

# WSMTA NEWSLETTER



November 2023

## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Thursday, Oct. 19, 9:30 AM  
**Teacher Performance Group**  
College of DuPage

Sunday, Oct. 22  
**ISMTA North Competition**  
Harper College

Thursday, Nov. 2, 9:00AM  
**Meeting & Program**  
"Listening through Soundtracks," Ruth Mudge  
Windsor Park Auditorium

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 3-4  
**ISMTA State Conference**  
Northern Illinois University

Thursday, Nov. 9, 9:30 AM  
**Teacher Information Exchange (TIE) Meeting**  
Home of Marcia Lehe

Sunday, Nov. 12, 1:30 PM  
**Student Recital**  
(Entry deadline November 1)  
Windsor Park Auditorium

Thursday, Dec. 7, 9:00 AM  
**Meeting & Program**  
"The Piano Music of Charles Griffes," Dr. Michael Fritsch  
Windsor Park Auditorium

Thursday, Jan 11, 9:00 AM  
**Meeting & Program**  
"Busy Teens- Should They Stay or Go?" Christina Whitlock  
**ZOOM MEETING ONLY**

Thursday, Jan. 18, 9:30 AM  
**Teacher Information Exchange (TIE) Meeting**  
Coordinator: Linda Krueger

Thursday, Feb. 1, 9:00 AM  
**Meeting & Program**  
"AIM Performance Judging Session," Debbie Gilette and Debi Inch  
**Mandatory for all AIM teachers**  
Windsor Park Auditorium

## From the President...

Dear members,



Congratulations to all of the students who completed AIM theory exams on October 14, and of course, congratulations to their teachers as well! I am so grateful for the work of our coordinators, Lynette Zelis and Janel Greaves, as well as office manager Peggy Liu, who all worked a very long day to make sure the exams were a success.

I am very proud of our chapter for our robust showing in terms of the number of students enrolled in AIM exams, as well as the range of levels - enrollment this fall included 26 students taking level three and 16 students taking level twelve!

Please note that registration is now open for the ISMTA conference on November 3-4. Several of our own WS members are contributing, and I am sure that conference artist Frederic Chiu will not disappoint. Additionally, Northern Illinois University is an easy drive from the western suburbs. If you have never attended a state conference before, let me encourage you to do so this year. I think you will find it valuable.

Lastly, registration is now open for our November 12 Student Recital. Don't forget that entry is free for your students! Please use the link in your email to register your students and reach out if you have any questions - I am the coordinator for this recital.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our next business meeting on November 2,

Janna Williamson

P.S. Once again, don't forget that we now meet in the auditorium at Covenant Living at Windsor Park, [124 Windsor Park Dr in Carol Stream](https://www.covenantliving.com/locations/windsor-park) We also have a new meeting time!

**8:30-9:00 Coffee & Conversation**

**9:00 Business meeting followed by the program**

## November Meeting & Program – Nov. 2, 9:00am

### "Listening through Soundtracks," Ruth Mudge

For many students and adults, soundtracks are the gateway to listening and paying attention to classical music whether it is learning about motifs to learning to recognize orchestral instruments. Through this presentation, we will look at the various ways that music can help aid in telling a story through movies such as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, and even Disney musicals. We will also explore how encouraging students to listen and play soundtracks can be very valuable for a student's musical growth as well as the practical challenges that is faced by the student's ability or music available. Above all, it is about having fun with stories and learning to see the craftsmanship that goes into creating a story with music.



**Ruth Mudge**, a former native of Connecticut, is a cello instructor and performer in the Western Suburbs of the Chicago area. Ruth is a current faculty member of the String Academy of Chicago on both cello and piano. She received her Bachelors in Music Performance at Wheaton College and her Masters in Music Performance at DePaul University.

In addition to teaching students in the Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, and Naperville areas, Ruth is the Assistant Principal Cellist of the Elmhurst Symphony. She has performed around the area in concerts and gigs ranging from weddings to retirement homes to home concerts. She loves to share both classical music as well as participating in a worship music band at her local church. Besides performing and teaching, Ruth loves to explore other ways of sharing music from arranging to writing original songs to speaking about Soundtracks.

Ruth began teaching Soundtrack classes on Zoom in 2020 ranging from *Star Wars* to *Harry Potter* to Jane Austen adaptations. She presented a break-out session "The World of Jane Austen Soundtracks" at JASNA's AGM (Jane Austen Society of North America's Annual General Meeting) in 2021 as well as to local JASNA chapters around the country. Ruth is also the host of the podcast "World of Soundtracks" that debuted March 2022.

