



**West  
Suburban  
MTA**  
[www.wsismta.org](http://www.wsismta.org)

**An Affiliate of the Illinois State  
Music Teachers Association**  
*Monthly Newsletter*

## April 2018

**Bonnie Brewster, Newsletter Editor and  
Mailing Coordinator**

- Thurs., April 5, 2018.....* **9:30 am: Monthly meeting and program at Trinity Episcopal Church in Wheaton: Dr. Brenda Huang Master Class.** Student performers are needed.
- Sun., April 8, 2018.....* **1:00-7:00 pm: Berkley-Pendell Piano Competition** at North Central College. Info at [www.berkley-pendell.org](http://www.berkley-pendell.org).
- Thurs., April 12, 2018.....* **9:30 am: Teacher Performance Group** at the home of Diane Lindsay. Please call Diane if you plan to attend.
- Sat., April 14, 2018.....* **7:00 pm: Berkley-Pendell Competition Winners' Celebratory Recital.** Steinway Showroom, 1600 Shore Road, Naperville.
- Sun., April 15, 2018.....* **2:30 pm: AIM Honors Recital** at Windsor Park Manor, 124 Windsor Park Drive, Carol Stream. See further info inside newsletter.
- Thurs., May 3, 2018.....* **9:30 am: Monthly meeting and program** at Trinity Episcopal Church in Wheaton: **Frank Caruso: Simplifying the Art of Improvisation.** Followed by luncheon onsite (coordinator needed) or at a restaurant. Please see President's Note inside newsletter.
- Thurs., May 10, 2018.....* **9:30 am: West Suburban Board Meeting** at the home of Carol Ishman. Please email your annual report to Carol ahead of the meeting and bring a copy to read.

## DEADLINES

- Sun., April 15, 2018.....* **DEADLINE** for May 2018 newsletter. Please send articles and information to Bonnie Brewster via email: [bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com](mailto:bonniebrewster1954@gmail.com)



# Monthly Meeting Piano Master-Class April 5<sup>th</sup>

## Ms. Brenda Huang



**Brenda Huang**, winner of the prestigious 1991 Gilmore Young Artist Award, immigrated from Taiwan to the Chicago area at the age of nine, and has studied with Emilio del Rosario, Russell Sherman, Carolyn McCracken-Forough, Pawel Chęcinski and Alan Chow. 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 and China. 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 and is currently teaching private students from her home in Palatine.

Brenda's students have won numerous local and national competitions, including MTNA, Chicago Youth Auditions, Lang Lang Scholar audition, and Chopin Miami Scholarship Audition. Her students have performed with orchestras such as Chicago Symphony, Lake Forest Symphony, Fox Valley Symphony, to name a few. Mostly, she enjoys the process of nurturing young talents and watching them becoming independent young artists.

Brenda founded the Emilio del Rosario Music Foundation in 2010. The Foundation has sponsored several concerto competitions. This year, the foundation is sending the 2016 EDR Concerto Competition winner, Aaron Kurz, to a two weeks of residency at T'ian Conservatory in China, where he will be teaching and performing with local orchestras. The Foundation is also sponsoring the Emerging Composer Composition Competition. The winners will be announced in May.

Review:

"...Huang offered a strong and demanding program, and an interpretive personality that fairly leaped across the footlights...Huang evinced a rare feeling for harmony – a sense of just how to weight and color, delay or savor crucial chords....To say that Huang's ballade sparked memories of Alfred Cortot's 1933 recording is to pay the highest possible compliment. Here was a generous rubato remarkable as much for its nudgings ahead as for its poignant lingerings. Here was a feeling of music really telling a tale, albeit wordless..."

---Scott Cantrell, *The Kansas City Star*



## **West Suburban Illinois Music Teachers Association**

March 1, 2018 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am.

There was no student performer today.

The minutes of February meeting were read with one minor correction.

Motion to approve: Diane Jankiewicz      Second: Rita Brown

TIP: Diane Jankiewicz showed us the new Hanon technique book by Randall Faber, which she learned about at this summer's NCKP. It focuses on today's newer technique philosophy, emphasizing gestures and no tension.

Treasurer: Janel Greaves reported a balance of \$10,520.71.

Membership: Directories for other groups are available on the back table. Debi Inch announced we have no new members or visitors today.

Recital update: Joanne King was not in attendance, however she is the coordinator for the March 4 recital at Windsor Park. The recitals on April 8 and May 6 have been cancelled since no coordinators were found. The March recital has 15 students including 4 voice students.

