
The Score

Jia-Yee Tang, Editor

The Newsletter of the NSMTA

January 2009

From our President...

Happy New Year! I know many of us were busy with winter recitals as well as preparing for the holidays. I hope you were all able to enjoy some time off from the daily activities that keep us all so busy and preoccupied during most of the school year. I think the best gift we can give to ourselves is restful time during the holidays, which regrettably doesn't happen too often.

I'm looking forward to our January meeting, which will be generously hosted by Mary Beth Molenaar at her home. There is no regular program scheduled and it will be more of a free discussion format. This is a good opportunity for us to share and discuss topics that you wish to address in a more relaxed and social environment while sipping coffee and nibbling on treats. Then we will conclude with sharing and playing of some duets to get use more motivated to teach duets in our studio and hopefully have you consider entering some of your students in the upcoming Monster Concerts in October. I hope to see you there!

Jennifer Cohen
NSMTA President



Upcoming Dates and Events

Jan 14	Sonata-Sonatina Festival Application Deadline
Jan 25	AIM Theory Exams
Jan 26	NSMTA Meeting at the home of Mary Beth Molenaar
Feb 15	Sonata-Sonatina Festival Music Institute of Chicago
Feb 22	Gold Medal Winners Recitals Regenstein Hall, Northwestern Univ
Feb 23	<u>Business Meeting and Program</u> Janice Razaq - Music of my Ancestral Heritage: Scandinavian Composers
Mar 9	AIM Performance Application Deadline AIM Performance Judges Meeting
Mar 23	<u>Business Meeting and Program</u> Marcia Bosits: Intermediate Level Master Class

Special Topic: Reproduction of Printed Material

The issue of illegal, misuse and inappropriate copying of music and workbooks has been an ongoing topic at every AIM judge's meeting for the past several years. Recently, ISMTA board members received a very poignant plea from LeAnn Halvorson, member of ISMTA and C.E.O of Music Perceptions, to help stop the misuse of her materials. She has written the Music Study Sheets, which are workbooks designed to coordinate with the current AIM program. In her letter, she writes that many teachers purchase a single copy of each workbook and then make unauthorized duplicates of the workbook pages for their students. The workbooks are designed for single use by each student, as are the AIM Student Workbooks written by Karen Rogers. ***If you are a teacher that routinely makes copies of music and workbooks for your students, I urge you to stop.*** People like LeAnn who spend a great deal of time writing material that benefit our students should get compensated properly for their time and talents.

All AIM Student Workbooks written by Karen Rogers are also designed for single use by each student. The sales of these workbooks make up the majority budget for the AIM program. Inappropriate copying of these workbooks reduces the AIM budget, which could have adverse affect on the program itself.

I am including LeAnn's letter in this newsletter. She also writes, "It is just too easy to justify what is happening in a studio without the knowledge of what is actually the correct thing to do. The only person most teachers are accountable to is themselves, and there can be a lot of "reasons" why they think it is O.K. to use materials inappropriately. I would guess that teachers would learn a lot just from reading the information on the MTNA site."

Please visit

<http://www.mtna.org/Default.aspx?tabid=316> to get more information on what is appropriate and what is inappropriate copying of any printed material.

Jennifer Cohen

In this issue:

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January Meeting

Date: Monday, January 26, 2009

Time: 9:30 am

Location:

Mary Beth Molenaar's Home
3550 Grove St.
Evanston, IL 60203
(847) 676-2060



Topics of discussion are open to all members – please bring an idea or question to share. Below are a couple of ideas:

- How to deal with teenage angst: motivating middle school/teenage students
- Motivating students to practice over long breaks

2009 NSMTA Competition Repertoire

Primary (Grades 1-3):

- Bach - Musette in G major (Music for Millions Vol. 17). Play with repeats.
- Kabalevsky - Prelude (MM 17)

Elementary (Grades 4-6):

- Kimberger - Bourree #1 (Bastien Piano Literature Vol. 3). Play with repeats.
- Grieg - Arietta Op. 12 #1 (Lyric Pieces)
- Kabalevsky - "Brisk Game" (MM Vol. 37)

Junior (Grades 7-9):

- Bach - Courante from French Suite #5. Play with repeats.
- Grieg - Notturmo Op. 54 #4 (Lyric Pieces)
- Shostakovich - Prelude in d minor, Op. 34 #24 (24 Preludes Op. 34, published by Sikorski)

Senior (Grades 10-12):

- Prokofiev - "Montagues and Capulets" from 10 Pieces from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 75
- Chopin - Nocturne in E major, Op. 62 #2

Chicago Duo Piano Festival

Claire Aebersold and Ralph Neiweem, Directors

The Music Institute of Chicago
300 Green Bay Rd.
Winnetka, IL 60093
847.905.1500
info@musicinst.org

The Chicago Duo Piano festival is pleased to announce a new competition for piano duos. The competition will take place as the final event of the Chicago Duo Piano Festival, on July 25th. The competition will feature a junior division, up to age 17, and a senior division, up to age 23.

Senior division winners will receive a \$2000 scholarship per duo for music study, and Juniors a \$1000 scholarship per duo. Seniors must prepare a program of 20-25' duration which includes at least three contrasting pieces for two pianos or piano duet, including an allegro movement from the following: Clementi Sonata No. 1 for Two Pianos, Op. 12; Mozart Sonatas K. 497, K. 521 (piano, four hands) or K. 448 (two pianos); or Variations, K. 501. Seniors may compete for a special Schubert memorial prize with a work or group by Schubert over 7' in duration.

