

# WSMTA NEWSLETTER



July 2024

## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

Thursday, Sep. 5  
**Monthly Meeting & Program**  
Windsor Park Auditorium

**Enjoy a restful summer!**

**See you in September!**

## *From the President...*



Dear members,

Happy summer! I hope you are enjoying a change of pace now that the school year is over.

Thank you to all of you who served on the WSMTA board for the 2023-24 school year. We had a very successful year, complete with several excellent presentations at our monthly meetings, over 180 student participants in our AIM exams, two successful chapter recitals, an inspiring AIM honors recital, and more.

The upcoming year promises to be just as strong. We will meet again this year at Windsor on the first Thursday of every month. Carol Beilke has been hard at work reserving several excellent presenters for us on a variety of topics, ranging from Baroque dance to teaching adult students. You won't want to miss these opportunities for professional development and inspiration.

*\*Please note that our January meeting will occur on the 9th, the second Thursday of the month, and again will be held online. I'm very excited that Katherine Fisher of Piano Safari has agreed to present at this meeting!*

If you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. To be listed in the directory, members should renew by July 25.

I look forward to seeing you in the fall. If you've never attended a meeting of our association, I encourage you to give it a go on September 5. We have a great group of accomplished and friendly teachers!

Janna Williamson

## Membership Renewal

Please renew your membership by July 25 to be included in the 2024-2025 directory!

Join or Renew Your Membership



As of May 31, half of our membership has already renewed! Let's make that 100% this year who renew before the deadline. Members may go to the MTNA website at [mtna.org](http://mtna.org) to renew their membership for next year. Please be sure to also double check all of your contact information on the "About Me" tab that appears when you first log in. This is the information that will be used for next year's directory. If you need to make any changes, simply click on the pencil icon in the upper right-hand corner of each section, and you will be able to edit and save your information.

Members have also received renewal forms in the mail if you prefer to renew by mail. Any changes to your contact information can be indicated on the renewal form. Please contact Linda Krueger with any questions regarding membership or renewals.

Linda Krueger, Membership Coordinator

## AIM Theory Information

We are still waiting on confirmation from Wheaton College for our AIM Theory Examination date. The date of the exam will be emailed to everyone as soon as it is confirmed.



In the meantime, keep in mind that any teacher who is new to our chapter's AIM program will need to contact Linda Krueger at [lkruegerpno@comcast.net](mailto:lkruegerpno@comcast.net) to be assigned to an AIM mentor. AIM mentors are there to make sure that new teachers are comfortable and well-prepared for the AIM exam and are assigned to teachers who are brand new to the AIM program and also to those who are just new to AIM at West Suburban. If you are considering entering students for the first time, please contact Linda as soon as possible.

As any of our AIM teachers can attest, the AIM program is a wonderful resource that helps motivate students, helps ensure that they are getting a well-rounded piano education, and gives students and teachers valuable feedback. If you have never entered students but have questions, please feel free to contact me at [janeljoy@hotmail.com](mailto:janeljoy@hotmail.com). We would love to see more teachers and students take advantage of this opportunity!

More detailed registration information will be emailed later this summer and also included in the next newsletter.

Janel Greaves, AIM Theory Coordinator

## WSMTA 2024 Member of the Year

Congratulations to Anne Marie Kuhny who was selected as the WSMTA 2024 Member of the Year! Anne Marie has been actively involved in our chapter, serving in many ways over the past years. Anne Marie is currently finishing up her 2-year term as secretary for our chapter. Prior to that, she jumped in to fill the role of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Publicity/Historian/Web Site when the position unexpectedly opened up mid-term.



Anne Marie has also been an instrumental part of bringing back the Berkley-Pendell Competition. Since 2018, she has been the Joint Workshop Chair, working with her team to put on 6 wonderful workshops which not only provide members of the joint chapters with quality educational opportunities but also generate income to support the Berkley-Pendell Competition.

