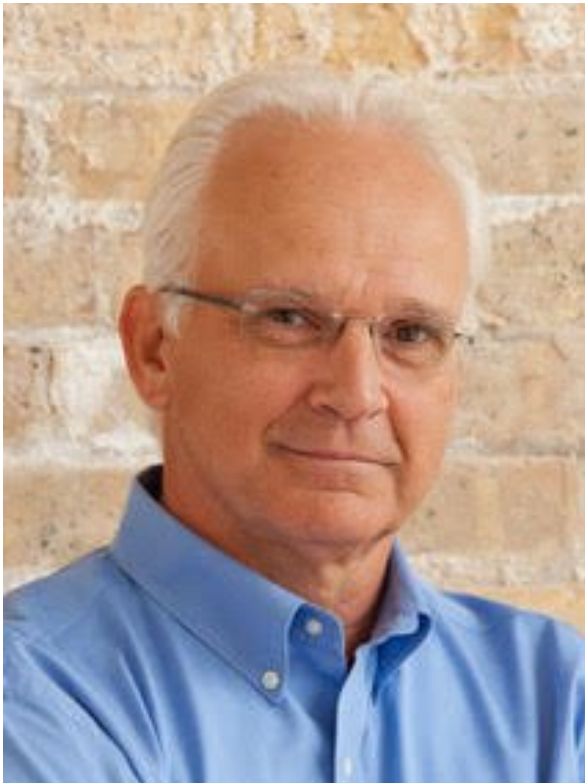


# NSMTA



North Shore Music Teachers' Association



George Radosavljevic

Congratulations to Yeeseon Kwon and Jennifer Merry for a successful Sonata Sonatina Festival. Congratulations also to all the judges, monitors and other helpers that made the event run so smoothly. During my "shift" as monitor I heard a great deal of excellent playing as I walked back and forth in the hallway. I also saw a several endearing moments: siblings peeking in to see how their brother or sister was doing, hugs as a sibling left the room after playing, and friends greeting friends, asking how it went and telling their experience. I believe this is a wonderful opportunity for community and camaraderie, especially for pianists who normally don't have the experience of band or orchestra etc.

I would also like to draw your attention to this month's presentations. We are welcoming two outstanding pianists: Christina Tio will give the pre-meeting talk, and Matthew Hagle, who will give the main presentation. They are both well known to us locally, nationally, and internationally.

Ms. Tio's subject is "Cultivating Musicality", and Mr. Hagle's program is titled "Small Worlds – Exploring Asian Influences on the Piano Repertoire". Both programs will certainly be extremely interesting and enjoyable! Please join us in person or on Zoom!

Table of Contents	Page
President's Message.....	1
Pre-Meeting Discussion.....	2
Main Presentation.....	3-4
Aim News.....	5
SonataSonatina Festival.....	6-8
Website News.....	9
NSMTA Piano Competition.....	10
Teacher'sRecital and Luncheon Info.....	11

**February Monthly meeting is Monday**

**February 27**

**9:30 am - 12:00 pm**

**at**

**Northfield Community Church**

**400 Wagner Road, Northfield, IL 60093**

## Pre-Meeting Discussion



### Program Title

Cultivating Musicality

### Program Notes

This brief program will share strategies that have been found effective and successful in cultivating musicality in students at all playing levels. The half hour will be packed with actionable ideas and some samples of lesson videos.

### Bio

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, as a student of Frank Wibaut of Royal Academy of Music in London. 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, including Universiti Malaya (UM), University College Sedaya International (UCSI) and National Academy of Arts (ASWARA).

Dr. Tio has been a regular session presenter. Recent conference presentations include the Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) Leadership Retreat in May 2019, Illinois State Music Teacher Association (ISMATA) Conference in November 2019 and a Poster at Music Teacher National Association (MTNA) Virtual Conference 2022. She also presents regularly at local Music Teacher Association monthly meetings, at Naperville Music Teacher Association (NMTA) in October 2019 and March 2022, and North Shore Music Teacher Association (NSMTA) in September 2020. 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 Conferences in Minneapolis (2014 to date), Alice Millar Chapel at Northwestern University, IL (2017), Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall (2019, 2021), Merkin Hall in Kaufman Center in New York (2019), Beethoven Haus in Bonn, Germany (2021), as well as MTNA Virtual National Conference (2022). 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 California, Kansas City and Colorado, in the UK and in Singapore. Also a homeschool mom since 2013, she lives in Skokie, IL with her husband and son.

