
The Score

Susan Atkins, Editor

The Newsletter of the NSMTA

February 2006

From the President ...

The flowers you sent me in the hospital are still beautiful. Thank you for all the cards. I loved each one. Many of you have called and visited. I will be at the Abington Rehab until January 25 when I return home. I have a Cam walking cast and can walk with a walker. I certainly hope to walk into the February meeting and see you all in person.

I am still planning to attend the MTNA Conference in Austin the end of March. Hopefully, we will have a number of members from NSMTA to see Fran Larimer receive her award.

Thank you to all the members that have helped since the accident. My husband is home, back at work and has the cast off his ankle. We are both very thankful to have survived the crash.

Don't forget the deadlines that are ahead. Plan to mail your entries on time.

I have been teaching a few lessons at the Abington in the private dining room. Everyone here has been very supportive and curious to see what music teachers do. One member of the staff has asked me to take her nieces after I get home. You never know where you will find students.

Again, thank you for all the wonderful cards, some very funny ones.

Lynd Corley

FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR

Home Meeting in January.

Our thanks to Bev Sheridan and Harriet Smith for hosting Home meetings in January. They were well attended. Also, our thanks to Mary Beth Molenaar and Peg Pascal who had offered, but situations arose which did not allow these to take place.

February 27 Program

Bruce Berr will join us on February 27 to present a program entitled "Dynamic markings are overrated! Teaching music interpretation from the inside out"

Brief description: Many of the expression marks that composers and editors include in scores are redundant implies. Students play more convincingly, and understand more about music, when they can perceive a piece on its own terms: the harmony, rhythm, melody, the pianistic texture and gesture. This workshop will explore how students of all ages and levels can be taught to hear and respond to important musical "events" in the pieces they are playing, with only a minimum amount of traditional music theory.

Currently an independent piano and pedagogy teacher, BRUCE BERR has also served on the faculties of numerous institutions, including Washington University in St. Louis and Roosevelt University in Chicago where he was coordinator of piano pedagogy for fourteen years. His articles on music and piano teaching have appeared in many of the major keyboard journals, and he is currently associate editor and webmaster for Keyboard Companion magazine.

Dr. Berr is also a composer and arranger of educational piano music. His most recent publications are Expeditions in Style, Imaginations in Style and Explorations in Style, re-issued from the Expansions Series by Hal Leonard Publishing Corp. They also released two books of Berr's arrangements of Chanukah and Passover holiday music, as well as several arrangements of patriotic duets for young pianists. Berr has served as a consultant, composer, and clinician for Hal Leonard's piano method series for children. He also inaugurated their Color 'N' Play Series with two books of duets and has created other volumes of early level arrangements for the Read & Play Series. Berr also has several books of compositions with other publishers, including At the Seashore, Vols. I and II, by FJH Music Company; these volumes are on the current Federation List.

Berr frequently travels to present workshops and master classes throughout the country. He has done presentations for the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, and many attended his video presentation at the 2001 MTNA National Convention in Washington, DC. In 2003 he was a demonstration teacher for the MTNA Convention in Salt Lake City, and for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in the Chicago area.

Bruce Berr received his degrees in piano and pedagogy from Washington University and Northwestern University. He also studied in New York with Etsko Tazaki, Jonathan Feldman, and Edna Golandsky. His pedagogy teachers have included Frank Murphy, Frances Larimer, Marcia Bosits, and Elvina Pearce.

Karen Tobias
Vice President, Programs

FORUM

On Monday, the 27th of February, at 9:30, Heidi Mayer will play the following program in our concert series;

Poulenc: Nocturnes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8

We are looking forward to hearing her and we hope to see you there.

Heidi Mayer holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, and the Vienna Academy of Music in Piano Performance, Choral Music Education, and Vocal Accompanying. She studied the Taubman Method in New York City with Edna Golandsky, has performed in Master Classes with Dorothy Taubman, Dmitry Paperno, Flavio Varani, and John Browning, and currently studies with Annie Sherterin Geneva, Illinois.

