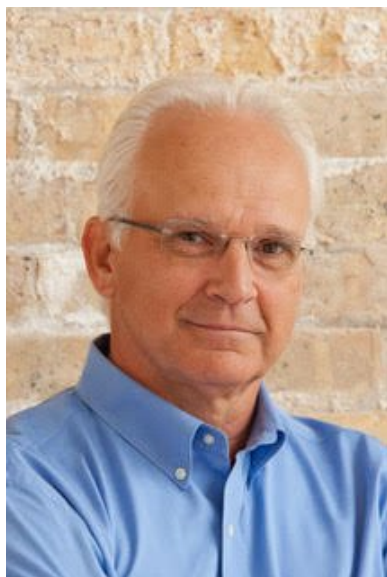




THE SCORE



George Radosavljevic
President

Dear friends and colleagues,

Every year the changing colors remind me of “Bunte Blätter”, a collection of piano pieces by Robert Schumann. My dear teacher Paperno often played it and it brings back many great memories. The original was published as a group but also as individual pieces, each one with a different colored cover. There is a surprisingly large number of works inspired by the seasons, autumn in particular, and it is great fun to Google and explore. I was interested to find there is a piano collection called “Das Jahr” by Fanny Mendelssohn, and a tango version “The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires” by Piazzola. Autumn is a time of thoughtful beauty and rich musical experience.

Welcome to our new Scholarship Chair - Mary Beth Molenaar has graciously accepted the position!

Join us for our next meeting.

9:30 Pre-meeting discussion **Achievement in Music Exams (AIM): Orientation and Q&A** hosted by Jennifer Cohen and Jia-Yee Tang

10:15 Business meeting

11:00 : “**Tchaikovsky's Children's Album: the Light of a Dark Soul**” presented by our good friend Dr. Svetlana Belsky.

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October Monthly Meeting

October 23

New times: 9:30-10:15 Pre meeting presentation

10:15-11:00 Business Meeting

11:00-12 pm Main presentation

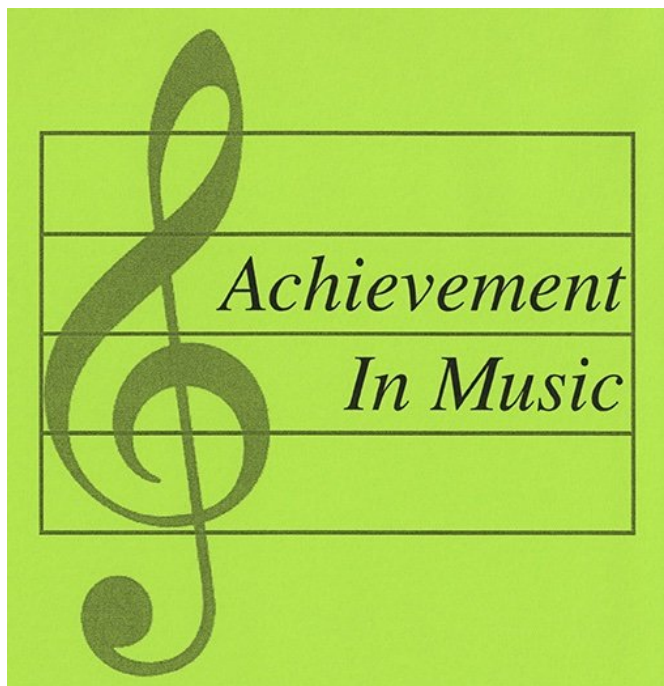
at

Northfield Community Church

400 Wagner Road

Northfield, IL 60093

October Pre-Meeting - 9:30-10:15 am



Jennifer Cohen and Jia-Yee Tang

Program: Achievement in Music Exams (AIM) Orientation and Q&A

NSMTA AIM Coordinators, Jennifer Cohen and Jia-Yee Tang will lead a discussion with an overview of AIM for the 2023-24 year.

Note: this will be a 45-minute session from 9:30-10:15.

Ahead of the meeting, be sure to check out the [2023-24 AIM Packet](#).

