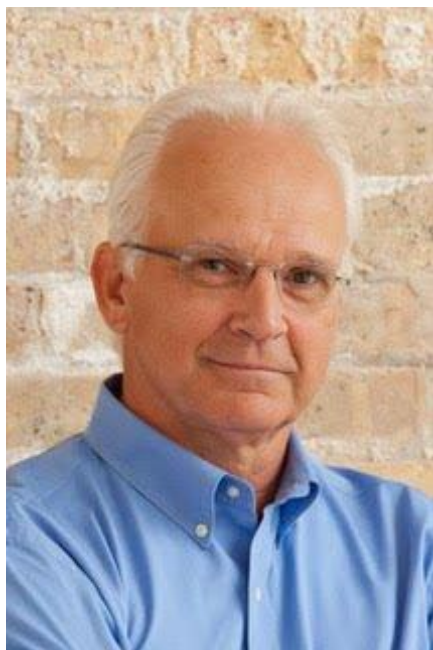




THE SCORE



George Radosavljevic
President

Dear Friends and Colleagues

Welcome back!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is feeling energized and ready for a new season of teaching and making music.

Information about all the outstanding events, activities, and programs of the NSMTA are easily available on our new website.

Thank you again Jia-Yee Tang and Jason Craft for making our top-notch website a reality.

Our September 25th meeting will include two events.

The 11:00 Program:

Facilitating Piano Studies with Adult Learners

will be presented by Dr. Yeseon Kwon. I am sure this will be illuminating and of great interest to all.

9:30 pre-meeting:

Grace Juang is planning a coffee and pastry welcome event for our 9:30 pre-meeting. Be sure to join us for a chance to greet friends and make new acquaintances!

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September Monthly Meeting

September 25, 2023

9:30-12 pm
at
Northfield Community Church
400 Wagner Road
Northfield, IL 60093

Welcome to our September 25th Monthly Meeting

9:30-10:00 Pre-meeting: Welcome (Back) breakfast and coffee.

To celebrate the new school year, please join us for the complimentary breakfast and coffee. How fun it is to connect with new and old friends!

10:00-11:00 Business Meeting

11:00-12:00 Main Program:

Dr. Yeeseon Kwon “Facilitating Piano Studies with Adult Learners”

What are the ways to partner and share the joy of music making at the piano? This session will explore characteristics of adult learners and feature teaching practices and strategies for adult learning and engagement at the piano.



Bio:

A recipient of the 2023 Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy Outstanding Service Recognition Award, Yeeseon Kwon is Associate Professor at Roosevelt University and specializes in adult piano instruction at the Northwestern University Music Academy. She is a Course Contributor for **A Pianist’s Guide to Teaching in Groups**, from The Frances Clark Center Teacher Education Courses, Column Editor for Books, Materials, and Music of the *Piano Magazine*, and Vice President of The College Music Society.

Exciting programs coming up...

October 23rd

9:30-10:15 Pre-Meeting Discussion "Achievement in Music Exam: Orientation and Q&A"

NSMTA AIM Coordinators, Jennifer Cohen and Jia-Yee Tang will lead a discussion with an overview of AIM for the 2023-24 year.

11:00-12:00 Program: Dr. Svetlana Belsky "Tchaikovsky's *Children's Album*: the Light of a Dark Soul"

November 27th

9:30-10:00 Pre-Meeting Discussion "Tips on how to teach Sight-Reading successfully"

11:00-12:00 Program: Dr. Mary Beth Molennar "Autism, ADHD, Anxiety or Attitude – sorting out challenging student behaviors"

December (No in person meeting)

Brenda Huang "NSMTA Piano Competition Repertoire" (recording format)

January 22nd

9:30-10:00 Pre-Meeting Discussion "TBD" (Any ideas or topic you like to discuss? Please let Grace know)

11:00-12:00 Program: Jenna Williamson "Demystifying Memorization: Stop hoping for the best and discover what really works"

