



George Radosavljevic President

Dear friends and colleagues,

Spring is here - celebrate the season by joining us at our March meeting!

The morning will start at 9:30 AM with a **mini recital** by our own Lam Wong. He will play a delightful and impressive program - just the thing to inspire us all as the season brings nature back to life. Be sure to take a look at his program and his amazing bio by clicking on the March Meeting tab on our website.

The main program at 11:00 AM will be given by our esteemed colleague, Regina Syrkin. Her program titled: **Russian Piano School: Myths and Truth** will most certainly be of great interest and pedagogical value to all of us.

As always, information on all the NSMTA programs for students is available on our beautiful and constantly evolving website!

Our Nominating Committee will present their slate of nominations for new officers, so it will be a great time to come to the meeting to hear the news, not to mention the two excellent programs that will take place. We hope to see you there.

Table of Contents	Page
President's Message	1
Pre-Meeting Presentation	2
Main Presentation	3
Aim News	4
Scholarships	5
New member	5
Piano Competition	6
NSMTA Recital and Luncheon	7
Oakton Six Piano Ensemble Info	

March Monthly Meeting

March 25,2024

9:30 am - 12 pm

at
Northfield Community Church
400 Wagner Ro
Northfield, II
60093

Pre-Meeting Presentation



Mini Concert Program:

Alexander Scriabin - Nocturne in D-flat major for the Left Hand, Op. 9 No. 2

Claude Debussy - Suite bergamasque, L. 75

- Prélude
- Menuet
- Clair de lune
- Passepied

Claude Debussy - L'isle joyeuse, L. 106

Read Lam's biography here

Main Presentation

March Program Presenter: Regina Syrkin

Program: Russian Piano School: Myths and Truth



As you will see from my bio I have extensive experience in teaching piano.

Of course I keep comparing my
"American" experience with my
"Russian" one and in my teaching I try
to use the best example from both.

Very often I read in different articles and heard at different presentations about the so called Russian piano method which I never heard of being a student at Russian school of music. On the other hand I'd like to share some tips I did learn there which helped me a lot in teaching until nowadays.

I hope it will be helpful to some young

teachers.

As I mentioned, I will focus mostly on technique and repertoire.

Read Regina's biography here.

AIM News

AIM Level 3-12 Performance Exam Registration Period: March 11 – 25, 2024

Registration Deadline: March 25, 11:59pm (central)

Thank you to all teachers that were able to attend the Judges Meeting on March 11. A very informative Performance Registration slideshow presentation was given, as well as collectively doing two mock judging at the meeting.

Because there is a lot of information, it is difficult to summarize all this on a single page, so we have created several ways for teachers to get all the necessary information. Please click on the links below to access them in a format that works for you. Please review **all** information carefully and then reach out to a coordinator if you have any questions or need clarification.

Access the Performance Registration Slides presentation in text format HERE

Access the Performance Registration Slides presentation in *video discussion* format HERE

Access the Judges Meeting YouTube Playlist HERE

Remote Performance Exam via Video Submissions:

Access the AIM Remote Performance Exam Guidelines HERE

If you have students that will do the remote Performance exam option, please review the guidelines carefully. It is <u>strongly</u> suggested that teachers download the Guidelines file and send it directly to their students.

Needed at time of registration for remote exam:

- student's unlisted YouTube Playlist URL
- students Google Music Folder URL

Teachers will be unable to complete registration for remote options without these two URLs. As it does take time to collect these, please be sure to have all this information ahead of time.

Thank you again for your participation in AIM. Good luck to all students as we approach the final steps in AIM Exam completion this year!

Jennifer Cohen, <u>LFaim@nsmta.org</u>, AIM chair and Lake Forest AIM coordinator Jia-Yee Tang, <u>Nuaim@nsmta.org</u>, Northwestern AIM coordinator

Scholarships

Learn more about student scholarship opportunities under "Student Events" on our website. The website has detailed information and applications to download.

All three scholarships are named for teachers who contributed so much to our chapter in the past and their legacy lives on!

Summer Music Program Scholarships

- Betty Benton Scholarship (for students completing grades 5-7) \$500
- Bruce Berr Scholarship (for students completing Grades 8-12) \$500

Merle Hanson College Scholarship \$1,000 scholarship for high school graduating students preparing for careers in music or a music-related field.

