

# N W S M T A

Northwest Suburban Music Teachers Association

Volume XXIV, No. 1

September 2009

President, Levonne Mrozinski

Editor, Deborah Lynch

## Editor's Notes

Deborah Lynch

Maureen Flood and I were out celebrating a milestone birthday of Marcia Mally. What better way than an evening of music magic with Hershey Felder. He is in Chicago portraying the life of Beethoven. He will be at Drury Lane for the next couple of weeks. His portrayal would be inspiring for you and your students to see. The good news is that his series of Gershwin, Chopin and Beethoven will be recorded for television. What he does is truly unique and Felder's giftedness for it is evident. It's a difficult feat to be the actor, while performing at the piano. But what I find to be truly exceptional is the writing of his program. It would be a daunting task to take the life of someone like Beethoven and reduce it to a little over an hour program. What would you include to give the most insight into a man who altered the course of music for all future generations? How do you balance a biographical lecture and musical performance with humor and let the audience become personally acquainted with the real Beethoven? Felder did it remarkably well.

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## President's Prelude

By Vonnie Mrozinski

Another teaching year has begun! The AIM workbooks have been assigned; sonatinas and sonatas are being learned. By the time the first week of lessons actually begin, I am relaxed and relieved! I've made it through another season of... *scheduling!*

Scheduling was not too bad this year. Perhaps it was because I had two seniors graduate and go off to college. Another family of two students moved out of town. I did begin two new students, but still have an opening or two. (Do I really *want* to fill those time slots? It is nice having a potty break or tea time!) Back to scheduling...

Do you have parents requesting lesson times in *July* before the summer lessons have finished like I do!? I have three or four that always are the "early birds" for scheduling. Then, there are the high school students that have only *one* possible time slot that will work. Or "we can't schedule yet because we don't know our \_\_\_ (fill in the blank with any sport or other extracurricular activity)." Do you have returning families that you send information about the new semester to, call and email them, then they just never respond? Have they moved without forwarding information, been kidnapped by aliens, or lost in a sinkhole?

Wait! What's this in my "inbox?" It's a reply: "Dear Vonnie, No, we are not doing piano yet. I wonder if we should have a lesson for [Susie] to know how to maintain what she has learned?" I think this is a "no, we are not continuing lessons, but don't want to hurt your feelings" reply. OK, that's it! I am no longer holding that time slot for Susie. YEAH! Lunch on Tuesdays will be 45-minutes earlier! Dixon, you lucky dog! Your walk will be before you have to beg to go out!

I really looked forward to seeing students, especially ones that did not taken lessons over the summer. The lessons start

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Felder manages to make you feel empathy for Beethoven, abused as a child, unappreciated by his family as an adult and tortured by his illness. He tells the story through the memory of Dr. von Breuning, the son of a friend of Beethoven based on an actual book von Breuning wrote. He explains that Beethoven was the first composer to show a range of emotion in his music. That's interesting. He also uses the term *dolce* more than any other composer. That's a surprise. And I love the comment Beethoven made to a critic who said his Victory Symphony was nothing great. He retorted that his *s@#!* was greater than the critic's best work. There's the Beethoven we know and love. In Felder's attempt to tell the facts of the story he didn't miss the magic.

## September Music Teachers' Fair

**By: Mary Anne Block and Joan James**

Our first meeting of the year on September 21st is sponsored by the Independent Music Teachers and the Membership Committee. The Music Teacher's Fair is a means to orient our membership with all the benefits and activities offered by the Northwest Suburban Music Teacher's Association all at one meeting. It will also serve as a 'New Member Coffee' for any new or visiting members. Several committees will have booths with materials available and committee members there to answer your questions. During the business meeting, committee chairmen will briefly describe what their committee does, give their usual report and invite members and guests to visit their booth. After the business meeting, the remaining time is provided for visiting each booth and socializing. Coffee and bakery will be provided by the Membership Committee.

If you cannot attend all of the monthly NWSMTA meetings but want to find out what your organization has to offer you, then this is the meeting you won't want to miss. Prizes will be offered for any member who brings a non-member piano teacher to the meeting. New members and visitors will have unique nametags so that we can make them feel welcome. Hope to see you there!

with such hope and excitement, for the teacher as well as the student. I love my students and I love teaching! Hope your year is off to a smooth start, too!

