
The Score

Nancy DeHaven, Editor

The Newsletter of the NSMTA

March 2007

From our President....

Dear NSMTA members,

I would like to present a short overview of our programs and what membership in our association can provide for you and your students. Meetings in which we discuss various issues and schedule programs for the benefit and needs of our membership.

Publications, like our local newsletter, The Score.

Directories which provide a list of members, by-laws of our group, program information and ads from many of the businesses we use.

Our programs can include: Workshops, seminars, lectures, performances, demonstrations, study courses, music and book reviews, music appreciation classes and guest speakers such as lawyers (Liability) accountants (income tax) doctors (performance related problems) or others.

I would welcome more of these types of programs for variety and to benefit all of our members, especially younger teachers who may find this information of great help. I would also encourage us to have membership drives for the continued growth of our association and the recognition of the organization and its purpose.

I would also like to see that services such as a teacher referral service be a strong part of our group to benefit our membership and community.

Last, thanks again to Dr. Marcia Bosits for her presentation.

Musically,
Eric Sutz
NSMTA President

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOTE THE DATE

March 12, 2007

AIM Performance Deadline
AIM Judges Meeting

March 26, 2007

Dr. William Jason Raynovich: Beyond Schoenberg and Alicia Keys: Contemporary piano music for students.

April 1, 2007

AIM Performance Examination
North: Lake Forest Symphony School;
South: Northwestern Music Academy

April 2, 2007

Application deadline for Competition

April 14, 2007

Application for Scholarship
Application deadline for Summer Camp
Scholarship

April 15 & 22, 2007

AIM Performance Examination

9:30 Roundtable: STUDIO POLICIES

COME share your wisdom and pick up some ideas you can use in your studio. Mary Beth Molenaar will moderate a discussion including the following issues: RAISING TUITION: How? When? How much? MAKE-UPS: How flexible can we be and still stay sane? MOTIVATION: How can we keep students going when the weather turns nice? RECRUITING NEW STUDENTS: What should you do when a student from another teacher approaches you about joining your studio? RECITALS: Ideas to reduce student anxiety...teacher anxiety.

MARCH PROGRAM

Beyond Schoenberg and Alicia Keys: Contemporary Piano Music for Students

Lecture by William Jason Raynovich

Cellist William Jason Raynovich currently holds a position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Composition at Chicago State University. His compositions have been performed at June in Buffalo, Electronic Music Midwest, Crane New Music Festival, and the Millennium Music Festival in Macon, Georgia. His works have also been performed in England, Greece, Italy and Russia. Also an accomplished cellist, Raynovich has premiered works by Christian Wolff, Paul Oehlers, and several emerging composers. He has performed works by Feldman, Cage Wolff, Crumb, Lutoslawski, Webern, and Berio. Raynovich is currently the Artistic Director for the MAverick Ensemble, which specializes in the music of experimental contemporary composers.

AIM

The AIM Performance Exams are on Sunday, April 15 and Sunday, April 22. The application deadline is Monday, March 12th. Please look on the application form for your location and chairperson. All participating teachers must attend the judge's meeting on Monday, March 12th. If you are unable to attend, please ask someone to take notes for you. If you have email, send to Jicohen1@aol.com with AIM Performance Judge's Meeting Notes under the subject heading, and she will send you the notes from the meeting. One of the areas we address at the judge's meeting is ways to keep scoring more consistent among the judges. Since this is performance based, there is a greater margin for inconsistency than with the theory exam, where

often the answer is either right or wrong. Also, if you have any specific questions regarding any of the requirements from the syllabus, please feel to address them at the meeting.

