

WSMTA NEWSLETTER



September 2022

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Thursday Sep. 1, 9:30 AM
Meeting & Program:
'The Happy Birthday Song as Bait - Strategies for Ear Training,' Christina Tio
Trinity Episcopal Church

Thursday Sep. 8, 9:30 AM
WSMTA Board Meeting
Home of Lynette Zelis

Thursday Sep. 15 Deadline:
AIM Theory Enrollment

Thursday Oct. 6, 9:30 AM
Meeting & Program:
'AIM Theory Judging Session,' Lynette Zelis and Carol Beilke
Trinity Episcopal Church

Thursday Oct. 13, 9:30 AM
TIE Meeting
Home of Carol Ishman

Thursday Oct. 20, 9:30 AM
Teacher Performance Group
Home of Karol Sue Reddington

Sunday Oct. 30, 1:30 PM
Student Recital
Windsor Park

Thursday Nov. 3, 9:30 AM
Meeting & Program:
'Introduction to Dalcroze Method for Music Teachers,' Fumi Nakayama
Trinity Episcopal Church

Fri-Sat Nov. 4-5
ISMTA Conference
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL

From the President...

Dear Members,



I hope you have all had a wonderful summer! As always, the summer seems to be over in the blink of an eye! As we look forward, though, I am excited about another full year of events that we have planned for our chapter, and I would like to highlight a few here. Judit Mohai has been working hard on our new directory. The directory will be emailed to all members at the beginning of September. In addition to our members' contact information, the directory will include our calendar of events, information regarding the AIM exams and the Berkley-Pendell Competition, and much more.

Our monthly chapter meetings start up again in September. The first meeting will be on September 1st at Trinity Episcopal Church (130 N. West St., Wheaton) starting at 9:30 AM. Christina Tio will be speaking on the topic "The Happy Birthday Song as Bait - Strategies for Ear Training." Our subsequent chapter meetings will be on the first Thursday of each month except for the January meeting which will be on 1/12/23. Please be sure to make a note of this in your calendar as it is later than usual.

As a chapter, we will be offering two opportunities this year for students to perform in a recital. At the board meeting in May, we made the decision to see if we would have more interest in these recitals if we waive the registration fee. For this coming school year, students of WSMTA chapter members may register for these recitals at no cost. If we have more students register than we can accommodate, registrations will be accepted in the order they were received. We are also hoping to have some students from the Wheaton College Conservatory play at these recitals to help inspire our students. The first student recital is scheduled for October 30th, and the registration form is available at www.wsismta.org.

Lastly, I want to extend a warm welcome to our new members! I hope that we will have a chance to meet each one of you at one of our chapter meetings or other events! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again in September!

Janel Greaves

September Meeting & Program - September 1, 9:30am

“The Happy Birthday Song as Bait - Strategies for Ear Training,” Dr. Christina Tio



This presentation seeks to share strategies for training the ear, teaching hands-on theoretical concepts and developing an appreciation for basic improvisation. The presentation will zero in on how the strategies could be applied using the "Happy Birthday" song. The session will be packed with actionable ideas, along with excerpts of lesson videos where students at various playing levels are guided to listen, sing, and play the Happy Birthday song around the Circle of Fifths. Some student samples of creative renditions of the song will also be included to demonstrate possible impact of the strategies.

Christina Tio earned her piano performing and teaching diplomas, BA (Hons) and MMus in Piano Performance in the United Kingdom at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and Reading University respectively. Her interest in musicology, and the award of a scholarship, led her into musicological research with Nicholas Cook, under whose guidance, she completed her PhD in Musicology at the University of Southampton, UK.

First began teaching the piano at age 14, Christina maintained a studio all through her school and college. Before moving to Chicago, she also taught for five years at various colleges and universities in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Dr. Tio has been a regular session presenter. Dr. Tio has also served as a Piano Masterclass clinician at the biennial Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) Teachers Conference in Minneapolis in 2018. She frequently adjudicates at festivals and competitions, and enjoys teaching and mentoring students, parents and fellow teachers at workshops and summer institutes around the US, as well as in Singapore.