## Main Presentation



### **Small Worlds - Exploring Asian Influences on the Piano Repertoire**

This presentation will trace how some of the musical instruments and idioms of Asia affected some of the great piano composers of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, and I'll also be offering performances of pieces by these Western, Asian-influenced composers, as well as pieces by Asian composers. The history of this interaction is fascinating and complicated; by examining it, we can not only play and teach these pieces better and find interesting new repertoire, but also place the achievements of the great European composers in a new perspective. I hope you will join me!

### **Matthew Hagle, Pianist**

Pianist Matthew Hagle is a musician of great versatility and depth, whose performances are a rare mixture of musical understanding, imaginative programming, pianistic command and beauty of sound. In solo performance he often tries to shed new light on the piano repertoire, using thoughtful programming and committed performance to present lesser-known works and to illuminate the traditional canon. In a more conventional vein, he has also performed all of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas in a series of live radio recitals, and he is currently in the process of exploring the complete later pieces of Brahms. Mr. Hagle is also highly valued as a collaborator by many other artists. With violinist Rachel Barton Pine, he has released three acclaimed CDs on the Cedille label, and performed many recitals in North and South America. His piano duo performances with Mio Isoda-Hagle have been highlights of the annual Chicago Duo Piano Festival. Other chamber

music partners have been the Parker Quartet, the Avalon Quartet, Quintet Attacca, and members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Matthew Hagle has been heard in concert halls throughout the United States, including the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., Symphony Space in New York, and in concert at the United States Supreme Court. Outside of the U.S., he has performed at venues in England, Canada, Brazil, Australia and Japan. A resident of the Chicago area, Hagle performs frequently at local spaces including the Ravinia Festival, Symphony Center, and the Chicago Cultural Center. Mr. Hagle can often be heard on radio station WFMT in Chicago, and has also been heard on NPR's Performance Today and Minnesota Public Radio's St. Paul Sunday Morning programs. Among others, the *New York Times* has described him as "a sensitive pianist", *Clavier Magazine* praised the "rare clarity and sweetness" of his playing, and the *Springfield (MA.) Republican* remarked that he "played with unaffected brilliance and profound understanding." Mr. Hagle's performance of Elliott Carter's Piano Sonata in the Sydney International Piano Competition received special notice and favorable commentary in Australian national radio's coverage of the competition.

Mr. Hagle is a dedicated teacher of piano, music theory, and composition, whose students have won high honors in local and national competitions and gone on to study music at some of the country's finest music schools. He is currently on the faculty of the Music Institute of Chicago, where he is director of the Musicianship program in addition to his teaching duties. In addition, he has taught at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, and at Elmhurst College. His own studies were with Robert Weirich and Donald Currier at the Peabody Conservatory, with Claude Frank at the Yale School of Music (where he received the DMA), and with Maria Curcio Diamand in London as a Fulbright Scholar. A comfortable speaker on diverse musical subjects, Mr. Hagle likes to use this ability to draw connections between very new and older music, or between music and other art forms. In his spare time he likes to read on a variety of subjects, to try to learn other languages, and to spend time with his two children.

## AIM News

We held a very successful first dual in person/remote AIM Level 3-12 Theory Exams in January! Congratulations to all students that completed the exam and a big thank you to all participating teachers for their help during and with follow up instructions. The Member Portal has been essential in relaying information, and similar procedure will follow with the remaining AIM Exams, which will also offer both in person and remote exam options.

### AIM Level 1-2 Exams

The deadline to register for AIM Level 1-2 Exams is Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> (end of day). Log in to the Member Portal and select the **2022-23 AIM Level 1-2 Exam Event** to register students.

AIM Level 1-2 student schedules will be released on or around Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be able to send schedules directly to their students from the Member Portal.

All teachers who enter students for this event may be assigned to volunteer either as a judge or in another capacity.