Date: **Monday, March 12, 2007**
 Location: Marlene Chatain's house
 Address: 2545 Greeley Ave., Evanston
 Time: 9:30 AM

The AIM Performance application form, repertoire information sheet for levels II-XII and alternate fingering for technique is included in this newsletter. They are also available to download on our website, www.nsmta.org. The repertoire information sheet that is included in this newsletter has been revised from the one on the website. The revised sheet allows for more student listings per page and will hopefully make it easier for teachers to fill out and the chairpersons to read. Either form will be accepted. If your student is using fingering other than the listed fingerings in the syllabus, you must fill out the alternate fingering sheet **FOR EACH STUDENT** and have him/her bring it to the exam.

Also, if you have students entered in levels IA, IB, or IC, **repertoire information sheet is NOT required.** Please write legibly and completely when filling out the information. Be sure to include the application fee for students entered in levels IA, IB, IC or II. The fee is \$7.50. Completed application forms and repertoire information sheets will be accepted at the judge's meeting.

If you have any questions about the AIM Performance exams, please feel free to contact any of the chairpersons listed below.

Jennifer Cohen, AIM Performance chair
 (Lake Forest Area)
 Marlene Chatain, AIM Performance chair
 (North Shore Area)
 Debbie Gillette and Bev Sheridan
 AIM Co-chair

2007 Sonata-Sonatina Festival

Thank you to all the teachers and their students who participated in the Sonata-Sonatina Festival on Sunday, February 18th. There were 203 participants this year, represented by 66 teachers. 45 gold medals, 129 silver medals, and 20 bronze medals were awarded. There were 3 Gold Medal Winners Recitals on Sunday, February 25^h at the Glenview United Methodist Church, at 1:30, 3:00, and 4:30. Congratulations to all the teachers and students on their fine achievement.

Teachers of Gold Medal Winners

Bruce Berr, Ann Birman, Maya Brodetskaya, Svetlana Budilovsky, Jennifer Cohen, Kristin Elgersma, Elaine Felder, Donna Fortney, Debbie Gillette, Matt Hagle, Carol Honigberg, Brenda Huang, Christine Hwang, Yasuko Joichi, Donna Kuhel, Soo Lee, Emilia Lehtman, Cheryl Lim, Frances Ma, Sueanne Metz, Mieko Nasu, Claire Neiweem, Ralph Neiweem, Susan Osborn Milana Pavchinskaya, Regina Syrkin and Lyudmila Zilberg.

Judges

Room A: Bruce Berr, Stephanie Myers
Room B: Susanne Baker, Craig Sale
Room C: Chris Goldston, Levonne Mrozinski
Room D: Linda Barker, Marie Rutter
Room E: Junichi Sato, Karen Kan-Walsh
Room F: Susan Osborn, Frances Larimer (am) and Deborah Lynch (pm)

Thank you to Mary Beth Molenaar for ordering and distributing the medals. The gold medals were available to present to all the performers at the Gold Medal Winners recitals. Thank you to all the teachers that made the effort to have their medals picked up at the recitals and at the NSMTA meeting on February 26th. Any medals

not picked up were mailed. Thank you to Jennifer Merry for coordinating the hospitality, to Elaine Felder for site manager and making sure the pianos were all in top condition, to Bruce Berr for the recital programming of the gold medal winners recitals, and to my husband, Brad Cohen, for all the score and data entries, printing out forms and recital programs, as well as fielding numerous calls. Finally, thank you to all the teachers that volunteered to work as monitors, front desk receptionist, set up and clean up duties, and making calls to the gold medal winners. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated to make this festival another success.

It was truly a pleasure to hear all the wonderfully talented performers at the Gold Medal Winners recitals. Even if you don't have participants, please encourage your students to attend any of the Gold Medal Winners recitals. One of the many benefits of participating in a festival such as this is to grow as a musician. There is no better way to be inspired than to hear one's peers. I strongly urge teachers to attend a recital too, if possible. You will be inspired as well! If you have any feedback, suggestions or comments please don't hesitate to call me at 847-438-7971 or email me at Jicohen1@aol.com.

Jennifer Cohen, festival chair

FOUND!!!

Pair of eyeglasses, wire. Too strong a prescription for me! Left under a chair at November 9:30 roundtable discussion.