Heidi has been the recipient of the MTNA Teacher's Enrichment Grant, and was recently granted the National Piano Technician's Guild "Teacher of the Year" Award for professional development. She is MTNA certified, and maintains a private studio of 45 piano students in Park Ridge, and is an active accompanist, soloist, and adjudicator in the Chicago area. She recently recorded a CD containing the works of Beethoven, Franck, Chopin, and Poulenc.

Livia Ayal

Jazz Showcase

The 2006 Jazz Showcase will take place at the Music Institute of Chicago on March 5, 2006. Our guest artist will be **Frank Caruso**, long-time Chicago jazz performer, composer, teacher and clinician.

For more information about the Jazz Showcase, please see the **Application in this newsletter**. Application can also be downloaded from our website nsmta.org.

Deadline for application is February 15, 2006.

Eric Sutz, Jazz Showcase Chairperson

Additions and Corrections To the yearbook

The correct zip code for **Susan Swartz** is 60061

AMERICAN MUSIC TEACHER SEEKS ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

Letter from William Westney, Editorial Committee Chair, AMT and Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Music, Texas Tech University

The professional development and continuing professional activity of faculty is a matter of concern to every music executive. Opportunities for juried publication are declining, and faculty strive to identify appropriate venues for publication.

I write to remind you that American Music Teacher, the official publication of Music Teachers National Association, selects its feature articles by juried review, thus making it an ideal publication for your faculty's work. The publication has distribution exceeding 24,000, thus providing a wide dissemination of their scholarly output.

MTNA is an organization whose membership focuses on the applied teacher, whether the genre be piano, strings, voice or instrumental. To meet the needs of those members, we welcome articles of nearly any topic, including, but not limited to:

Musical instruction or performance in America
Pedagogical insights
Learning styles
Topics of music history, theory or music education
Diversity and world music
Business or management
Classical, jazz, pop, religious, secular, electronic—any musical genre!

We offer the opportunity for faculty to submit an article synopsis for "pre-review" and feedback from the editorial committee. Although this step is not required, we hope it will assist authors with designing their submissions so that they have the best chance for publication.

Please share this information with faculty—especially junior faculty seeking publication venues—who teach in all areas of music. We welcome their submissions. Submission guidelines may be found online at www.mtna.org/amtmsi.htm.

NSMTA Piano Competition

Want a real challenge for your most ambitious students? The annual award competition in piano is designed for gifted students of NSMTA members who want to study challenging piano repertoire and who want to compete with other gifted students. All winners perform at the May Awards Recital. The competition will be held on Sunday May 7, 2006 at Northwestern University. Fee \$25.00. Application Deadline is April 1. Please contact Matt Hagle at 847-763-9151 or MHagle@earthlink.net with any questions. **Application form in this newsletter.**

Primary Division: (Grades 1-3)

Bach - Minuet in d minor (Music for Millions, v. 17)
Kabalevsky - Prelude (g minor) (M.M. vol. 17)

Elementary Division: Grades 4-6)

Bach - Little Prelude in E major (#5 from group of 6)
Bartok - Romanian Folk Dances, #4
Tchalkovsky - Baba Yaga from Album for the Young

Junior Division: (Grades 7-9)

Scarlatti - Sonata in C major, L. 104
Chopin - Nocturne in c#-minor, op. post
Debussy - Dr. Gradus ad parnassum from Children's Corner

Senior Division: (Grades 10-12)

Liszt - Au lac de Wallenstadt, from Annees de pelerinage, Book I
Barber - Excursion #1

AIM

The deadline for the AIM Performance Enrollment Form is **March 3, 2006**. Send the completed forms along with the AIM fees for Level I and II students to your Performance Chairmen, Marlene Chatain for the Northwestern site and Jennifer Cohen for the Lake Forest site. Also include the repertoire forms for your students. It is very helpful to try and separate your students among the two testing dates as equally as possible. Please include your phone and email on the entry form and a very legible rendering of your student's names to help with accuracy in the writing of the certificates.