Workshop: Marcia Lehe reported the workshop had excellent attendance, almost to capacity.

AIM Performance Exam –Diane Jankiewicz asked teachers to let her know about any makeups or withdrawals. Teachers will receive a copy of the letter of recognition this week, which they may use if they want to send it to their students' schools. This is up to each teacher and is optional.

AIM Refreshments: Debi Inch asked teachers to please bring a variety of refreshments to the faculty lounge downstairs on AIM day.

### **Important dates:**

March 5, 2018 is the Berkley Pendell entry deadline. The website is revised. Karol Sue Reddington encouraged participation.

March 8, 2018, Thursday 7:30 pm - COD Faculty performance at the MAC - Playhouse Theatre. Performances include: Ravel "Rapsodie espagnol" by Karol Sue Reddington and Marcia Lehe. and Chopin, selected Preludes, Op. 28 by Alexander Djordjevic.

March 19, 2018, 7:30, Pierce Chapel Auditorium – Daniel Paul Horn will be performing an all Beethoven recital.

April 5, 2018 – Next WSMTA meeting, a masterclass with Brenda Huang. A student performer is needed.

April 15, 2018 – AIM Honors Recital

### **Other announcements:**

Bill Phemister is the state vice president for conferences. The next conference will be held at Northern Illinois University the last week in October. Bill welcomes any suggestions for the conference.

May Luncheon – Debi Inch announced someone is needed to collect money and coordinate the luncheon this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Motion to adjourn: Liz Mackenzie

Second: Diane Jankiewicz

The meeting was followed by a program by Dr. Barbara Schubert, "Music as our Mission: Programming and Performing for Impact."

Respectfully submitted, Linda Krueger, secretary



## AIM Exam Thank You

Dear Teachers,

Thank you to all of you for judging or assisting in the Office this past Saturday. For the most part all went well on AIM day. Carol Beilke did a great job keeping the Office organized.

Some students did receive an incomplete on their exam on Saturday due to various reasons. They have until March 24 to complete their exam.

**Students needing a make up exam also have until March 24 (there are no exceptions in extending the deadline) to complete their make up exam.** Please follow the Make up exam procedures that were put into your packets on Saturday. Remind your students that the fee is \$20. The fee must be paid to the judge prior to starting the exam.

Students doing make up exams are eligible for the AIM Honors Recital if they complete the exam by March 17 and if there is still room on the program. Make up judges must notify Liz Mackenzie (AIM Honors Recital Coordinator) by March 17 if they hear any student performance they would like to nominate.

All judges should send makeup scores to Diane Jankiewicz at ([djankiewicz@hotmail.com](mailto:djankiewicz@hotmail.com)). I need to know student name, Level, score, teacher code and judge name.

If your student is not intending to do a makeup exam please notify me. I will enter that student as withdrawn.

Please feel free to share with me any concerns or comments you have about the AIM Performance Exam.

Thanks again for everyone's cooperation.

Diane Jankiewicz

## Notes from the President

Congratulations Lynette!

Lynette Zelis was recently elected as East Central Division Director-elect. How great to have a person we know as a voice that will be heard nationally in MTNA.

Division Directors serve on the MTNA National Board of Directors. The East Central Division represents the states of Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio.

Janice Razaq, who has done many programs for our group, will become East Central Division Director at the upcoming conference with Lynette as Director-elect. Thanks to all who voted in MTNA elections.

Things to consider – Please let me know your preferences!

- **Communication**

- Do you like the Yahoo Group as a way to communicate information?
- Would you prefer to have information sent by text to your mobile phone?

- **Recitals**

Do you have students who love to memorize and play? They would benefit from playing on a monthly recital!

We need one person to coordinate each recital. That person is asked to:

- Accept recital entries and fees,
- Create a program and
- Act as host at the recital which is usually held on Sunday afternoon.

These recitals have always been a great way to have up to 3 of your students play when they are ready. You do not have to have a big recital for all of your students. It is a great way for students to hear other music played by students and polish their performance skills.

Several recitals have been cancelled this year because we did not have a coordinator. Please consider doing this small job. We will cancel future recitals if there is no interest here.

- **May Luncheon**

For the last several years, we have had a catered luncheon at Trinity Church in May. Here are our choices. Which do you prefer?

- Option 1 - We need someone to collect the fees from those who want to stay for lunch. That person would also order the food and arrange for it to be delivered.
- Option 2 - Another option would be to simply go to a restaurant for lunch.

