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# The Score

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Nancy DeHaven, Editor

The Newsletter of the NSMTA

August 2006

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## Happy New (School) Year!

## NSMTA Officers for 2006/2007

### NSMTA Programs 2006-2007

**Sept. 25, 2006**     **The Shoemaker And His Shoes: In The Shoes of the Freshman Piano Major.** The talk will discuss the life of freshman piano majors; the pressures, the issues, the problems. With a better understanding of what they have to juggle, it is hoped that we can be better prepare them in the year or two leading up to college, to cope with the academic and musical pressures, and to navigate successfully through their college careers.

**October 23, 2006**     Meeting.

**November 27, 2006**     Meeting.

**December**     NO MEETING

**January 22, 2006**     Home meetings. Sign up in October and November.

**February 26, 2007**     Meeting

**March 26, 2007**     Meeting.

**April 23, 2007**     Meeting.

**May**     NO MEETING

**June 11, 2006**     Luncheon. Details to be announced.

Meetings are held at 9:30 a.m. at the Winnetka campus of the Music Institute of Chicago. The address is 300 Green Bay Road, which is about one half mile south of downtown Winnetka, between Willow Road on the north and Winnetka Avenue on the south. Church Road feeds into Green Bay Road just to the south of the Institute. For more specific directions, you may check their website at <http://www.musicinst.com/locations.html> or phone the school at (847) 446-3822.

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## Oakton Six-Piano Ensemble Auditions

Be part of a unique musical experience as a member of the Oakton College Six Piano Ensemble. Be part of a unique musical experience as a member of the Oakton College Six Piano Ensemble. Auditions for this internationally acclaimed touring group will be held on Monday, September 11 and Wednesday, September 13 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Room 1360 at Oakton Community College, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines. For more information about the auditions, contact Glenna Sprague at [gsprague@oakton.edu](mailto:gsprague@oakton.edu) or (847) 635-1905.

**Interested pianists may** bring a prepared piano piece, but music will be provided. Formed in 1980, the group performs original arrangements from the classical, ragtime, jazz, and popular repertoire that are transcribed for the six pianos by the ensemble's founder and conductor, Glenna Sprague, Professor and Coordinator of Music at Oakton, where she also teaches piano. The rich, layered sound of the Six Piano Ensemble is comparable to that of an orchestra, with each member playing a different part of a composition as the melody transfers from pianist to pianist. The ensemble provides an excellent opportunity for those pianists who do not want to perform as soloists, but want to keep up their playing skills and be part of an ensemble situation.

**Critics hail the sound** of the Oakton Six Piano Ensemble as "extraordinary." The ensemble tours throughout the United States and Europe. The group has performed at the International Conference of the College Music Society in Vienna, Austria; Hawaii Music Teachers Association in Honolulu; National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Chicago; MTNA National Conference in Spokane, Washington as well as numerous MTNA state conferences; Goshen College Piano Workshop in Indiana; Chicago Civic Opera House and Navy Pier; and the Cultural Events Series at Salisbury University in Maryland. This year, the ensemble has been invited to perform a concert for the Plano Music Teachers Association in Texas. Also, available on CD is *Oakton Six Piano Ensemble: Live in Concert*.

## Third Annual Sejong Music Competition Nov. 19

We are pleased to announce the Third Annual Sejong Music Competition. This year we will be holding piano, violin, and cello competitions in two divisions: Junior (up to grade 8) and Senior (grades 9-12). In addition to monetary prize awards, winners may also be invited to perform in future public concerts.

This competition is organized by the Sejong Cultural Society, a non-profit organization, dedicated to promoting the awareness of Korea's cultural heritage. The main goals of the Sejong Music Competition are to discover and encourage talented young musicians and to also introduce traditional Korean music blended into a Western, contemporary format.

This year we have selected several required pieces for each division. Music scores of the required repertoire (bound in one volume) can be purchased in person (\$10) at The Korean Books (9820 North Milwaukee Ave. Des Plaines, 847-795-1414), The Korea Times Chicago (3720 W. Devon Ave. Lincolnwood, IL 60712. (847) 626-0388 ) or requested by mail to The Sejong Cultural Society (606 Forest Rd., Glenview, IL 60025).

Please visit our website [www.sejongsociety.org](http://www.sejongsociety.org) for details of competition rules and to download the application form. If you have any further questions regarding the Sejong Music Competition, please send your inquiries to [sejong@sejongsociety.org](mailto:sejong@sejongsociety.org) or call the Korea Times Chicago (847) 626-0388.

Eugenia Wie  
Chair, Sejong Music Competition

Lucy Park  
Executive Director  
Sejong Cultural Society  
[www.SejongSociety.org](http://www.SejongSociety.org)



## ISMTA Northeast District Auditions

The Northeast District Auditions will be held on Saturday, October 7, 2006 at Northwestern University. **The deadline for application is September 18<sup>th</sup>**. Local chapters in the Northeast District include Chicago (CAMTA), Kankakee Valley, North Shore (NSMTA) and South Suburban. Any member of these chapters with active and current membership dues paid by September 1, 2006 may enter students in the Northeast District Auditions. Students must have studied with the teacher at least six months prior to competition date.