The judges meeting will be **Monday, March 6** at Marlene Chatain's home at 9:30 am. This meeting is imperative to keep all of our teachers abreast with uniform judging guidelines. The meeting also functions as a forum for sharing AIM preparation ideas with each other. Teachers just interested in finding out more about AIM are very welcome also.

The Performance Exams will be held on April 2 and April 23 for Northwestern and April 9 and April 23 for Lake Forest.

Debbie Gillette
Bev Sheridan

JAMES BASTIEN 1934-2006

James Bastien, a pianist and educator whose instructional books have been used for more than four decades by millions of eager, and some not-so-eager, piano pupils worldwide, has died. He was 71.

Mr. Bastien died Dec. 7 in La Jolla, California. The cause was complications of Alzheimer's disease, according to his wife, Jane Smisor Bastien.

With his wife, also a pianist, Mr. Bastien wrote more than 300 books of piano repertory and technique. Published in several series, the books include "Piano for the Young Beginner," "Theory & Technic for the Young Beginner" and Musicianship for the Older Beginner."

A hallmark of the Bastiens' method is that it refrains from teaching musical notation, the bane of many beginners, right away. Instead, students learn to play simple tunes by placing their hands on designated keys and following a set of numbered finger patterns. Only after several months do the authors initiate students into the mysteries of the musical staff.

Mr. Bastien was born in 1934 in Bellingham, Washington. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Southern Methodist University; his teachers included the eminent Hungarian pianist Gyorgy Sandor, who also died last month.

Mr. Bastien held faculty positions at the University of Notre Dame, Tulane University and Loyola University in New Orleans. He also taught in summer programs at Tanglewood and at the Naitonal Music Camp (now Interlochen Arts Camp) in Interlochen, Michigan.

2006 MTNA National Conference

**March 25-29
Austin, Texas**

The 2006 MTNA National Conference is just around the corner. Did you know that it will be the largest gathering of independent and collegiate music teachers in the country? This year's conference will feature all the things you've come to expect from an MTNA conference, in addition to much more.

You won't want to miss any of the conference events. With more than 100 educational sessions and industry showcases, there is something for everyone. Legendary pianist Van Cliburn will officially kick off the conference with his keynote address at the Saturday evening Opening Session. The popular Group Teaching and Technology Tracks will be offered again this year along with the new Just Duet sessions. Just Duet, offered four times during the conference, will give attendees an opportunity to sight read popular duet literature from favorite composers. In addition, the Texas MTA Student Ensembles will perform duet concerts twice during the conference. Also Van Cliburn amateur winner Michael Hawley will give a performance, in addition to a collaborative concert by the Amadeus Trio. Saturday through Tuesday of the conference will feature the finals of the MTNA Student Performance Competitions and the Winners Concerts.

The evenings will be just as exciting as days with special events such as the Monday night FOUNDATION FUND Gala, where the MTNA FOUNDATION Fellows will be recognized. Stanislav Ioudenitch, Van Cliburn Competition gold medalist, will play a recital on Sunday evening and From the Top, one of the nation's most popular public radio shows, will be recorded on Tuesday evening in conjunction with the conference.

Arrive early to the conference to take advantage of three pre-conference sessions -Pedagogy Saturday, Professional Studio Saturday and Collegiate Expo. Pedagogy Saturday, headlined by Robert Duke of The University of Texas at Austin, will focus on the art of teaching, while Professional Studio Saturday, with invited keynote speaker James Jordan of Westminster Choir College, will encourage music teachers to take a closer look about the time they spend in various areas of the teaching profession. Collegiate members are encouraged to attend the first ever Collegiate Expo. This new, day-long session, will offer students an opportunity to hall will offer a variety of print music, music technology, instruments and more.

To find out more about the conference or to register, visit www.mtna.org/conference.htm. Remember the early registration deadline is February 16, 2006.

CAMTA

Chicago Area Music Teachers Association

Browsing the Dalcroze Approach:

Movement with a Mission
By Barbara Ellsworth

Friday, February 10, 2006
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue
9th Floor, Marks Hall

For more information call:
Diane Aitken, Publicity Chairman
773-878-7513

Petronel Malan Workshop

Friday, June 23, 2006

South African pianist Petronel Malan's debut recording: "Transfigured Bach: The Complete Bach Transcriptions of Bartok, Lipatti and Friedman," was nominated for three Grammy awards, including "Best Instrumental Solo Album 2004."