Take a look through the newsletter! We have an exciting year of programs and events for our group. See you at the next meeting!

## AIM Corner

**By: Fran Onley**

### Levels I and II AIM EXAMS

The Levels I and II AIM exams will be held Sun. Nov. 15 at Harper College. The postmarked deadline is Oct. 15. Please submit your enrollment in duplicate to Fran Onley. Forms will be online or at the first meeting, Sept. 21.

Remember, it is not too late to prepare your students for this exam. If you have any questions about it, please call Fran Onley or Mary Anne Block. AIM will have a booth with information at the first meeting with materials you can use with your students. Also, come to the AIM coffee workshop on Oct. 26 at the home of Helen Grosshans. Here your questions will be addressed if you have some.

## Job Opening

Millburn Congregational UCC is seeking a part-time Director of Music to lead and coordinate choirs, instrumental ensembles and other musical groups and work congenially and cooperatively in team ministry with the staff, volunteers and congregation. Bachelor's degree and/or education in music ministry or equivalent experience are preferable. References with resume can be sent to the Church Board President, Dan Haley, 19073 W. Grass Lake Road, Lake Villa, IL, 60046, or email to [pastor@millburnchurch.org](mailto:pastor@millburnchurch.org).

Pastor Jed Watson

Millburn Congregational UCC

847 356-5237 ext 1

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next newsletter is October 20th.  
Email your events, articles and information to [DLynch88@gmail.com](mailto:DLynch88@gmail.com).

## In Appreciation

Dear Mrs. Mrozinski:

*I would like to sincerely thank you for your generosity. The \$375 scholarship from NWSMTA has expanded my musical studies. I attended a rigorous and influential camp at the University of Illinois. Working with the university professors as well as learning from my peers on a regular basis has been a great experience for me. I cannot thank the NWSMTA enough for providing me with the opportunity to progress in my piano studies.*

Thank you,  
Jennifer Garbarz (student of Joan Drolet)

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Dear NWSMTA members,

*Thank you very much for your donation given in memory of our mother (Marge Lantz). It's very much appreciated.*

Jim Lantz and Linda Craig

## CAMTA WORKSHOP

We are happy to announce that our **workshop** clinician, Dr. Bill Moore, Performance Psychologist, is back in commission after emergency back surgery, and will be available for leading our **workshop** on Friday, October 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **The new venue is: Concordia University, in River Forest, Koehneke Community Center, in the Oak Park/River Forest Room. Registration Fee: \$45.00.** For registration information, or questions, please contact Heidi Mayer, [heidimayer@comcast.net](mailto:heidimayer@comcast.net), 847-698-3788.

**Dr. Bill Moore** is a performance psychology specialist who assists musicians, athletes, and business professionals in performing at optimal levels under competitive stress. He is president of Moore Performance Consulting and is currently a performance coach for a variety of individuals and organizations in the United States and Europe. He was recently interviewed in *The American Music Teacher*, and is respected both nationally and internationally for his work in this field.

### Testimonial

*“Dr. Bill Moore’s Performance Psychology Seminar was one of the best things to happen here. It was tremendously helpful to the students taking it. They have healthier attitudes and a greater self-esteem – it really worked wonders for them....I believe his work to be ground-breaking!” -- Dr. Jane Maorath*

## AIM Workshop/Coffee

Are you curious about AIM? Are you finding it hard to just jump in with your students?

- ❖ **You are invited** to the AIM Workshop/Coffee on Monday, October 26, at 9:45 – 11:30 am in the home of Helen Grosshans (310 W. Hintz Rd. in Arlington Heights, IL).
- ❖ This workshop will answer your questions about preparing the student for AIM. In fact, you will leave with a plan in hand! Mentally, select a student or two who have not participated in AIM. Know their age, how long they have studied piano, pieces they are currently working on and the collections that they are using. **BRING** your copy of the AIM Syllabus. You will map out the preparation needed for your student(s) to enter the appropriate level with feedback from those present. The AIM Committee will share some of the wisdom that they have gained through experience with their students, especially those who need to fill in some holes as they get ready for their first time in AIM.
- ❖ Come to get ready to teach the AIM program! Come to share ideas about students and teaching! Come for the coffee and refreshments! Just Come! RSVP does help in planning: to Helen Grosshans (email: [thegrosshans@yahoo.com](mailto:thegrosshans@yahoo.com) or phone: 847-259-2125). See you on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October!