### Competition News

The **William Knabe Young Artist Piano Competition** is offering increased awards and additional categories this year. **Preliminary round applications are by video** (students receive comments from prestigious judges). Live rounds will be in the Baltimore/Washington DC region in June.

Also, in keeping with its mission to bring excitement to the piano, the William Knabe Piano Institute is expanding its offering of competitions, festivals, and other events, and we are looking for local partners to assist. If you would like to be involved, please reply to this email and/or visit [www.knabeinstitute.org](http://www.knabeinstitute.org) and sign up to be on our mailing list.

## **2018 Competitions**

**AGES 6-17**

- Competitions are open to anyone meeting age and repertoire requirements.
- Preliminary round is by video. Visit [www.knabeinstitute.org](http://www.knabeinstitute.org) for application link.
- Applicants can submit for an evaluation and points only (applicants are eligible for awards after being evaluated in 3 events).
- Or applicants can apply to be considered for live semi-final and final rounds which take place in metropolitan Baltimore/Washington.
- Competitive applicants can select to compete for a place in the main competition in June, or in the less competitive August Summer Festival Competition. Video application deadline: April 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **2018 KNABE YOUNG ARTIST SOLO PIANO COMPETITION (JUNE SEMI-FINALS)**

#### **Solo Group 1 (ages 7-9)**

2 Contrasting Pieces

1st Prize: \$300; 2nd Prize: \$200; 3rd Prize: \$100; Audience Award: \$50

#### **Solo Group 2 (ages 10-13)**

2 or 3 Contrasting Pieces

1st Prize: \$750; 2nd Prize: \$500; 3rd Prize: \$250; Audience Award: \$50

#### **Solo Group 3 (ages 14-17)**

3 Contrasting Pieces, including 1 etude or virtuosic work

1st Prize: \$2,500; 2nd Prize: \$1,500; 3rd Prize: \$1,000; Audience Award: \$50

### **2018 KNABE YOUNG ARTIST CONCERTO COMPETITION (JUNE SEMI-FINALS) AGES 10-17**

Any movement of a published concerto (or entire single-movement concerto)

1st Prize: \$1,000; 2nd Prize: \$750; 3rd Prize: \$400; Audience Award: \$50

2019 performance with orchestra for 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner (*provided that repertoire is acceptable to conductor*)

### **2018 KNABE / IVY INTERNATIONAL SUMMER FESTIVAL COMPETITION (AUGUST 2018) AGES 6-17**

2 or 3 Contrasting Pieces-Prizes to be announced

For additional information, contact Jarl Hulbert, Ph.D, President of William Knabe Piano Institute [www.knabeinstitute.org](http://www.knabeinstitute.org) 1-888-978-5332 ext. 4.

## AIM Honors recital

The AIM honors recital will be held on Sunday, April 15 at 2:30 pm at Windsor Park Manor, 124 Windsor Park Dr., Carol Stream. This is in the auditorium upstairs in the main building facing North Avenue. There is a visitor parking lot just to the right of the main entrance door (where the big flagpole is on the North Ave. side). If that is full, then one can park on the lake side of the circular Windsor Park Drive.

This recital honors students, levels 5 and above, who performed excellently on the exams held at Wheaton College on March 10. About 30 students were nominated by their judges from the studios of 16 of our teachers! Not all of them will perform but it should be a wonderful recital and will include music by many composers including Bach, Scarlatti, Mozart, Haydn, Brahms, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy, Griffes, Mier, and Glass.

Congratulations to these students and to their teachers!



### Nominating Committee and Board Changes

Elinor Lee, Debi Inch and Rita Brown will make up the nominating committee this year. They will present a slate of officers to replace the **2nd VP for Publicity/Historian** and the **Treasurer**. These officers will be voted on at the May meeting. Many thanks to Linda Krueger who will continue as Secretary.

If you would like more information or if you are interested in filling any positions listed above please contact a member of the nominating committee or Carol Ishman. You can also feel free to talk to the people currently holding those positions. (2nd VP - Diane Lindsay; Treasurer - Janel Greaves)

In addition to the two officers we will elect in May, some other board positions will also be open next year. Among them is the position of Newsletter Editor currently held by Bonnie Brewster. Our sincere thanks to Bonnie for doing a great job as the newsletter for several years.

If you currently hold a board position it would also be helpful if you let Carol know if you plan to continue your current position next year.

Bonnie Brewster  
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