Mary Beth Molenaar NSMTA Scholarship Chair

Welcome to our new member:

NSMTA welcomes new member, Benjamin Nathaniel Gamze, in Techny.

We would love to meet at our meeting, either face to face, or virtually. Please consider attending, and enjoy become involved in the business meetings, learn from our outstanding programs, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow dynamic piano teachers.

Last but not least, we offer delicious treats and coffee in between the business meeting and the program, and the opportunity to gather at lunch afterwards.

NSMTA Piano Competition

Registration is open through April 15th, 2024.

www.nsmta.org/competition

2024 Piano Competition Repertoire Primary

Tchaikovsky - "Song of the Lark" Op. 39 No. 22. From <u>Album for the Young, Op.39</u>

Kabalevsky - Prelude in g minor. In "Easy Classics to Moderns": Music for Millions vol. 17, edited by Denes Agay

Elementary

Burgmüller - "Berceuse", Op. 109, No. 7. From <u>18 Characteristic</u> <u>Studies Op 109</u>

Bartok - Romanian Dance #1 from Romanian Folk Dances, Sz. 56

Junior

Chopin - Nocturne in g minor Op. 37#1

Prokofiev - Prelude in C major, Op. 12#7.

Senior

Schumann - "Des Abends" from Fantasiestücke, Op. 12

Bach - Italian Concerto, BWV 971, 3rd movement: Presto

NSMTA Annual Recital and Luncheon

Friendly Reminder - JUNE 10 at 10:30 am is the annual NSMTA RECITAL followed by a LUNCHEON. The location is TBA.

You are invited to participate in performance of solo works, chamber music, original compositions, sharing of remembrances and more in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of NSMTA.

The deadline for submitting performance selections as well as luncheon reservations is May 31. You are welcome to call or write with any questions.

Marlene Chatain 847-475-3635

Oakton Six Piano Ensemble conducted by Glenna Sprague



Founded and conducted by Glenna Sprague, Oakton professor and coordinator of music, the Six Piano Ensemble has amazed and delighted sold-out audiences throughout the country. The group performs classical, ragtime, jazz, and popular music as well as symphonic repertoire transcribed for the six pianos. The rich, layered sound of the Ensemble is comparable to that of an orchestra as the melody transfers from pianist to pianist. Widely acknowledged as one of the most unique musical groups in the world, critics from Vienna to Glasgow hail the Six Piano Ensemble as "innovative," "technically superb," and "musical." Enjoy an extraordinary concert experience and get your tickets early for this annual favorite!

Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m.

Footlik Theater, Des Plaines campus A reception will follow the concert.



\$15 general admission; \$10 students and seniors; \$8 groups Tickets at oakton.edu/tickets or 847.635.1900.

Oakton College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines
Park in Lot A.





Oakton Six Piano Ensemble Concert April 28

The Oakton Six Piano Ensemble, conducted by Glenna Sprague, will present its annual concert on Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m. in the Footlik Theater at Oakton College, 1600 East Golf Road, Des Plaines.

The group is founded by Glenna Sprague, Professor and Coordinator of Music at Oakton, where she also teaches piano. Performing at six pianos, the group performs not only traditional classical piano music; but also, symphonic literature as well as ragtime and jazz music. Performing with a conductor, the rich, layered sound of the Six Piano Ensemble compares to that of an orchestra, with each member playing a different part of a composition as the melody transfers from pianist to pianist. This year's concert features works by Rossini's Overture to The Barber of Seville; Bach's Fugue in C Minor; Grieg's Norwegian Dances, Op. 35 Nos. 2 and 3; Moszkowski's Spanish Dance, Op. 12, No. 3; Billy Strayhorn's Take the 'A' Train; Joplin's Original Rags as well other selections.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission; \$10 for seniors and students; and \$8 for groups. For ticket information, call the Oakton Box Office at 847-635-1900 or order tickets online at www.oakton.edu/tickets. There will be a reception after the concert.

Widely acknowledged as one of the most unique music groups in the world, the Oakton Six Piano Ensemble 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; the College Music Society International Conference in Vienna, Austria; MTNA National Conferences in Atlanta and Spokane; numerous MTNA state conferences; National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Chicago. Critics from Vienna to Glasgow hail the Ensemble as "extraordinary", "technically superb", and "musically innovative."