## In Memory

**Roberta Rogers** passed away the end of July. Roberta served as our membership chairperson and taught in Grayslake. She fought a brave struggle with cancer and will be missed by the members.

## Upcoming Programs

October 19<sup>th</sup> Program

Awards Workshop

Matthew Hagle, Music Institute of Chicago

November 30<sup>th</sup> Program

“The Alexander Technique and Playing Piano”

Claudia Peyton, M.AmSat

## NWSMTA Ambassador to Mongolia

By: Fran Onley

Ulaanbaatar (UB) is the capital of Mongolia and is a hustling and bustling large city mixed with the old traditions and a lot of western influence, especially in the way the younger generation dresses. Since it's surrounded by mountains, the air sometimes gets trapped and there can be a lot of pollution. However, a dust storm will occur and away with the dust. We complain about our roads here but nothing can compare with the bumpy, dusty, rock laden roads of UB. There is a bus system and a huge taxi service which you can hail on the road by raising your hand. Being a Chicagoan, I'd flag my hand and yell, "Taxi, taxi!" It worked most of the time but my daughter would just raise her hand and one would eventually come. Not speaking Mongolian was a problem for me but using my hands to convey what I wanted and picking up some of the words helped me communicate. Plus, I always wore my Mongolian Renowned Mother's medal and the people would see it, nod their heads, and point to me. With that I'd hold up six fingers meaning I had six children and say "Ejje" meaning mother and then would say "Emi" for grandmother and hold up both hands plus another five for fifteen grandchildren. They'd roll their eyes and laugh.

We walked everywhere and going to the market with my daughter to get the horsemeat, fresh vegetables and fruit, potatoes, cheese, household supplies, etc. took us 45 minutes and was an experience in itself.



## Let's Go On a Road Trip!

By: Helen Grosshans

**The ISMTA Fall Conference will be on November 6-7 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL.** That is just a little ways east of Champaign where the university sports a new performing arts center. Sessions will be in the Doudna Performing Arts Center and the Martin Luther King Jr Student Union right next to it. No trotting across campus this year so hit the hotel treadmills if you need to workout!

Friday morning starts with an early ISMTA Board Meeting and then the General Meeting which is followed by lots of different sessions stuffed into the two-day format. The performing artist is Christopher Taylor from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who will also be conducting an advanced master class. His reputation is strong, both as a pianist and teacher. Randall Faber will be the pedagogy clinician who will also lead an intermediate master class in addition to two other sessions. NWSMTA's own Janice Razaq will present her program "Music of My Ancestral Heritage: Scandinavian Composers" on Saturday!

The MTNA and ISMTA Competitions will run on both Friday and Saturday with an expected increase in entries. Other musical programs besides Friday evening's solo piano recital will include a new recital "Who's New in Illinois: Faculty Highlights" which will feature several performances by newer faculty in Illinois colleges and universities, the STAR Recital of elementary students selected from the district competitions, the Winners' Recitals and the Saturday evening EIU Faculty Showcase. That's a lot of music in one weekend!

When you receive the conference book in the mail, you will find information about the schedule, housing, meals, and registration. NWSMTA has had good representation at past conferences so let's keep up the fun! Find a roommate! Plan to carpool! If you need to be at EIU early on Friday, consider driving on Thursday and stopping by Krannert Center at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. Vladimir Feltsman will be performing a solo/chamber recital with the Pacifica Quartet, UIUC Quartet-in-Residence ([www.Krannertcenter.com](http://www.Krannertcenter.com)). I know I'm going to the conference and I hope that I'll see you there, too!

# **Emilio del Rosario Benefit Concert**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We would like to cordially invite you to a benefit concert in the beautiful Nichols Concert Hall at the Music Institute of Chicago, in honor of Emilio del Rosario, beloved pianist and master teacher. Two years ago, he was diagnosed with cancer and came across complications during his recovery. We hope that you will be able to join us for an evening of music as former students gather from abroad to celebrate Mr. del Rosario's forty plus years of teaching and contributions to the field of music.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. Here are a few different ways that you can get involved:

### **Purchase an Advertisement in the Program Book**

Take this opportunity to reach all the audience that will be attending the concert by placing an advertisement for your business. Please see the enclosed program book advertising form for details on sizes and rates.

