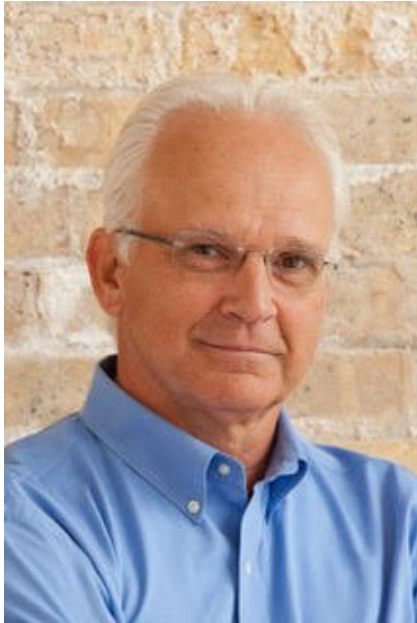


# THE SCORE



Dear friends and colleagues,

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season! This is such a richly filled time of year. There is music everywhere: Opera, Symphony, recitals, Holiday concerts - it seems there is never enough time for everything-but I am doing my best to enjoy playing, listening, and spending time with family and friends.

It makes me remember the value and importance of the music instruction we all provide. Who can imagine a world without music, especially at this time...

Looking forward to our next meeting in January!

Best Wishes and Happy New Year!

George Radosavljevic, NSMTA President

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**No in person meeting in December**

**Next meeting:**

**January 22, 2024**

**\*\*Please note the New Members Event on Page 6!\*\***

## December Enrichment Program

There will be no in person meeting but starting this year, there will be a teacher enrichment program in December every year.

This year Lam Wong will present the NSMTA Piano Competition Repertoire.

You can find the presentation at the the following link:

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLa1Mk\\_srpvrYS2GUoByUIYLWLB4niZyPH&feature=shared](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLa1Mk_srpvrYS2GUoByUIYLWLB4niZyPH&feature=shared)



### **Biography**

Known for “great imagination and extraordinary musicality” (Shantou Daily) in his playing, classical pianist Lam Wong made his debut with Franz Liszt’s *12 Études d’exécution transcendante* at the age of fourteen. He has since appeared in numerous festivals and concert venues in Asia and North America. He is the winner of the Thaviu-Isaak Piano Competition, Lillian Fuchs Competition, Dover Competition, and finalist of MTNA Chamber

Music Competition. He has also worked with distinguished artists Marc-André Hamelin, Mikhail Voskresensky, and performed in master classes of Boris Berman, Richard Goode, Robert Levin, Nelita True, and Arie Vardi. As an avid chamber musician, Wong performed in prestigious chamber music festivals, including Sarasota Music Festival, Ravinia Festival Steans Music Institute, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Manchester Music Festival, and Aspen Music Festival. His recent chamber performance can be heard on the radio station WFMT in Chicago. Wong also has a keen interest in contemporary music. He has collaborated with and performed pieces

by renowned composers Jessie Montgomery, Jonathan Bailey Holland, Ryan Lindveit, and others.

Wong is also an educator and a clinician who gives frequent masterclasses, presentations, workshops, and conference lectures nationally and internationally. Wong maintains a wide range of research interests, from performance practice to pedagogy. His recent presentations and projects include a video project for NSMTA's Online Enrichment Program (2024), "Demystifying Sight-Reading: What Scientific Research Tells Us About Reading Fluency" (2023) and "How Beethoven's Manuscripts Can Assist in Interpretive Decisions" (2022) at the ISMTA Conference, and "Piano Four-Hand Repertory: The Pedagogical Values of Ensemble Experience" at the MTNA Virtual Conference (2021).

As the Coordinator of Piano Pedagogy Courses, Wong currently teaches undergraduate and graduate piano pedagogy courses at Northwestern University Bienen School of Music. He is also on the piano faculty of the Northwestern Music Academy and Music Conservatory of Illinois. He frequently adjudicates at local festivals, competitions, and piano exams. His students have won regional piano competitions and scholarship auditions, earned high honors and distinctions in standardized exams, and been accepted into some of the country's finest music schools to study music.

Wong holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music. Upon graduation, he was awarded the Harold Bauer Award in recognition of outstanding accomplishment, cooperation, and promise. He earned a Master of Music degree from the Yale School of Music, and he is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University, studying with James Giles. His previous teachers include Hung-Kuan Chen, Christopher Elton, Peter Frankl, and Marc Silverman. As a piano performance and pedagogy dual major, he also works closely with the Former Director of Piano Pedagogy, Dr. Marcia Bosits, at Northwestern University. During his studies, he was a proud recipient of the First Initiative Foundation Scholarship, Stephen & Denise Adams Scholarship and Fellowship, Harry B Jepson Scholarship, Mary Clapp Howell Scholarship, and Eckstein Fund.