Fee for this workshop is \$45. (\$40 for reservations received by June 16, 2006.)
College students \$20.

8:30 Registration
9:15 Leschetizky and His "Non-Method"
10:30 Break and Refreshments
11:00 Practice Habits – the good, the bad and the non-productive
12:15-1:30 Lunch on your own
1:30-3:00 Malan Master Class

For more information about Petronel Malan and this workshop visit the CAMTA website at

www.camta.org

Email: workshop@camta.org or

Call Beth Allen at 773-871-2217



Summer Camps

Are your students asking you for information about summer music camps? A quick google of what the web had to offer turned up a few web sites that have listings of summer camps for kids. All of these sites have a section for music camps:

mysummercamps.com
kidcamps.com
allensguide.com
isummercamp.info

The following is a list of music or fine arts camps that looked interesting:

Illinois State University Junior Band Camp

Normal, Illinois, USA Phone: 309-438-2166
 Comprehensive musical studies specifically designed for students entering the 6th to 9th grades include 4 concert bands, 2 jazz bands, master classes, sectionals, theory classes, and recreation.

Northern Illinois University's Theatre Camps

DeKalb, Illinois Phone: 815-753-1450
 Coaching, workshops, and classes in many aspects of theatre. Instructors are faculty and advanced students.

Northlight Theatre Summer Camps

Skokie, Illinois Phone: 847-679-9501 ext. 3301

UW-Green Bay Music Camps

Green Bay, WI Phone: 800-892-2118

Great Lakes Camps

Lake Forest, IL Phone: 866-404-2020
 Great Lakes Camps is pleased to offer a unique opportunity that allows young musicians to expand their horizons as they learn new techniques and explore new musical genres.

DayJams

Des Plaines, IL Phone: 800-295-5956
 DayJams is a rock music day camp for beginners to experienced players ages 9-15.

Power Chord Academy

New York/St. Louis/San Diego
Powerchordacademy.com or phone: 800-897-6672
 Extreme summer music camp where students play in a band, make an "MTV" video, record a CD, play a concert.

Interlochen Arts Camp

Interlochen, Michigan Phone: 800-681-5912
 America's first and foremost summer arts program – creative writing, dance, music, theatre arts and visual arts- financial aid available.

Illinois Wesleyan Summer Music Program

Bloomington, Illinois Phone: 309-556-3547
www.iwu.edu/music/k12/camp
 Chamber music camp, cello camp

Western Illinois Univ. Summer Music Camps

Macomb, IL phone: 309-298-1505
www.wiu.edu/musiccamp
 Choral, strings, concert band, piano, jazz band, and drum major camps.

Illinois Summer Youth Music Camps

Champaign/Urbana, Illinois
 Phone: 217-333-1580 or 217-244-3404
 ISYM is a performance and educationally centered music camp for young musicians in grades 6-12. Band, chorus, orchestra, and jazz ensembles are complemented by specialty camps in flute, percussion, piano, musical theatre, and trombone.

Indiana University Summer Academies

Bloomington, Indiana www.music.indiana.edu
 Phone: 812-855-6025
 A variety of excellent summer programs intended for preparation for college. Academies include college audition prep, piano academy, string academy and summer music clinic.

Midwest Young Artists Summer Programs

Ft. Sheridan, Illinois www.mya.org
 Phone: 847-926-9898
 Summer camps for all ages including chamber music, wind and brass, musical theatre and opera, and Chicago jazz.

Rocky Ridge Music Center

Estes Park, Colorado www.rockyridge.org
 Phone: 970-586-4031
 Young pianists and orchestra musicians participate in private lessons, chamber music, theory instruction, master classes, orchestra, piano classes and concerts.

Do you have a summer camp that you would recommend? Send me the details and I'll print it in the next *Score*.

Susan Atkins
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The Newsletter of the NSMTA

nsmta.org

Susan Atkins

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