### **Purchase a dedication in the Program Book**

What a wonderful way to leave a personal message for Mr. del Rosario especially if you are unable to attend the concert.

### **Donate an item for the silent auction**

If you have any items that you would like to donate to the silent auction, please contact Andrea Schneider at [doctor.schneider@comcast.net](mailto:doctor.schneider@comcast.net)

You will receive special acknowledgment in the program booklet.

With your generosity and support, we hope that the proceeds of the concert will help alleviate some of the medical expenses. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Lee at (847) 905-1500 ext 463 or at [klee@musicinst.org](mailto:klee@musicinst.org) Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Benefit Concert Committee  
Brenda Huang – [mail@brendahuang.com](mailto:mail@brendahuang.com)  
Katherine K. Lee – [klee@musicinst.org](mailto:klee@musicinst.org)  
Andrea Schneider – [doctor.schneider@comcast.net](mailto:doctor.schneider@comcast.net)  
Music Institute of Chicago

# Library

By Suzanne Fleer

Our library of books, CDs, DVDs, videos and cassettes is open again! Unfortunately there are a number of items that have not been returned or forgotten in the rush of heavy teaching schedules. Please check your homes for these missing materials and return as soon as possible- no fines, no questions asked!!

## MISSING LIBRARY MATERIALS (Revised August 2009)

### BOOKS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author/Editor</u>
<i>The Art of the Piano (Its Performers, Literature and Recordings)</i>	David Dubal
<i>Creative Piano Playing</i>	Enoch & Lyke
<i>Deceptive Cadence</i>	Eugenia Zuckerman
<i>Grand Piano</i>	Sydney Harrison
<i>Great Pianists from Mozart to the Present</i>	Harold Schonberg
<i>Handel</i>	Percy M. Young
<i>Healthy Piano Playing</i>	Marcie Zinn
<i>Joy of Music</i>	Leonard Bernstein
<i>Liszt and His Piano Works</i>	Herbert Westerby
<i>Music as Medicine</i>	Deforia Lane
<i>Music in Geriatric Care</i>	Ruth Bright
<i>The Musicians and Petrillo</i>	Robert D. Leiter
<i>Natural Laws in Piano Technic</i>	Mary Wood Chase
<i>Nineteenth Century Romanticism in Music</i>	Rey M. Longyear
<i>Ornamentation: A Question and Answer Manual</i>	Lloyd-Watts & Bigler
<i>Passion for the Piano</i>	Judith Oringer
<i>Piano Tuning</i>	J. Cree Fischer
<i>Practicing the Piano</i>	Frank Merrick
<i>Progressive Series Junior Course</i>	Art Publication Society
<i>Psychology of Music</i>	Carl Seashore
<i>Recent Music and Musicians</i>	Moscheles/Coleridge
<i>Season with Solti</i>	William Barry Furlong
<i>Speaking of Pianists</i>	Abram Chasins
<i>Tchaikovsky</i>	Percy M. Young
<i>With Your Own Two Hands</i>	Seymour Bernstein
<i>Wunnerful, Wunnerful</i>	Lawrence Welk

## CDs

- CD2. PIANO LITERATURE: BASTIEN VOLUME THREE
- CD3. PIANO LITERATURE: BASTIEN VOLUME FOUR
- CD4. WEEKLEY & ARGANBRIGHT
- CD6. LIVING PIANO
- CD7. A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO MUSIC, Neil Ardley & Poul Ruders (Book and CD)
- CD16. GREAT PIANISTS OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY (Book and 2 CDs)
- CDR2. PRACTICAL PIANO PEDAGOGY: THE DEFINITIVE TEXT FOR PIANO TEACHERS AND PEDAGOGY STUDENTS, Martha Baker-Jordan (Book and CD)

## VIDEOS

- V3. CREATIVE COMMUNICATION FOR PIANO TEACHERS by Mary Hall Kogen
- V27. BEETHOVEN LIVES UPSTAIRS
- V29. PRACTICING AND PERFORMING by Daniel Abrams

## CASSETTE TAPES

- C48. The Motion Makes the Music
- C53. Music Smart: Listening Tapes & Activities for Teaching Music Appreciation by Gwen Hotchkiss(book and 3 tapes)

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