Juniors must prepare a program of 10-15' duration with three contrasting pieces which must include an Allegro from any Mozart or Clementi sonata for two pianos or piano duet. Memorial prizes of smaller amounts will also be awarded. In addition, there will be a winners' recital (obligatory) at Nichols hall on Sunday, July 26th, which will be taped for eventual possible radio broadcast.

The judges will independent experts and not affiliated with the Music Institute of Chicago. There is no memory requirement. Works for two pianos or piano duet may be chosen. Participants do not need to be enrolled in the Chicago Duo Piano Festival.

All events will take place at the Music Institute of Chicago's Nichols Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

For questions please contact:
rneiweem@musicinst.org

A downloadable application may be obtained after Feb. 1 at: www.chicagoduopianofestival.org

2009 NSMTA Piano Competition Application

Sunday, May 3, 2009
Northwestern University

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Division: (please circle one):
Primary (Grades 1-3) \$25.00
Elementary (Grades 4-6) \$25.00
Junior (Grades 7-9) \$25.00
Senior (Grades 10-12) \$25.00

Please note: All fees are non-refundable and send in **ONE CHECK** for **TOTAL AMOUNT** of all students entering from **EACH TEACHER**.

I certify that the above information is correct. I have read and agree to abide by the regulations in the current brochure/directory.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Contestant or parent)

Teacher Name: _____

Sponsoring teacher must be a current NSMTA member as of October 31, 2008, who has paid 2008-09 membership dues.

Teacher signature: _____

Teacher phone: _____ email: _____

Make checks payable to **NSMTA-Student Foundation**. Send to chairperson:

Dr. Christine Hwang
8654 N. Osceola Ave.
Niles, IL 60714
Chwang97@yahoo.com

All applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2009.
LATE or INCOMPLETE applications will NOT be considered.

Monster Concert

Plans for a May Monster Concert at Kurt Saphir's have been postponed until October because of conflicts with other events. We plan to distribute repertoire lists later this spring so our students can practice over the summer.



If you'd like to help with this event, please contact:

Mary Beth Molenaar (m-molenaar@northwestern.edu)

It should be lots of fun!

Personal request from LeAnn Halvorson, C.E.O. of Music Perceptions

I'm requesting that teachers use one workbook for each student needing a book in your teaching studio. It is easier for you to stay organized. Students like having their own book, and use it for studying before exams. Loose sheets of paper don't organize them well enough for these exams. If you have trouble with students not bringing their workbook to lessons, keep the books at your studio and make them work on them there. It works, and they like sneaking a peak at the next level workbook. Music Perceptions gives you a teacher discount, but you can charge your students retail price for the books. You will get free shipping every time you order \$30.00 or more in materials. The materials are priced for single use by each student, not single use by every student in a teaching studio. All of the materials created for Music Perceptions are very costly and time consuming for me to produce. The Music Study sheets books and CD's are no exception. I haven't been able to break even with the expenses in book and material production due to misuse of the teaching materials I have written by teachers. *Misuse of the teaching materials I have created by teachers creates a situation where I'm buying books and materials for the entire state of Illinois. Too many teachers are using a single book for all of the students in their studio.* I'm not getting enough book orders to cover the printing costs in creating these materials. It is something I really can't afford to do. I'm a teacher like you. I write materials to help

students. I don't pay myself a salary for creating these materials. These materials are priced very low, to make them affordable for students. I didn't price them for multiple use by all students in a studio. I didn't give permission to use a single book or teaching aid for every student in a teaching studio, it is something I can't afford. If you are misusing my teaching materials, please stop. If you know another teacher who is misusing my teaching materials, please ask them to stop.

This year, my exhibit will only be an informational exhibit. I won't actively sell my materials at this conference in protest of the misuse of my teaching materials. There are order blanks available for you use, but you won't be able to physically take books and materials home with you. If you need Music Perceptions materials, I'll take your order, print them up and send them to you. At this point, my company has to be an order, then print and create materials 'on demand' company. It is too expensive for me to commercially print a lot of materials which sit in boxes because teachers are using a single book for an entire studio instead of one book for each student. I'm sorry for inconveniences, and sincerely hope that I won't have to boycott my own exhibit in the future. I'm very thankful to the teachers using my teaching materials appropriately in their teaching studios.

March Meeting - Master Class

The NSMTA Master Class at our March meeting will feature intermediate level students taught by Dr. Marcia Bosits, a professor at Northwestern University. Dr. Bosits is a dynamic teacher who regularly teaches children in small groups.

Start thinking now about middle-school age students (grades 5, 6, 7 or 8) playing intermediate level literature who would be available during the day. Note: students will be expected to stay for the entire class.

Master Class Application

Student Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____ AIM level (if any) _____

Parent's Name _____

Family E-mail _____ Phone _____

Teacher Name _____

Teacher E-mail _____ Phone _____

Piece(s) my student might perform:

Length	Composer	Title
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1.

2.

Due by March 1st.

Mail to:

*Mary Beth Molenaar
3550 Grove Street
Evanston, IL 60203*

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Chicago, IL 60657