## AIM News

**Levels 3-12 AIM Theory Registration deadline is Monday, December 18, 2023, 11:59pm.**

If you were unable to attend the Zoom Judges Meeting on December 4, you can view the meeting recordings in your member portal.

1. Log in to your Member Portal
2. Click the **2023-24 AIM Theory Exam** from the Current NSMTA Events blue box (as if to register your students)
3. Then in the Resources section, click **AIM Theory Judges Meeting (from 12-04-2023)** link

You will see 2 separate meeting video links:

- Information on Member Portal and AIM Theory Registration
- YouTube Playlist containing separate videos of the Keyboard Skills mock exams that we did at the meeting, including interesting discussions that followed each of the 3 mock exams.

We encourage all participating AIM teachers to do your own mock judging of these 3 (levels 3, 8, 11) keyboard skills exams and see how your scores compared with teachers that participated during the judges meeting!

Please remember that no scheduling change requests will be accepted, and students may not change exam options after the registration deadline. Please check carefully with all of your students to make sure that the registration information entered is accurate.

AIM Theory Exam schedules for your registered students will be available to access in your member portal in early January 2024.

### **Highlights of Important Information in the [AIM Packet](#)**

- p. 6: AIM Fees
- p. 8: Makeup Exam Policy and new Music Policy
- p. 8: Repertoire Substitution Deadline: January 15, 2024
- p. 9: New changes to AIM Scoring & AIM Awards
- p. 10: Level 12 Exam Information and Requirements

Happy Holidays!

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

## **SONATA-SONATINA FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, February 4, 2024**

Music Institute of Chicago

300 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

**Online registration for SSF is now open, and closes Monday, January 8, 2024.** All registrations are done thru the Member Portal at NSMTA.org. Please create or log into your teacher account to register.

**The fee this year is \$40 per student,** and participating teachers may enter up to 10 students. Teachers are required to register their own students (not parents).

Non-members must pay a \$25 fee to enter students. If your NSTMA dues were not paid by October 31<sup>st</sup>, you will also need to pay the \$25 non-member fee.

The Gold Medal Recitals will be held on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with programs at 1:00, 2:30 and 4:00 PM, at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1024 Lake Avenue, Wilmette.

**ALL TEACHERS** are required to help in some way on the day of the festival. No substitutes (parents, students, relatives, etc.) are allowed to replace teacher volunteers for their required job. Please plan ahead to make sure you are available on the day of the festival. Any teacher in violation of the help requirements will not be allowed to participate in the festival the following year. All festival rules and repertoire guidelines may be found online at <https://www.nsmta.org/ssf>. Please contact Jennifer Merry or Yeseon Kwon for more information, [ssf@nsmta.org](mailto:ssf@nsmta.org).

## 2024 Piano Competition Repertoire

### **Primary**

Tchaikovsky - "Song of the Lark" Op. 39 No. 22. From Album for the Young, Op. 39

Kabalevsky - Prelude in g minor. In "Easy Classics to Moderns": Music for Millions vol. 17, edited by Denes Agay

### **Elementary**

Burgmüller - "Berceuse", Op. 109, No. 7. From 18 Characteristic Studies, Op.109

Bartok - Romanian Dance #1 from Romanian Folk Dances, Sz. 56

### **Junior**

Chopin - Nocturne in g minor Op. 37#1

Prokofiev - Prelude in C major, Op. 12#7.

### **Senior**

Schumann - "Des Abends" from Fantasiestücke, Op. 12

Bach - Italian Concerto, BWV 971, 3rd movement: Presto

## **ATTENTION NEW AND CURRENT MEMBERS!**

Please come to The New Members Brunch at 10:30 am on January 15th, 2024, where we will welcome new members and celebrate our current ones!

Susan Corkum has graciously offered her home for this event. Her address is: 3051 Old Glenview Road, Wilmette. Street parking is easy and plentiful.

Current members, please bring a sweet or savory contribution for the table, and consider inviting a new member near you, or someone not yet associated with our wonderful association.

Looking forward to meeting new teachers, and reuniting with colleagues in the new year!

Heidi Mayer, 2nd Vice-President and Membership Chair

Co-Hosts: Susan Corkum and Karen Tobias

847-650-3788

[germangirlheidi@gmail.com](mailto:germangirlheidi@gmail.com)