AIM Level 1-2 Exam Date: Sunday, March 5, 2023, 10:00am – 4:00pm  
 In Person Exam Location: Music Institute of Chicago, Winnetka  
 300 Green Bay Rd, Winnetka, IL 60093  
 Remote Exam Platform: Live via Zoom (no recordings required)

Please be sure to review the **2022-23 AIM Packet** for detailed information on the AIM Level 1-2 Exams, including timeline, exam components and Covid-19 safety protocols. AIM Packet is found on our website: <https://www.nsmta.org/aim>

### AIM Level 3-12 Performance Exams

Registration Dates: March 13 – March 27, 2023  
 Zoom Judges Meeting: March 13, 2023  
 Video Submission deadline: Sunday, April 23, 2023  
 In Person Exam Dates: Sunday, April 23, 2023 (Northwestern location only)  
 Sunday, April 30, 2023 (both locations)

Exam Periods  
 (in person scheduling): 8am-1pm and 1pm-6pm

**Change in Lake Forest Area Performance Exams:** With continued offering of both in person and remote Performance exams via video submissions, we anticipate a low enrollment for the first exam date, April 23, 2023 at Lake Forest. Therefore, after much consideration, we have decided to eliminate the April 23 in person Performance exams at Lake Forest area location. We apologize for this change from the original schedule, but it is our sincere hope that providing this information early will give students and teachers time to look and plan ahead as needed.

Jennifer Cohen, [LFaim@nsmta.org](mailto:LFaim@nsmta.org), AIM chair and Lake Forest Area AIM coordinator  
 Jia-Yee Tang, [NUaim@nsmta.org](mailto:NUaim@nsmta.org), Northwestern Area AIM coordinator

## 2023 Sonata-Sonatina Festival

We are happy to report that the 2023 NSMTA Sonata--Sonatina Festival was successfully held in person on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at the Music Institute of Chicago in Winnetka.

There were 307 students entered, represented by 70 teachers. Congratulations to all students and teachers who participated! Scores are now available for viewing in the Member Portal at [nsmta.org](http://nsmta.org). Scoresheets and medals have now been picked up or mailed to teachers.

### Medals were awarded as follows:

Gold:	72	(23%)
Silver:	176	(57%)
Bronze:	32	(10%)
No Medal	3	(1%)
Cancelled/No Show	24	(8%)

### We thank the following 17 adjudicators for their expertise and work on behalf of the SSF:

**Rm. A: Dr. Annie Hsiao** – Northwestern University: Lecturer Keyboard Skills INU Music Academy Piano Division Coordinator

**Rm. A: Dr. Rodolfo Faistauer** – Northwestern University: Lecturer

**Rm. B: Chris Goldston** – Columbia College Chicago: Adjunct Faculty | Goldston Music Studio | MTNA Composition Competition National Coordinator | ISMTA: Director-at-Large

**Rm. B: Dr. Pei-I Wang** – Millikin University: Assistant Professor of Piano and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies | ISMTA: Secretary-Treasurer | ISMTA Competitions South Coordinator

**Rm. C: Dr. Janice Razaq** – William Rainey Harper College: Keyboard Coordinator

**Rm. C: Lam Wong** – Northwestern University: Lecturer | INU Music Academy: Instructor

**Rm. D: Dr. Jeff Kleinsorge** – Concordia University Chicago: Director, Preparatory and Community Piano Program | ISMTA: President

**Rm. D: Dr. Yeeseon Kwon** – Roosevelt University: Associate Professor | INU Music Academy: Adult Piano | The College Music Society: Vice President | ISMTA: Immediate Past President

**Rm. E: Junichi Sato** – DePaul University: Adjunct Musicianship Faculty | Music Makers of Western Springs

**Rm. E: Linda Barker** – Lakeview Piano Studio

**Rm. E: Janna Williamson** – Janna Williamson Piano Studio

**Rm. F: Dr. Marcia Bosits** – Northwestern University: Associate Professor of Piano Emeritus

**Rm. F: Lisa Mioduszewski** – Grow Music Academy: Piano Instructor

**Rm. G: Grace Trang** – Illinois Central College: Adjunct Professor | MTNA Senior Competitions Coordinator

**Rm. G: Lynette Zelis** – Noteable Notes Music Academy

**Rm. H: Dr. Chee Hyeon Choi** – Bradley University: Assistant Professor IISMTA: President-Elect 2025-2027

**Rm. H: Kathy Sbarbaro** – William Rainey Harper College Community Music Division: Piano Facilitator | ISMTA Group Piano Committee Coordinator

**The Gold Medal Recital** will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1024 Lake Street in Wilmette, IL 60091. Programs will be held at 1:00 and 2:30 PM. Gold Medalists were notified via e-mail.

**We would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered their time and efforts to make the SSF run smoothly and successfully.**

**Special thanks to:**

**Yeeseon Kwon, Co-Chair**, served as liaison to MIC and Trinity United Methodist Church, organized the adjudicators, organized and assigned the volunteer jobs and ran the judges' meeting on the day of the festival.