At the state level, Anne Marie has been the ISMTA North Coordinator for the ISMTA Piano Competitions since 2022. Jennifer Cohen, who is the director of the ISMTA Competitions, puts it perfectly: "Anne Marie's enthusiasm and immediate proactive approach from the get-go was very impressive. I value her leadership and innovative ideas and know that she takes this same attitude to any job that she tackles."

Congratulations and a big thank you to Anne Marie for all of her contributions to our chapter!

### **2024 BERKLEY-PENDELL PIANO COMPETITION & FESTIVAL**

**21<sup>st</sup> April (Event), 27<sup>th</sup> April (Celebratory Concert)**

The 2024 Berkley-Pendell Competition & Festival Event high-lighted forty-one (41) young pianists, representing nineteen (19) teachers, participating in all Levels and Divisions of the Event. The designated awards and placements, accompanied by extensive adjudication evaluations, reflected the commitment and integrity of the competitors. The Judges' evaluations were amplified through several judges' additional private verbal communications. The honorary Celebratory Concert exhibited the extraordinary mutual energy and commitment of pianists, teachers and families.



Cheers to all Berkley-Pendell Participants and their Super Teachers. Congratulations ~ All.

From our West Suburban Chapter:

### **Competitive Level**

#### **Senior Division, Second Honorable Mention**

Zachariah Williamson Janna Williamson,

Amelia Baran: Janna Williamson, teacher

Angela Werner: Janna Williamson, teacher

Max Martinez: Linda Krueger, teacher

Abraham Thang: Carol Beilke, teacher

Marilyn Gans: Carol Beilke, teacher

### **Junior 1 Division, Second Place**

Anthony Adduci: Anne-Marie Kuhny, teacher

### **Junior 2 Division, Second Place**

Tien Nghiem: Carol Beilke, teacher

Tai Nghiem: Carol Beilke, teacher

### **Junior 2 Division, Honorable Mention**

Valentina Gallegos: Carol Beilke, teacher

## **Festival Level**

### **Festival Division, Junior 1**

Ngunhnin Thang: Carol Beilke, teacher

### **Festival Division Elementary 2**

Andrew Iconaru: Karol Sue Reddington, teacher

Dr. Karol Sue Reddington, Director

## **West Suburban Music Teachers Association**

### **May 2, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 9:01am by West Suburban President Janna Williamson. No TIP was given at this meeting.



The minutes of the April 4, 2024 meeting were read by Secretary Dr. Anne Marie Kuhny. They were approved as read by Lynette Zelis and seconded by Carol Ishman.

A financial report was provided by treasurer Diane Lindsay.

Membership reported that no new members or guests were in attendance.

### **Upcoming Events and Reminders:**

- May 9, 9:30am West Suburban Board Meeting- reports are due. Meeting will be at the home of President Janna Williamson
- May 23 10am Joint Board meeting at Marcia Lehe's home
- 2026- Lynette Zelis reported that the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary MTNA conference will be in Chicago. Look out for "honor roll" information to honor past and current teachers for a donation

### **New Items:**

- Berkley-Pendell Competition and Festival debrief- very successful competition and Winner's Recital. Further information can be found in the recital program (copies available at registration table). Karol Sue was not able to be in attendance at the meeting.

- Card from Heidi Mayer, Foundation Fellow. Thank you for the donation! Her note was read to the group.
- Member of the Year Announcement: Anne Marie Kuhny was nominated as member of the year for 2024. The announcement from the nominating committee was read by Janel Greaves.
- Carol Beilke passed around a form asking for ideas and topics for speakers and masterclasses in the upcoming year.
- A motion to close the meeting was made by Diane Jankiewicz and seconded by Carol Ishman.

**Program:** Christopher Goldston - The music of Margaret and Christopher Goldston

Dr. Anne Marie Kuhny, Secretary

## Quote of the Month

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”

- *Albert Einstein*



## 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

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