Feb 26th

9:30-10:00 Pre-Meeting Discussion "TBD"

11:00-12:00 Program: Dr. Christina Tio "Improv in the Studio: Integrating Basic Improvisation into everyday practice by way of the Happy Birthday song"

March 25th

9:30-10:00 Pre-Meeting Lam Wong "Mini Recital"

11:00-12:00 Program: Regina Syrkin "Russian Piano School: Myths and Truth"

April 22nd

9:30-10:00 Pre-Meeting Presentation: Jennifer Merry "Bruce Berr's Sonatina and Eight Sound Poems"

11:00-12:00 Program: Dr. Matt Hagle "Creating A World of Colors from Black and White: Techniques and Approaches to Voicing"

AIM News

With another successful year of **in-person** and **remote** AIM exams, it was decided that NSMTA will continue to offer both options, but with a few modifications. While some of the safety threat of COVID-19 has diminished and many events have returned strictly in person, we feel that offering remote options has advantages for students and teachers that may go beyond for safety reasons. However, please be prepared to be flexible, should the need arise for any last-minute changes.

Be on the lookout for the **2023-24 AIM Packet** to be released on our website in the coming weeks: www.nsmta.org/aim All members must have paid dues by October 31, 2023 in order to enroll students in AIM this year.

AIM registrations will look similar to last year, with the use of Member Portal and Event Portal as the means to register students, retrieve schedules and enter scores as applicable.

Similar to AIM Exams from last year:

- Students entering at levels 3-12 may choose either **in-person** or **remote** option for Theory and Performance exams and are not required to stick with the same format for both exams.
- Remote level 3-12 Theory exams will be administered via Zoom and email correspondence.
- Remote level 3-12 Performance exams will be submitted as pre-recorded videos arranged in a YouTube Playlist and scanned sheet music in Google Drive folder.

Modifications to AIM Exams from last year:

- Level 3-12 **in-person** Theory and Performance Exams will only be offered on one of the exam dates at Lake Forest for Lake Forest Area teachers and students, due to the smaller size and need. *(Both **in-person** exam dates will be offered at Northwestern for Northwestern Area teachers and students)*
- Level 1-2 AIM Exams will only be offered **in-person** on one exam date: March 3

All AIM Exam dates and locations can be viewed on the [website](#).

The extended October pre-meeting program will focus on AIM, which will be a combination informational meeting for potential new teachers to AIM, and Q & A for returning teachers. We hope you can join us then.

We look forward to another successful year of AIM exams!

Jennifer Cohen, Lake Forest Area coordinator, LFaim@nsmta.org

Jia-Yee Tang, Northwestern Area coordinator, NUaim@nsmta.org

Website & Social Media

September 2023 SCORE Article

NSMTA Website

Be sure to check out [nsmta.org](https://www.nsmta.org) for updated information for the 2023-24 school year.

- The **NSMTA Calendar of Events** has been updated with 2023-24 event dates.
- Join us at the **Monthly Meetings!** Monthly Meeting presenters and programs will be posted on the home page.
- Read about the **winners** of the 2023 Piano Competition and NSMTA Scholarships in the NSMTA News banner.
- Learn about our **Events!** See the respective webpage for more information about SSF, AIM, Competition and Scholarships.

Social Media

Social Media Chair, Anthony Ty, will be actively increasing our public visibility on Facebook with a series of posts throughout the year.

- Tell your students and families to like us on our Public Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079087497274>
- Join the conversation on our Private Facebook Page (for NSMTA Members only): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/577347985750738>

Submit Your Photos!

We are seeking photos of NSMTA members and their students to feature on our website and social media. Please submit any high definition candid and performance photography from:

- Studio recitals
- AIM, SSF or Competition event dates
- Teaching in your studio during lessons
- Meetings
- Any other NSMTA sanctioned events

Send your photos to communications@nsmta.org. When submitting photos, please include:

- Identification (first and last name) of all persons in the photo
- Event name and location
- The NSMTA [Photo Release Consent Form](#) for each person

All photos will be reviewed by the website chair (Jia-Yee Tang) and social media chair (Anthony Ty) for approval and are not guaranteed to be used.

