teachers are allowed to register their students online at www.wsismta.org.

If you are entering students for the first time in AIM you will be assigned a mentor. Please contact Linda Krueger by Sept. 1st if you need a mentor for the upcoming fall theory exam. Please check the directory for further details regarding AIM.

The registration fee is \$20.00 per student. One check for all students made payable to WSISMTA is due October 1. Mail or bring your check to the meeting. Checks can be given to Janel Greaves or Julie Crull.

The AIM Theory judge's meeting is October 1 at 9:45 am. Anyone entering students in AIM Theory must be present for the entire meeting.

All the requirements for the exam are detailed in the NEW syllabus which came out last year.

Congratulations!

Madeleine Ruch, a student of Janna Williamson, placed second in the senior division of the Berkley-Pendell Competition on April 19th. The slate of winners will soon be on the B/P website, www.berkley-pendell.org

MTNA

MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP!**

Please make sure to renew by July 1 in order to be included in our next directory! Janna Williamson is our directory coordinator.

**OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER IS
THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE
with a deadline of August 15th**



**Illinois State Music
Teachers Association**

**Mark your calendar for the State Conference:
Nov. 6-8, 2015 at Moody Bible Institute,
Chicago.**



MAY MEETING MINUTES

West Suburban Illinois Music Teachers Association May 7, 2015

- The meeting was called to order at 9:35.
- The Student Performer was Avery Kiker, a student of Rita Brown, who played the Chopin Waltz Op. 69, No. 1.
- Tip of the Day – Rita Brown presented a tip about transposition. She shared a chart of AiM transposition level requirements and a list of her favorite pieces to use for transposing which are listed in the syllabus.
- The minutes were read. There was a correction that the NCKP will be held in Lombard this summer, not Oakbrook, as previously recorded.
- Treasurer Stephanie Myers reported a balance of \$5559.87.
- Membership – there were no visitors or new members present.
- Recitals – Marcelyn Petersen said that the May recital had 4 voice and 2 piano students perform.

Announcements:

- The luncheon following today's meeting is set up and ready to go.
- Bill Phemister judged for the Berkley-Pendell Competition and said that the performance level of the students was extraordinarily high. Carol Ishman congratulated Janna Williamson for her student taking 2nd place in her division. Carol encouraged West Suburban members to enter more students in the future.
- The WSISMTA spring Board Meeting will be held at 9:15, May 14 at Debi Inch's house. Board members should send an electronic file of their annual report to Debi and bring a copy to the meeting.
- Debi announced that the ISMTA Fall Conference will be held at Moody Bible Institute on Nov. 6-7. The Friday night banquet will be exciting and lots of fun, and will honor our Member of the Year, Elinor Lee. Lynette Zelis gave additional information about the conference. Look for more information coming from State. She also announced that the new ISMTA website is up and running, but that it is a work in progress, and to please be patient.
- Debi provided the dates for next year's AiM exams: Nov. 14 for Theory, and March 12 for Performance.
- Diane Lindsay was congratulated for earning her National Certification.
- Janna Williamson announced that she has two high school seniors giving a joint Senior Recital this Saturday.
- Diane Lindsay congratulated Janna for her student Emma Cho winning 3rd place in "Piano Explorer" 2015 Composition Contest category 11 and over.
- Bill Phemister reported that the fundraiser for the new piano at Windsor Park exceeded its goal, and raised over \$80,000. They were able to purchase 7 foot Steinway B. He thanked all contributors and encouraged teachers to hold recitals there.
- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 by Diane Lindsay, seconded by Carol Ishman.

A program by Elvina Truman Pearce, The music of Schumann – Its Practice and Performance, followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Sbarboro

Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition

The 2015 Piano Competition, 19th April, attracted immensely accomplished young pianists from the four western Chicago MTNA association chapters of Naperville, Salt Creek, Waubensee Valley, and West Suburban.

The encouragement and promotion of great music and emerging pianistic artistry and excellence, as the purpose of the Competition's inception, was significantly achieved. The quality of participating young pianists' performances was exceptional, as confirmed by the response of our roster of esteemed judges:

Dr. Svetlana Belsky, University of Chicago
Marilyn Bourgeois, South Suburban College
Joseph Cisar, Wheaton College Preparatory Program
Dr. Steven L. Havens, College of DuPage
Dr. JeongSoo Kim, Northern Illinois University
Dr. William Phemister, Professor Emeritus, Wheaton College

The forty-eight (48) young pianists of fifth through twelfth grades were representative of the wonderful pedagogical liaison with their eighteen (18) teachers. The winners of each division were awarded cash prizes, and were highlighted in a Celebratory Concert and reception following the competition (Saturday, 25th April, 7PM, Gary United Methodist Church, Wheaton).

In addition to the artistry and quality of the participants' preparation, the support and availability of North Central College was essential and immensely valuable. Kenneth Hannah, events director of Wentz Fine Arts Center, provided generously, including set-up assistance with student aides.

The Competition benefitted immeasurably from the increasing support not only from each of the area's chapters, but also from a growing advertiser's roster. This support included the provision of the Senior Division, First Place Award, presented by Mr. C.J. McBride, representing the gift of Steinway Music of Hinsdale. In addition, the newly initiated 'private and personal donations' category aided significantly. Greater advertising solicitation continues to reflect the efforts and growth towards further financial stability.

Immense appreciation is in order for the year-long creative contribution and generous masses of time provided by the committee members of the Berkley-Pendell Committee:

Marcia Lehe, Judges
Nancy Sen, Applications
Rita Brown, Repertoire/AiM Advisor
Beth Jones, Venue
Jane Brueggemann, Programme
Anna Buckley, Media/Marketing/Celebratory Concert

Numerous parents and participants expressed their appreciation and pleasure in their involvement in the event. It was generally believed that progress continues to be made in the quality, professionalism and efficacy of the competition's purpose and goals.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Karol Sue Reddington, Director

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