**Jennifer Merry, Co-Chair**, handled the excel spreadsheets, made lists and signs, contributed articles for the SCORE, corresponded with teachers, and oversaw operations on the day of the festival.

**Jason Craft and Jia-Yee Tang** handled the festival scheduling, created the Member Portal and registration pages on the NSMTA website, updated the website and handled all of the festival data.

**Grace Juang** ordered the blue ribbons and medals and oversaw sorting of the medals at MIC.

**Adam Chlastawa, Gold Medal Recital Chair**, organized the gold medal recital programming, which will take place on Feb. 19 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Wilmette.

**And everyone else:** A big thank you to ALL teacher volunteers who helped to check-in students at the front desk, monitored the rooms, delivered lunches and snacks, and helped with all of the other needed tasks. Special thanks go out to those teachers who stepped in and did extra work to cover extra tasks as needed.

**In summary:** Overall, the SSF ran successfully with the help of countless volunteers. We hope that it was an enriching experience for all students and teachers. Thank you to everyone for a terrific event!

*Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Merry and Yeeseon Kwon, Co-Chairs*



## Website - February 2023 Score Article

The Member Portal is in a continual stage of growth and development.

Over the last month, teachers utilized the Member Portal to relay SSF information to their students and register for AIM Levels 1-2.

### Emails going to Spam/Junk

If you or your students are not receiving emails from [admin@nsmta.org](mailto:admin@nsmta.org), be sure to check your spam/junk folders, preferably from a computer. Once the message is located, it is helpful if you mark it as “Not Spam” so that future emails can come through. Additionally, it can be helpful if you send a test email to [admin@nsmta.org](mailto:admin@nsmta.org). The technology chairs will be working to address any backend solutions to this known issue.

### Self-Service

The Member Portal was designed for teachers to manage their own accounts – self-service. If you are having difficulty logging in, please use the password reset link (Click **Forgot your password?** from the login page).

### Contact Event Coordinators

With the new website and portal, we have new email addresses. Be be sure to contact the appropriate coordinators with your questions:

AIM (Northwestern Area): [nuaim@nsmta.org](mailto:nuaim@nsmta.org)

AIM (Lake Forest Area): [lfaim@nsmta.org](mailto:lfaim@nsmta.org)

Sonata-Sonatina Festival: [ssf@nsmta.org](mailto:ssf@nsmta.org)

Piano Competition: [competition@nsmta.org](mailto:competition@nsmta.org)

### Contact Us - Troubleshooting Portal Issues

Jason and Jia-Yee are committed to helping you solve any problems or issues you encounter. When contacting us, please clarify what you were trying to do and what you clicked on when you encountered the issue and if possible, include:

1. A full sized screenshot (on a Mac computer, hold shift+command+3)
2. Copy and paste the URL into the body of the email with your question

Send all Portal related questions to: [admin@nsmta.org](mailto:admin@nsmta.org).

Submitted by:  
Jia-Yee

## NSMTA Piano Competition

The **Piano Competition** is to challenge musicians to go beyond practice and studio recitals. It is an opportunity to perform, compete, learn and improve while engaging with experienced teachers. It is ideal for older students who are interested in an opportunity to strengthen their resume. All students are encouraged to participate!

**Registration Dates:** March 6 - 27, 2023

**Piano Competition Date:** May 7, 2023

**Location:** Music Conservatory of Illinois, 2809 Central St, Evanston, IL 60201

Please visit our website -

[www.nsmta.org/competition](http://www.nsmta.org/competition)

CELEBRATE ANOTHER TEACHING YEAR IN JUNE IN WILMETTE  
AT THE TEACHERS' RECITAL AND LUNCHEON

NSMTA members and guests are welcome to perform in and/or attend the Annual Teachers' Recital and Luncheon on Monday, June 12, beginning at 10:30. The location will be in Wilmette at Trinity United Methodist Church. A catered luncheon is being planned.

Solos and chamber music performed by members or members and guests are welcome. Please notify me by email of the literature that you will perform.

More information will follow. You are welcome to call or write with questions.

Please mark the date for a wonderful social event with beautiful music, special social time with colleagues, and a time of sharing lunch together.

Marlene Chatain

[chatainco@att.net](mailto:chatainco@att.net)

847-475-3635