

WSMTA NEWSLETTER



February 2021

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Thursday Jan 21, 9:30am

**TIE Meeting
(Teacher Information Exchange)**
Meeting via Zoom

Thursday Feb 4, 9:30am

**Meeting & Program:
AIM Performance Judging Session**
(required for AIM teachers)
Meeting via Zoom

Thursday Feb 11, 9:30am

Teacher Performer Group
Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, March 4, 2021, 9:30am

**Meeting & Program:
Dr. Steve Pierson, 'We Sang
Ourselves Free – Development
(Educational Influence) and Uses
of Music Among Estonian
Christians from Repression to
Independence'**
Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, March 6

AIM Performance Exams

Thursday, April 8, 9:30am

**Meeting & Program:
Janna Williamson, '20/20 Vision
for Piano Teachers: Building a
Foundation for Expressive
Performance'**
Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, April 15, 9:30am

**TIE Meeting
(Teacher Information Exchange)**
Meeting via Zoom

From the President...



Dear Members,

Our next monthly meeting is Thursday, February 4. Members will receive a Zoom invitation at least one day prior to the scheduled meeting with information as to how to connect to the meeting. Coffee and conversation begin at 9 a.m. The Business Meeting is at 9:30 a.m. The AIM Performance Exam Judging Session follows immediately after the business portion. All teachers entering students into the AIM Performance Exams on March 6 are required to attend.

This year the offices of President, 1st Vice President for Programs, and 3rd Vice President for Membership are due for reelection for a two-year term (2021-2023). I have appointed Janel Greaves, Stephanie Myers, and Kathy Sbarboro to serve on the Nominating Committee. The nominating committee will announce the slate of new officers at the February 4 meeting. At the March 4 Meeting all members will vote on candidates for these positions by accepting nominations from the floor or to select those chosen by the nominating committee.

I have appointed Anne Marie Kuhny as 2nd Vice President for Publicity/Historian. Faith Loewe has resigned this position. Anne Marie will also be the chapter's new website Administrator. She will hold this position until May of 2022. I am grateful to Anne Marie for accepting this appointment.

Please plan to attend the Joint Chapter Workshop on February 25. Details can be found in this newsletter.

I hope everyone is staying well in the New Year. Let us hope for a calmer and healthier year ahead.

Diane Jankiewicz

February Meeting & Program – February 4, 9:30am **AIM Performance Judging Session & Updates**



All teachers should have received enrollment forms for themselves and their students. Judges - please enter your own judging form at your earliest convenience to help us in the planning process. All forms are due by Feb 1.

We will be holding our Judges Meeting for all judges on Thursday, February 4, 2021 through our Zoom monthly meeting. We will be including:

- Guidelines for video recording the performances of your students
- Guidelines for uploading the recordings of the performances
- Judging procedures for in person and/or online judging
- Picking up packets for the exams, judging and delivering completed judging packets
- Technique requirements, good judging practices
- An interactive judging example

We know these are extraordinary times and we are working to make this new AIM season one which all teachers can adapt to and make successful. Thank you for your patience and persistence in keeping all of our students going forward with their AIM exams this very different year.

Janna Williamson and Debi Inch, AIM Performance Coordinators

Membership News


Please welcome our new member, **Bojan Kolevski!**

Be sure to update your directory with the following:

Bojan Kolevski



WS Joint Chapter Workshop




LEARNING WITHOUT PRACTICING

Discovering Active and Passive Mental Practice Techniques

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Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021
Time: 9:30—11:30 a.m.
Location: Zoom

Presented by
Frederic Chiu
Van Cliburn finalist and
professor at
Carnegie Mellon University



Learn unique practice techniques
from a world-renowned pianist and educator
in the comfort of your own home

find out more and register at:
<https://jointwestsuburbanchapter.wordpress.com/>

Sponsored by Joint West Suburban ISMTA Local Associations

The *Joint Chapter Workshop* is coming up on Thursday, February 25, 2021. This year, as we all know is unique. We will have an amazing speaker, Professor Frederic Chiu, and our workshop will also be conducted using Zoom. Please consider signing up!