Passionate about the Suzuki philosophy, Christina considers Parent Education and Developing Musicality her forte. She enjoys a thriving piano studio characterized by excellence and joy, where music making is appreciated as a lifelong endeavor. Her students frequently receive awards at local, regional, national and international competitions. They also perform extensively in the community at festivals and nursing homes to warm critical acclaim. Prize winnings have also led her students to appearances at SAA Biennial Conferences in Minneapolis, Alice Millar Chapel at Northwestern University, Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall and Merkin Hall in Kaufman Center in New York, Beethoven Haus in Bonn, Germany, as well as MTNA National Conference. Christina is currently a Suzuki Piano faculty at the Music Institute of Chicago. Aside from in-person lessons and group classes, Christina also teaches online with students in Kansas City, Colorado and California, in the UK and in Singapore. Also a homeschool mom since 2013, she lives in Skokie, IL with her husband and son.
<https://www.musicinst.org/christina-tio>

WSMTA Programs - Mark your Calendars!

I'm excited to present this year's list of programs. I incorporated suggestions from you to line up a variety of interesting and helpful programs. Hope you can attend many of them.



Liz Mackenzie, 1st VP for Programs

2021-2022 Programs, West Suburban MTA

- Sep. 1 'The Happy Birthday Song as Bait - Strategies for Ear Training,' Christina Tio
Oct. 6 'AIM Theory Judging Session,' Lynette Zelis and Carol Beilke
Nov. 3 'Introduction to Dalcroze Method for Music Teachers,' Fumi Nakayama
Dec. 1 'Imagery and Artistry,' Susan Osborn
Jan. 12 'Refresh and Renew your Students and Recitals with these Favorite Duets,'
Rita Brown and Lynette Zelis
Feb. 2 'AIM Performance Judging Session,' Janna Williamson and Debi Inch
Mar. 2 'Lecture Recital on the Music of Florence Price,' Lia Jensen -Abbott
Apr. 6 'Intermediate Master Class, Janna Williamson
May 4 'Rhythm and Meter in the Keyboard Music of J.S. Bach,' Kate Boyd

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our newest members of WSMTA! Please keep an eye out for these new members at our meetings and help them get to know us!

We welcome **Sandra Anderson**, a longtime Waubonsie Valley member who has now joined our chapter as well, **Abigail Resek** and **Bethany Mikolajczyk**, both new to MTNA, and **Lora Koch** our first WSMTA Patron member!

We hope you will find opportunities to enjoy and benefit from our many activities for yourself and your students. You will find these opportunities listed in our WSMTA Directory and Calendar which will be emailed to all members.

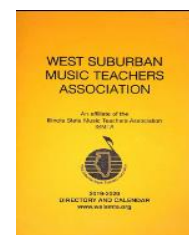
It's not too late to Renew Your Membership!

Renewal notices have been mailed out, and you can now renew your membership by mail, by phone (888-512-5278), or online (www.mtna.org).

Membership offers crucial benefits such as legal FAQs, compiled lists of helpful resources, webinars, and the MTNA eFestival, just to name a few examples. In addition, our West Suburban chapter will continue to provide opportunities to exchange ideas and collaborate with other local teachers.

As you renew, be sure to double check your contact information (address, email, phone, and teaching areas) to ensure that your directory listing for the coming year is correct. If you have already renewed and want to double check your contact information, it's not too late to log in to your account at www.mtna.org and confirm that everything is listed correctly.

Please contact Linda Krueger, 3rd VP for Membership, lkruegermusicstudio@gmail.com, with any questions regarding membership benefits or renewals.



AIM Mentor Program



ATTENTION: Any teachers planning to enter students in AIM for the first time!

September 1 is the deadline for newly participating teachers to notify the AIM coordinators of their intent to enroll students in the Theory Exams (Level 3-12) and to contact the mentoring coordinator to arrange for a mentor. This will allow the AIM coordinators to ensure that the teacher's names are on the enrollment form and that the teachers have a mentor in a timely fashion. **NOTE! THESE ARE NOT ENROLLMENT DEADLINES, BUT NOTIFICATION DEADLINES.**

If you have not entered students in AIM before or in the past 10 years, please notify the following people:
Mentoring Coordinator: Linda Krueger Theory Exam (3-12) Coordinators: Lynette Zelis and Carol Beilke

The Performance Exam notification deadline (Levels 1A-12) will be January 1. Performance Exam (1A-12)

The AIM Mentor Program is intended to encourage greater participation by teachers new to the program, guide them in the successful preparation of their students, and most importantly encourage the highest level of preparation and understanding for first time judging and scoring of the exams by each teacher.