### WSMTA Student Recital

Please consider registering your students for our next chapter recital will be Sunday, November 12, 1:30pm at Windsor. There is no fee for entry for students of WSMTA members. For more information about recital guidelines, please consult the WSMTA Handbook or contact recital coordinator Janna Williamson.



To enter your student, please fill out this form by the deadline of 11:59pm on November 1. <https://forms.gle/SgVzFRhdFMnXPtk9A>

## Membership Directory Supplement October 2023

Please note the following changes and additions for your directory:

Returning member:

Lora Lee Koch

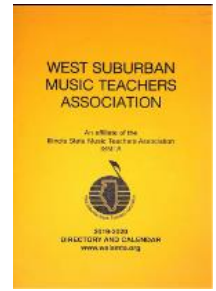
WSMTA Patron

And please welcome our newest member:

Patricia H. Argaza

Piano, Accompanying, Theory, Music History

Linda Krueger, Membership Coordinator



## AIM Theory Exams, Fall 2023

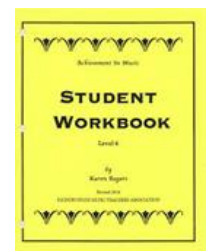
We want to thank everyone who contributed to make the AIM Theory Exams a success! Everything went smoothly on Saturday!

Students who need to complete a makeup exam should have already scheduled their exam with a judge. Makeup exams must be completed by October 28<sup>th</sup>. Makeup exam procedures and a list of judges were included in teachers' take-home packets on AIM day. Please contact Janel Greaves if you need another copy.

If you judge a makeup exam, please be sure to collect \$25 from the student before you start the exam. Please email the student's name, level, final score, and teacher code (which is on the exam label) to Lynette Zelis immediately after the exam is completed.

Thank you all for making AIM day run so smoothly!

Lynette Zelis and Janel Greaves, AIM Co-Coordinators



---

# *Music in the Afternoon*



*Janet Schultze, piano*

*Barbara Farley, violin*

*Carol Beilke, piano*

*Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 3 p.m.  
St. Andrew United Methodist Church  
250 N. Gary Avenue, Carol Stream*

**Freewill Offering for St. Andrew Food Pantry**

---

## West Suburban Music Teachers Association October 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order at 9:02am by President Janna Williamson.

No monthly music was heard due to the AIM meeting topic. The minutes of the September 2023 meeting were read by Dr. Anne Marie Kuhny. A motion was made to approve them as read by Dr. Karol Sue Reddington and seconded by Katrina Kline.

The financial report was given, and treasurer Diane Lindsay reported the current balance.

No TIP was given due to the AIM meeting topic. No new or visiting members were in attendance.

### Upcoming Events and Reminders:

- AIM theory exams October 14
- Teacher Performance Group October 19 by Dr. Karol Sue Reddington
- Next meeting November 2 – Ruth Mudge “Listening Through Soundtracks”
- ISMTA Conference November 3-4 at NIU. Registration is now open!

### New Items:

- Bill Phemister is having a concert at St. Michael's Church in Wheaton on Sunday, Oct 22 at 4 pm.
- Please look at the upcoming AMT issue to see Bill's review of his new book: Hymns of Creation.
- The Chapter Recital is coming up on November 12 at Windsor
- Remember that AIM level 12 must submit their repertoire five months ahead of the planned performance.
- Look out for the Silent Film event being coordinated by Lynette. Performers are still needed in this production by Lynette's studio. It is a great fundraiser being held in Bloomingdale for the underserved music program in Guatemala.

A motion was made to adjourn by Carol Ishman and seconded by Rita Brown.

This month's program was the **AIM Judges meeting - Lynette Zelis & Janel Greaves**

Dr. Anne Marie Kuhny, Secretary

## Quote of the Month



‘Ask people across ages and cultures what art-form most helps them live their lives, and they will overwhelmingly point to music. It is, quite literally, the soundtrack to our lives — to our fallings in love, to our seasons of grief, to our workouts and our commutes and our parties and our most private moments.’

– Maria Popova

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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

406 S Main St, Wheaton

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

[www.chicagopianos.com](http://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 & HAMLEN, 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**

# pianoforte

chicago