'Learning Without Practicing' is a highly interactive workshop focusing on techniques for learning music without using an instrument. This session focuses on non-traditional score-study techniques mixing solo work with collaborative work, a rarity for the usually insular pianist. In addition to the active Mental Practice techniques, participants also have a chance to experience passive Mental Practice techniques through a specially customized approach to Meditation for Pianists.

In this workshop, 12 active participants will interact and perform a short musical segment on a piano, publicly via Zoom (specific music settings for Zoom will be sent to all confirmed participants). An unlimited number of auditor participants will be accepted who will receive materials to do the exercises on their own, but not interactively or publicly. I personally have tried some of these and highly recommend you experience them both for to try yourself and help your students.

Frederic Chiu performs at major venues on five continents and collaborates with Classical music friends Joshua Bell, Pierre Amoyal and the St Lawrence String Quartet. Prof. Chiu was runner up at the Van Cliburn and studied at Indiana University as well as the Julliard School with major pedagogues including Dr. Karen Shaw, Abbey Simon, Aube Tzerko, Marvin Wolfthal and Marian Rybicki. Frederic Chiu has recorded the most extensive complete piano works of Prokofiev. Across 28 albums, he has also recorded works of Chopin, Liszt, Ravel, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Rossini and Grieg. He is on the faculty at Carnegie Mellon University and The Hartt School. He accepts a limited number of undergraduate and graduate students, who learn the lesson that Chiu himself has learned: Music is not an escape from life; it is a doorway into life.

Register ASAP to reserve your spot! This can be online by following the directions on the website:

<https://jointwestsuburbanchapter.wordpress.com/registration-2/>

Or register using the *form at the bottom of this newsletter*. Print it out and mail it with your check to the address on the form. If you prefer to pay online using Googlepay, email your name, phone number, address, email and ISMTA chapter (if applicable) to jointboard.westsuburban.ismta@gmail.com Upon receipt of this information, you will be sent a request to pay electronically.

After payment is processed you will be sent a Zoom link to access the workshop. We hope to see you all at the workshop on February 25!

Dr. Anne Marie Kuhny, Joint Workshop Chairperson

WSMTA Business Meeting Minutes January 7, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Diane Jankiewicz at 9:31.

There was no monthly music presented, due to today's Master Class.

The **Minutes** of the **December 3rd** meeting were read by Marcia Lehe. There were no additions or corrections. A motion to accept was made by Janna Williamson and seconded by Anne Marie Kuhny.

Linda Krueger gave the **Treasurer's Report** of \$10,986.36 in the WSMTA account.

There was no **TIP** presented today due to the Master Class, and Janel Greaves reported there are no new **members or guests** to introduce.

Upcoming Events and Reminders:

The topic for discussion for the **January 21 TIE meeting** will be communicated to members by Debi Inch at a later date.

AIM Performance Exams:

Janna Williamson advises that teachers check early for the collections in which planned AIM pieces are included. She reminds that no videos of AIM performance pieces should be emailed to her now, and full instructions will come during the February meeting.

Pre-recordings should be made only for AIM Repertoire. AIM Technique exams will be held and judged by each student's own teacher.

Janna assures us that judges plan to be gracious in judging videos in this Pandemic year; however, teachers and students should follow the guidelines exactly. If judges are unable to access the videos or do not have the scores available, they will not be able to judge the exam, and a makeup will have to be scheduled. Though no videos should be submitted early, Janna urged teachers not to wait too long before uploading videos, as all will be due by Friday, March 5 at 12:00.

Kevin Xue questioned how to video longer repertoire played by students in levels 10 – 12. Janna Williamson assured teachers that a video can be made for individual pieces when a piece is long, or can be stopped between pieces, and then restarted. She also said that it would be acceptable to record on a lower quality setting on a phone video, so that the file would be shorter. Students are allowed to use a YouTube video as well. Diane Jankiewicz thanks Janna Williamson for all her planning for AIM.

Rita Brown commented that when she receives the lists for AIM Repertoire on Feb 1st, she has to handle the approval process very quickly. She asks for teachers' help! When you use pieces in collections, look up the pieces' levels in the Syllabus so she does not have to do this work for you. Also, please list the page number of the piece in the Collection. This will ensure that everyone receives their approvals as quickly as possible.