Main Program 11:00-12:00 am

Dr. Svetlana Belsky

Program: “Tchaikovsky’s *Children’s Album: the Light of a Dark Soul*”

The 24 delightful miniatures of Tchaikovsky’s *Children’s Album* are a perfect pedagogical tool for introducing students of all ages to elements of romantic technique and sound production. For the adults and the teachers, these works are so much more — written during a difficult time in Tchaikovsky’s life, following the death of one young lover and a failed marriage, and dedicated to the next young lover, his own nephew, they paint a picture of the composer’s life and his internal struggles. Hearing the complete set performed is a fascinating and revealing experience.



Biography

Critically acclaimed as “a passionate pianist and scholar,” Svetlana Belsky is a highly regarded performer, noted for her remarkable rapport with audiences and stylistic versatility. Her recent albums, *Into Darkness: Piano Music of 1910-1920* (Sheridan Music Studio, 2021) and *Ferruccio Busoni: The Late Works* (Ravello, 2019) were selected by Spotify for its Best New Releases list, and received rave reviews from *Fanfare*, *American Record Guide*, *Whole Note Magazine*, and others, and has been heard on radio stations around the world.

Dr. Belsky won the 2019 American Prize in Piano Performance for her earlier recording of Stravinsky’s *Rite of Spring*, which *American Record Guide* described as “an extraordinary performance” and “astounding”. In commemoration of Women’s History Month 2019, Dr. Belsky was awarded the *Outstanding Woman Award for Excellence in Music and Theater Arts* from the Clerk of Cook County District Court.

Dr. Belsky has toured in Europe, East Asia, Canada and throughout the United States. Her performance credits include Carnegie Recital Hall, Kiev Philharmonic Hall, Dame Myra Hess Series, live recitals on Chicago’s WFMT and New York’s WQXR, and guest appearances with symphony and chamber orchestras.

Belsky is considered an authority on the music, writings and pedagogical legacy of Ferruccio Busoni. Her Doctoral Thesis - an annotated translation of *Busoni as Pianist* by the Russian musicologist Grigori Kogan, was published by the University of Rochester Press in January 2010, and was nominated for the prestigious Claude V. Palisca Award by the American Musicological Society. According to one reviewer, Belsky “has some claim to call herself Ms. Bach-Busoni”.

Born in Ukraine, Belsky received most of her education in the United States, first as a student of Emilio Del Rosario in Chicago, receiving her Bachelor’s (summa cum laude) and Master degrees at the Peabody Conservatory in the studio of Ann Schein and her Doctorate at the Manhattan School of Music with Nina Svetlanova.

Dr. Belsky served as the Director of Piano Studies at the University of Chicago for fifteen years, and is in great demand as a lecturer, masterclass guest teacher, and competition adjudicator.

AIM News

We are excited that October's extended pre-meeting program will focus on AIM. If you have been thinking about entering students in AIM or just want to learn more about the AIM program, we invite you to attend the pre-meeting program at 9:30am on October 23. The presentation will begin with an introduction on getting started in AIM, with some general overviews of the AIM syllabus and AIM workbooks. Then we will highlight this year's AIM Packet, and a refresher on using the member portal and event portal, and conclude with time for Q & A, so please come with any questions you may have.

If you plan to enter students in AIM but have not filled out the [AIM Exam Options Survey](#) yet, we have extended the deadline to October 23. All teachers that will enter students are required to fill out and submit this form. If you have filled out the survey but need to make changes, please do not submit again, but modify it from the email confirmation you received. You will be able to make changes until the extended October 23 deadline

Click [here](#) to fill out the survey.

Important Upcoming Dates for AIM:

October 23, 2023:	AIM Exam Options Survey Responses Deadline
October 31, 2023:	Deadline to join NSMTA for event participation
December 4, 2023: (9:30am)	AIM Theory Zoom Judges Meeting
December 4-18, 2023:	Levels 3-12 AIM Theory Exam Registration Period
January 15, 2024:	Repertoire Substitution Request Deadline

Complete information and AIM Packet can be viewed here: www.nsmta.org/aim

2023-24 AIM Exam Fees

Levels 1-2:	\$20
Levels 3-8:	\$30
Levels 9-12:	\$40
Re-registration:	\$20

Re-registration fee applies to any level 3-12 student completing the performance exam in a different year than the theory exam.