Linda Krueger, AIM Mentor Coordinator

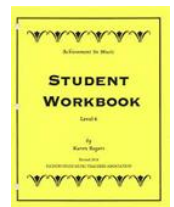
West Suburban ISMTA Theory Exams, Fall 2022

Registration is due on September 15th.

You can now register your students: <https://forms.gle/JFjPL1AemG1Kx9uDA>

The cost is \$30 per student - check accepted only, made out to WSMTA.

For yourself as a judge: <https://forms.gle/nQHfGMGJFWEffjUa8>



The exams will take place on October 15th - at Wheaton College Conservatory, Armerding hall.

For all AIM participating teachers - it's required to judge or help in the office for a minimum of 4 hours. This amount increases with the amount of students you are entering. If you are new to AIM and entering students for the first time, you need to contact Linda Krueger, lkruegermusicstudio@gmail.com, to have a mentor assigned to you.

Please let me know what topics you'd like to cover at our AIM meeting on October 6. **This is a required judge's session for all teachers entering students in the October AIM theory exams.** One change from last year - judges will be administering the aural skills - no ipods. This is due to a few factors we will discuss at the meeting in October. Are there areas of AIM theory you'd like to discuss or judging questions you have in mind? I'd be happy to address them. Or email me with ideas or topics for this session by September 1.

Our policy at will be as follows for your out of state students:

These students will pay the usual AiM fee, plus the \$25 fee for the makeup judges for both Theory and Performance exams. These exams will be in real time and judged online. Students must make arrangements with a Judge willing to give the exams on Zoom or facetime. The Judge has to be a member of our Chapter. The written portion will be emailed to the students prior to the playing portion of the exam, then the

student must send the completed work directly to the judge for grading along with the aural portion. The administering of the written portion will be completed and monitored by the parents of the student. Sight reading and harmonizations will need to be emailed to the student the day of the exam and not visible to the student until the exam is given.

AIM Registration is due by September 15th! Payment can be:

- mailed to Lynette Zelis, 203 E. Hawthorne Blvd, Wheaton, IL 60187
- dropped off in the mailbox at Noteable Notes - 406 S. Main St. Wheaton
- Or brought to the meeting on Oct 6.

The Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition

The Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition and Festival is scheduled for Sunday, 23rd April, 2023, 12:30-7P, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn. All requirements, repertoire, application materials and deadline are available on the Berkley-Pendell website. In retaining correlation with the AiM repertoire and levels, flexibility is underlined and appreciated. The breadth of all young pianists' musical experience remains paramount



Karol Sue Reddington, BPC Coordinator

Quote of the Month

'How is it that music can, without words, evoke our laughter, our fears, our highest aspirations?'

— Jane Swan



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


Please patronize our Sponsors!

ISMTA Teachers receive 20% off all sheet music, books and gift items!

NOTEABLE NOTES

630-456-1804

Piano, Voice, Cello, Violin, Viola, Brass, Woodwind, Guitar, & Percussion



MUSIC ACADEMY

406 S Main St, Wheelton

pianoforte chicago



33W441 Rt. 38 / P.O. Box 514
Geneva, IL 60134
(630) 584-5000

www.chicagopianos.com

*Illinois' largest piano store -
proudly supporting music education since 1950!*

- PIANO SALES
- RENTALS
- TUNING
- MOVING
- STORAGE
- APPRAISALS
- CONSIGNMENTS



New & Used Grand, Vertical, Digital, Hybrid and Player Pianos
KAWAI, SHIGERU KAWAI, ESTONIA, WM KNABE, HALLET DAVIS, ROLAND, CASIO,
YAMAHA, STEINWAY, BALDWIN, MASON & HAMLIN, CHICKERING



- Fine Pianos
- Pianos with Technology
- Band Instrument Rentals
- Orchestra Instrument Rentals
- Fine Guitars

Digital Pianos
Clavinova CLP - CVP

Hybrid Pianos
AvantGrand - Disklavier
Silent Pianos - TransAcoustic

Acoustic Pianos
Upright - Grand - Premium Pianos

Yes... Now You Can!
Connect Wirelessly To Your Piano
↓ Ask Us How



NAPERVILLE MUSIC.COM
636 E. Ogden Ave
Naperville, IL 60563

Yamaha Pianos
With And Without Technology
New and Used

630-355-1404