New Business:

In regard to the **Joint Chapter Workshop**, scheduled for February 25th, Anne Marie Kuhny will be releasing publicity soon, and is urging teachers to register for the Workshop. She also is seeking volunteers for participants who will publicly play two measures of music, using the new learning techniques being explained by the Workshop Presenter. She will send out information on how volunteer participants can sign up online.

Anna Marie will post information on our Facebook page and on our Website. She hopes to reach members of other Chapters, as well as friends outside of ISMTA. Kathlyn Sbarboro asked for the publicity also to be submitted to the Newsletter.

Diane Jankiewicz announced that Janel Greaves, Stephanie Myers, and Kathy Sbarboro are members of the **nominating committee** for the next President, for the 1st VP for Programs, and for the 3rd VP for Membership. Nominees will be announced in February, and voting will be in March. Diane appointed Anne Marie Kuhny to take over the positions of 2nd Vice President for Publicity/Historian and Website Administrator, which positions have been resigned by Faith Loewe, who is no longer teaching or a member of WSMTA. Diane suggests that the two positions be combined, and Anna Marie will be handling both through 2022.

Liz Mackenzie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Janel Greaves. Liz then introduced Alex Djordjevic, who presented a Master Class for four students.

Marcia Lehe, Recording Secretary

Quote of the Month


'Practice makes...Progress, Permanence, Pride, and eventually, it makes...Perfect*'

*Well, ok, perfection is pretty hard to reach, but you will be so proud of how great you sound after a lot of practice and no one can take that feeling away!' – Kristen Humbar



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NOTEABLE NOTES  **MUSIC ACADEMY**

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From the Editor

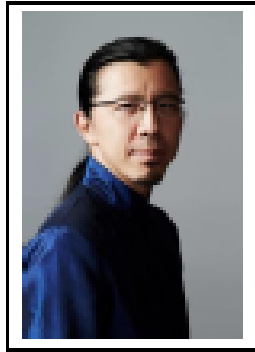
The WSMTA Newsletter is published monthly September through May, with one summer issue in July. The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. For example: the September newsletter deadline is August 15 and is published by Aug. 20. Articles must be 'print ready' when submitted.

This newsletter is sent via the WS Google Group, wsmta@googlegroups.com. You must subscribe to the group in order to receive it and other important communication from our group. Past issues of the WSMTA Newsletter are available on the WSMTA website, www.wsismta.org.

Kathlyn Sbarboro, WSMTA Newsletter Editor



WS Joint Chapter Workshop Registration Form:



LEARNING WITHOUT PRACTICING:

DISCOVERING ACTIVE AND PASSIVE MENTAL PRACTICE TECHNIQUES

by Prof. Frederic Chiu

Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021

Time: 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Location: Zoom

Sponsored by:
Joint West Suburban ISMTA
Local Associations

Proceeds from this workshop benefit
Berkeley - Pendell Piano Competition
Fund

Learning Without Practicing is a highly interactive workshop focusing on techniques for learning music without using an instrument. This session focuses on non-traditional score-study techniques mixing solo work with collaborative work, a rarity for the usually insular pianist. In addition to the active Mental Practice techniques, participants also have a chance to experience passive Mental Practice techniques through a specially customized approach to Meditation for Pianists.

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Register by Mail or Online: Register by mail using form below. Or pay online by visiting the Joint West Suburban Chapter Workshop Website: <https://jointwestsuburbanchapter.wordpress.com/> When payment has been received, you will receive an email with the Zoom link for the workshop.

PLEASE RETURN WITH PAYMENT BY FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Yes, I will attend the workshop on Thursday, February 25, 2021. Make checks payable to the WS ISMTA Joint Fund.

Pre-Registration (by Feb. 21, 2021—Adults \$25 and Students \$5.00. Last-minute adult registration \$30. Mail this form and your check (postmarked by Feb. 21, 2021) to address below.

Or email your RSVP and contact information to rvalanciute@yahoo.com and mail your check (by Feb. 21) to address below.

Name _____ Phone _____

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