Elementary (grades 4-6) – Students shall perform 2 contrasting pieces no longer than 10 minutes. No minimum time is required. Pieces must be memorized. Fee: \$10.00

Duets: Elementary and Junior High – One piano-four hands. The duet team will perform two contrasting selections and must switch parts between selections. Each duet team will be judged as a whole performance. No minimum time for pieces with a maximum of 10 minutes. Fee: \$15.00 per team

Junior High (grades 7-9) – Entrants must be in grades 7-9 at the time of the competition. Students shall perform 2 or 3 contrasting repertoire from contrasting style periods (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist, or Contemporary). Maximum playing time is 15 minutes. All repertoire must be memorized. Fee: \$30.00

High School (grades 10-12) – Entrants must be in grades 10-12 at the time of competition. Students shall perform 3 contrasting repertoire from 3 contrasting style periods. Maximum playing time is 30 minutes. No concertos. Fee: \$30.00

*Students will receive a score rating of “1”, “2”, or “3.” All participants in the Junior High and High School level that receives a score rating of “1” will move on to the state competition to be held at the ISMTA State Convention in early November. Elementary and Duet performers do not move on to state competition.*

Categories include piano, voice, strings, guitar, brass, woodwinds and percussion. If anyone is interested in entering students in categories other than piano, please contact the chairperson as soon as possible so appropriate judge(s) can be secured. Application forms are included in this newsletter.

Jennifer Cohen, Northeast District Auditions chairperson  
847-438-7971  
[Jicohen1@aol.com](mailto:Jicohen1@aol.com)

## Congratulations!

To member Matt Hagle on the birth of Tristan Takuto Hagle, born at 10:24 a.m. on May 22, and weighing in at 8 lbs. 14 oz.

## TIME TO RAISE RATES?

**The 2007 MTNA Conference** is in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, March 23-27, 2007. Based upon current airfare to Toronto, hotel accommodations, food, and some miscellaneous spending money, you might want to budget approximately \$2000 to attend. If you have twenty students and they take lessons for 40 weeks of the year, each student would be responsible for \$100 toward your attendance. That would be \$2.50 per lesson. If you have thirty students and teach 40 weeks, just \$1.65 per student would cover your expenses.

## Get Certified!

Do you want to take your professionalism to the next level? Did you know that the MTNA Professional Certification Program exists to help you accomplish that goal? Certification is a process that validates an individual's qualifications for a specific field of professional practice. It demonstrates to employers, clients, and peers that which the individual knows and is able to do. It signifies commitment to continued excellence in professional practice.

In addition, it increases visibility, builds credibility, provides a goal for personal professional achievement, and validates expertise for the individual and to those outside the field. The MTNA Certification Program exists for teachers who teach music to students of any age level in private or group settings. The program is based upon a set of five standards defining what a competent music teacher should know and be able to do.

You may be asking yourself why pursue MTNA Professional Certification? Below are just a few of the reasons certification is important to the music teaching profession.

### For MTNA:

- Fosters excellence in music education through the development of criteria, standards, and guidelines for assessing educational competencies in performance, music theory, music history/literature, and pedagogy/teacher education.
- Assures the educational community, the general public, and other agencies or organizations that the MTNA Professional Certification Program for applied music teachers has been clearly defined with appropriate objectives.
- Provides a national forum for the discussion and consideration of concerns relevant to the preservation and advancement of standards in the field of applied musical education.
- Develops a national unity and strength for the purpose of maintaining the position of applied music study in the family of fine arts and humanities and providing qualified teachers to guide that study.
- Sets a uniform national minimum standard of achievement without restricting the development of new ideas, experimentation, or the expansion of personal standards.

### For the Applied Music Teacher:

- Encourages improvement in teaching through continuous self-study and planning.
- Raises the likelihood for a higher level of teacher competency and effectiveness.
- Increases the potential for earning power for applied music teachers.
- Improves the level of professionalism within the field of applied music teaching.
- Identifies for the public competent applied music teachers.

For more information about the Certification Program, visit the website at [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org) or contact the national headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or [mtnacertification@mtna.org](mailto:mtnacertification@mtna.org).

Frances Larimer, Certification Chair

## AIM

### (ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC)

OFFERS a **comprehensive curriculum** that includes theory, technique and performance at twelve sequential levels

IS VERY **teacher friendly** and could also be used as a teacher resource outside of AIM.

INCLUDES **repertoire listings at each level** especially helpful in the pacing of the intermediate student.

TEACHER'S GUIDE is very **helpful in presenting new material** at each of the levels and offering teachers **added suggestions** and aids in the teaching of this material.

SUPPLEMENTAL WORKBOOKS save much lesson time and help **reinforce theory concepts** between lessons.

#### FOR MORE INFO:

Debbie Gillette: [pianodeb@msn.com](mailto:pianodeb@msn.com) or  
Bev Sheridan: [BevSherida@yahoo.com](mailto:BevSherida@yahoo.com).

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