**Call Nancy at 847-864-2911
nancydehaven@yahoo.com**

The Oakton Six Piano Ensemble

The Oakton Six Piano Ensemble, under the direction of Glenna Sprague, will present concerts on Saturday, April 28 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Footlik Theater at Oakton Community College, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines. The Six Piano Ensemble was formed in 1980 by Glenna Sprague, Professor and Coordinator of Music at Oakton, where she also teaches piano. One of the members of the group is Beatriz Levi, who is also a member of the North Shore Music Teachers Association. The group performs repertoire from the classical, ragtime, and popular periods that is transcribed for the six pianos by Professor Sprague. This year's concerts features works from Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1 in C Major*; *Concerto in F Minor* by J. S. Bach; *L'embarquement pour Cythère* by Poulenc; as well as the *Guillaume Tell Overture* by Rossini and the *12th Street Rag*.

Tickets are \$17 for general admission; \$14 for seniors and students. For ticket information, call the Oakton Box Office at (847) 635-1900.

The artistic success of the Six Piano Ensemble has resulted in sold-out performances throughout the United States and Europe, including the International Conference of the College Music Society in Vienna, Austria; Hawaii Music Teachers Association in Honolulu; National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Oak Brook; MTNA National Conference in Spokane (WA) as well as numerous MTA state conferences (Florida, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania). Next year, the ensemble has been invited to perform a concert at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette.

YOU ARE NEEDED

Looking for volunteers to be on the nominating committee for the 2007-2008 board, as well as for people to fill a few board positions! The board positions are:

Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Membership Chair

If you are interested in either one of the board positions, or in being on the nominating committee, please contact Eric at 847-215-1410 or at seutz@aol.com

As long as we're on the subject...

We're also looking for a volunteer to moderate our 9:30 roundtable discussion in April. Pick a topic you're interested in...if you'd prefer, let us suggest topics. Either way, help us continue to utilize this time to learn from each other! Interested? Call Nancy DeHaven: 847-864-2911
nancydehaven@yahoo.com

Web Resource of the Month

Database for 20th Century Intermediate Piano Literature

This database was created as a reference tool for piano teachers to aid in the selection of repertoire for their students. The main focus of this particular database and project is 20th century piano music written at the intermediate level. The database contains 154 works by 57 Composers. The pieces are searchable across several fields and can be accessed through either the basic or advanced search pages. You can find more information about the composers represented in this project in the "composers" page. Also, the "glossary" page may help you with some unfamiliar musical terms.

This database was created by Dr. Kathy Winston Rabago as part of a DMA dissertation in Music Education, Piano Pedagogy, from The University of Texas—Austin

**[www.kathyrabago.com/
pianorep/index.php](http://www.kathyrabago.com/pianorep/index.php)**

(make sure you get the entire address!)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Students who study with members of NSMTA (dues must be paid by October 31st to qualify) are eligible to apply for scholarship awards. The Merle Hanson Scholarship Award is open to graduating high school seniors who are enrolling in a university, college or music school in a program that will prepare them for careers in music. The scholarship of \$300 is payable in two installments of \$150 each with the first check being presented at the NSMTA Contest Winners Recital in May where the winner will

perform.

Students in grades 8 and 9 who are studying with members of NSMTA are eligible to apply for a summer piano scholarship. One scholarship of \$150 will be awarded at the NSMTA Contest Winners Recital where the winner will perform. The same person may not win more than once. Scholarship funds are provided by the interest earned from the Otilie Bauer estate gift.

Applications may be found in the February, March and April editions of the Score or at www.nsmta.org. Please see the directory for details or call Rachel Snyder (847-566-1862). Applications and all materials must be postmarked by April 15th.

Rachel Snyder
Scholarship Chair

2007 National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy

**Thursday Through Saturday,
August 2-4**

Double Tree Hotel, Oakbrook

www.francisclarkcenter.org

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