[Updated NSMTA Email Directory](#)

We are slowly transitioning over to using NSMTA domain email addresses. Please note the following updated contacts:

Corresponding Secretary: score@nsmta.org

The current Corresponding Secretary, Susan Corkum, will use this email account to send out all email notices to the general membership, monthly meeting reminders and Zoom links, and The SCORE newsletter.

Website and Social Media: communications@nsmta.org

Contact Jia-Yee or Anthony about any website and social media related matter.

Treasurer: treasurer@nsmta.org

Contact Chris Morrow for reimbursements or any other financial related matters.

Membership: membership@nsmta.org

Contact Heidi Mayer for questions regarding your NSMTA membership.

NSMTA Member Portal

A whole new look to the NSMTA Member Portal will be released soon.

Submitted by:

Jia-Yee Tang, NSMTA Website Chair

Anthony Ty, NSMTA Social Media Chair

Sonata-Sonatina Festival

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Music Institute of Chicago

300 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

Online Registration Begins: Monday, December 4, 2023

Online Registration Closes: Monday, January 8, 2024

Gold Medal Recital: Sunday, February 11, 2024

The fee this year is \$40 per student, and all registrations will be ONLINE. Participating teachers may enter up to 10 students.

Your NSTMA dues must be paid by October 31st to be eligible. Non-members must pay a \$25 fee to enter students.

ALL TEACHERS are required to help in some way on the day of the festival. No substitutes (parents, students, relatives, etc.) are allowed to replace teacher volunteers for their required job. Please plan ahead to make sure you are available on the day of the festival. Any teacher in violation of the help requirements will not be allowed to participate in the festival the following year. All festival rules and repertoire guidelines may be found online at <https://www.nsmta.org/ssf>.

PIANISTS AUDITION

for the Oakton

Six Piano Ensemble

Join the *only* six piano touring group performing internationally:
♪ CLASSICAL ♪ RAGTIME ♪ JAZZ ♪ POPULAR MUSIC

Past performances include:

- International Society for Music Education World Conference at Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- International Conference of the College Music Society in Vienna, Austria
- Hawaii Music Teachers Association in Honolulu, Hawaii
- Chicago Civic Opera House and Navy Pier
- Numerous MTNA State Conferences (California, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia)
- MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia



Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
September 19, 20 and 21

Des Plaines Campus or Online

To schedule a time or inquire about alternative audition dates,
contact Glenna Sprague, conductor of the Ensemble.



For more information, contact Glenna Sprague,
847.635.1905, gsprague@oakton.edu

1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 • oakton.edu

Oakton Six Piano Ensemble Auditions

Be part of a unique musical experience as a member of the Oakton Six Piano Ensemble. Auditions for this internationally acclaimed touring group are scheduled on **Tuesday, September 19, Wednesday, September 20, and Thursday, September 21 at Oakton College** (1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines) **or if the pianist prefers, the audition can be held Online. To schedule an appointment or to inquire about alternative audition dates,** contact Glenna Sprague, at gsprague@oakton.edu or 847-635-1905.

The group performs repertoire from the classical, ragtime, jazz, and popular periods that is 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. Performing with a conductor, 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.

The group has performed both internationally and throughout the United States, including the World Conference of the International Society for Music Education (ISME) at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow; College Music Society International Conference in Vienna, Austria; Hawaii Music Teachers Association in Honolulu; MTNA National Conferences in Atlanta and Spokane, numerous MTNA state conferences, GP3 National Conference at University of Oklahoma; Steinway of Chicago Community Concert Series, Navy Pier, Civic Opera House, and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Chicago.

Critics hail the Oakton Six Piano Ensemble as “extraordinary, innovative, technically superb and musical.”