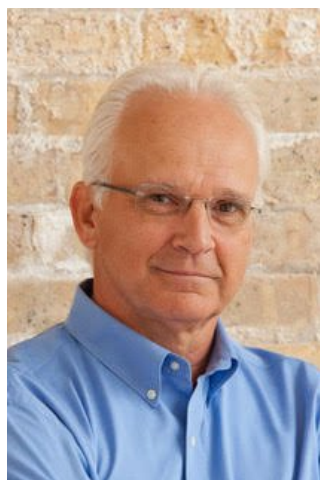


# NSMTA



## North Shore Music Teachers' Association



Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break, and is ready to dive in to a full schedule of teaching and music making.

Our board meeting will take place on January 30 at 9:30 AM via Zoom. If anyone has items that you believe should be addressed at the board meeting please let me or a board member or committee chairperson know- I am in the process of preparing the agenda and welcome ideas and concerns.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our regular meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

George Radosavljevic, President

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**January Monthly Meeting is Monday  
January 23**

**9:30 am - 12:00 pm**

**Location: Northfield Community Church  
400 Wagner Road, Northfield, Il, 60093  
United States**

<https://northwestern.zoom.us/j/94269829209> Meeting ID: 942 6982 2909

## Pre-meeting Discussion

Title: "Get Ready for Sunshine!"



Ron Surace will present his original piano music:

"Get Ready"--Seven Short Performance Pieces (for Intermediate Piano;)

and

"Sunshine"--Eight Cool Piano Pieces (Early Advanced level.)

His commentary will include reflections on the art of composition.

## Main Presentation

### NSMTA Piano Competition Repertoire



**Brenda Huang**, winner of the prestigious 1991 Gilmore Young Artist Award, immigrated from Taiwan to the Chicago area at the age of nine, and had principally studied with Emilio del Rosario, Russell Sherman, and Carolyn McCracken-Forough. She has performed as a soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Illinois Philharmonic, Toledo Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony, Taipei Symphony, Taiwan Symphony. Ms. Huang was the first prizewinner of the New York Kosziuszko Chopin Competition, the national winner of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), an American Pianist Association finalist, and was chosen to represent the United States at the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw by the National Chopin Foundation in Miami. She has performed on the Sunday Piano Series at the Conservatory of Music at Kansas City, the Dame Myra Hess Concert Series at the Chicago Cultural Center broadcasted live on WFMT, the Young Artist Series

broadcasted on New York City radio station WQXR, the Chicago Steinway Society Concert Series, and among many others, at the Polish Cultural Center in New York City, the Isabella Gardner Museum in Boston, the Rudolph Ganz Recital Hall and the Harold Washington Library in Chicago, and solo recitals in Taiwan.

She received her B.A., M.A., and Artist Diploma from the New England Conservatory and at the College of Performing Arts of Roosevelt University. She was a member of the piano faculty at the Chicago Institute of Music in Winnetka. Currently, she maintains a vibrant independent studio at her home in Palatine.

## AIM - January 2023 Score Article

Since the last report in November, AIM has successfully opened and closed the 2023 Theory Exam registration using the new Member Portal.

We had 591 students register for this event at Levels 3-12.

- In-Person: 375 (63%)
- Remote: 216 (37%)

Further breakdown:

NU: 389

- In Person: 254 (65%)
- Remote: 135 (35%)

LF: 202

- In Person: 121 (60%)
- Remote: 81 (40%)

We are looking forward to the 2023 Theory Exams on January 22 and 29th, which will be the first Theory exams back in-person since the pandemic.

The Member Portal has made relaying information very easy for teachers. Scheduling details have been released via email.

Teachers: Please remind your in-person students to bring:

1. A personal device such as a phone or a tablet and headphones or earbuds to take the Aural Skills exam (a web-based platform). **Do not use a school iPad, which may limit internet access outside the school system.**
2. Transposition music (Levels 4-12 only). This will either be their copy of the AIM Workbook or other book from which the transposition piece was chosen.

All general information about AIM Exams, including exam day information and guidelines can be found on our website: [www.nsmta.org/aim](http://www.nsmta.org/aim).

Just a reminder that exam sheets will be returned (either remotely or by snail mail) after the 2nd exam date (Jan 29th). Teachers are responsible for grading and tabulating their students' final scores and then entering those scores into the Member Portal. Answer keys will be provided.

**SONATA-SONATINA FESTIVAL****Sunday, February 12, 2023**

Music Institute of Chicago

300 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

Online registration for the 2023 Sonata-Sonatina Festival is now closed, and we are working on scheduling all participants. Your student's schedules should be posted in the Member Portal by the end of January. You will also be receiving your volunteer assignments shortly.

Just a friendly reminder that all teachers who enter students are expected to help on the day of the festival. No substitutes (parents, students, relatives, etc.) are allowed to replace teacher volunteers for their required job.

Students must provide judges with a clean unmarked copy of the music, using the same edition that the student uses, with measure numbers marked at the beginning of every system. NO PHOTOCOPIES ARE ALLOWED. Students who bring in illegal photocopies will receive no scores.

For any students using legally downloaded computer-printed scores, an adult over the age of 18 will be required to sign a Music Release Form which will be provided on Festival Day.

The Gold Medal Recitals will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at 1:00 and 2:30 PM at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1024 Lake Ave, Wilmette, IL.

Students should plan to wear a face mask at all times while inside the Music Institute of Chicago, including while they are playing.

Questions? Please contact SSF chairperson Yeeseon Kwon or Jennifer Merry at [ssf@nsmta.org](mailto:ssf@nsmta.org)

## Website - January 2023 Score Article

### Member Portal

Since the November meeting, the Member Portal has been hard at work supporting the AIM and SSF events.

We are happy to report that all but 8 NSMTA Members have verified and registered their Member Accounts.

#### AIM:

- Many of the AIM Teachers had already set up their Student Rosters, and had an easy time registering and making their payments. Any reported bugs in the system were resolved immediately.
- The Portal received and tracked all incoming payments and was able to receive payments from the area Music Schools who make payments on behalf of their students.
- The built-in email system allowed teachers to relay schedule information to their students with the click of a button.
- For the coordinators, the Member Portal is keeping the data organized and easily accessible. There is a lot of behind the scenes manual work that has virtually been eliminated because the Member Portal is managing it for us.

#### SSF:

- This event prompted the members who hadn't verified and registered their Member Portal accounts to finish that process.
- Next step is to create the SSF schedule and then Teachers will be able to relay their student schedules easily (as with AIM Exams)

### Website

At the next NSMTA Board meeting, we will be discussing the possibility of hiring member Anthony Ty's brother to provide photography and videography services at our events. This will give us more content to feature on our website and social media platforms.

Through the grapevine, we've heard that people are using the Find a Teacher site to locate North Shore teachers! If you happen to receive any inquiries as well, please let us know. Enhancements to the Find a Teacher page will be made in Spring 2023.

Submitted by:

Jia-Yee Tang, Website Chair

## **NSMTA Piano Competition**

**Piano Competition Date:** May 7, 2023

**Location:** Music Conservatory of Illinois, 2809 Central St, Evanston, IL 60201

**Registration Dates:** March 6 - 27, 2023

The **Piano Competition** is to challenge musicians to go beyond practice and studio recitals. It is an opportunity to perform, compete, learn and improve while engaging with experienced teachers. It is ideal for older students who are interested in an opportunity to strengthen their resume. All students are encouraged to participate!

Please visit [www.nsmta.org/competition](http://www.nsmta.org/competition) for information regarding registration and repertoire