AIM Mentors

Levels 1-3: Marlene Chatain, chatainco@att.net
 Levels 4-8: Heidi Mayer, germangirlheidi@gmail.com
 Levels 9-12: Debbie Gillette, debbiegillette1@gmail.com

Website & Social Media

September 2023 SCORE Article

NSMTA Website

Our website is now featuring a **Donate** page, where anyone can send donations to NSMTA.

<https://www.nsmta.org/donate>

- Donations can be made at any time, for any amount.
- Donations are tax-deductible.
- All donations go towards our general fund, unless otherwise requested.
- Donations can be specified In Reference To a specific cause or In Honor of a person.
 - An In Memoriam webpage was built for member Nancy Ruocco, who passed away in August. Her family is directing donations to NSMTA in her name.

Social Media

If you haven't already, please like and follow us:

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthShoreMTA>

In our efforts to spread the word about NSMTA, Anthony has posted a few paid posts on our public Facebook page.

1. General invitation to music educators listing the member benefits.
2. Highlighting our Find a Teacher page
3. Highlighting our Student Events
4. October Monthly Meeting information, including speakers and program descriptions

Member Portal

All new members will need to activate their Member Portal accounts.

- Be sure to check your spam/junk folders for emails from admin@nsmta.org with instructions on how to get set up.
- We also have a dedicated webpage with detailed instructions: <https://www.nsmta.org/member-portal-how-tos>

Once you have activated your account, access the Member Portal by going to www.nsmta.org and clicking the blue Member Portal button at the top right.

Please enter the required information:

- **Account Settings** – verify your mailing address
- Edit your **Find a Teacher Profile** to include at minimum an instrument.
- **Student Roster**: Add the names and contact information for students who will be participating in events this year.

Submitted by:

Jia-Yee Tang, NSMTA Website Chair
Anthony Ty, NSMTA Social Media Chair

SONATA-SONATINA FESTIVAL

Sunday, February 4, 2024
Music Institute of Chicago
300 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

Online Registration Begins: Monday, December 4, 2023

Online Registration Closes: Monday, January 8, 2024

Gold Medal Recital: Sunday, February 11, 2023

The fee this year is \$40 per student, and all registrations will be ONLINE. Participating teachers may enter up to 10 students.

Your NSTMA dues must be paid by October 31st to be eligible. Non-members must pay a \$25 fee to enter students.

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>

We are currently looking for a teacher to help with festival scheduling. This job would be ideal for someone who is not available to help on Feb. 4. Please contact Jennifer Merry at ssf@nsmta.org for more information.

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

AIM String Exams

String teachers who are interested in the AIM exam program, please reach out to Mary Beth Molenaar for more information. We anticipate offering levels 1-6 this year with theory exams at the NU Music Academy in late January with performance exams later in April or May. There is some flexibility this year while we are still beta-testing exams.

Mary Beth Molenaar
AIM Strings Chair



MEMBERSHIP

NSMTA is pleased to welcome new members:

Alexander Djordjevic, Thomas Filipiuk, Jeongmin Lee, Elizabeth Lieberman, Yulia Lipmanovich, Amy Bao, Oliver Chen, Veronica Izmailova, Colin Jinks, Chan Lee, Elizabeth Low, Chad Nativ, Victor Ribadeneyra, Emma Troung, and Leigh Wang.

We hope to meet you in person at our upcoming meeting! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding membership.

Heidi Mayer
Second Vice-President and Membership Chair
847-650-3788
germangirlheidi@gmail.com

Other Information!

The Glencoe Academy of Music is looking for an experienced patient piano/vocal instructor to teach classical - pop music to beginners - Intermediate students of all ages. 8+ years of teaching experience preferable with a degree in the field of study. Hourly compensation will begin at \$45/hr with access to our onsite recording studio and yearly bonuses. If interested, please send your info to admin@glencoeacademyofmusic.com Please visit our website <https://www.glencoeacademyofmusic.com/>