



Volume XXIV, No.2

November 2009

President, Levonne Mrozinski

Editor, Deborah Lynch

Editor's Notes

Deborah Lynch

I am thankful for the students who come to their lesson, even if Mother needs to color her hair. (I've had a student cancel more than once for that reason.)

I am thankful for the parents that make doctor/dentist appointments at non-lesson times.

I am thankful for the students who don't call 5 minutes after their lesson time to say they won't be able to come today.

I am thankful for the students who don't sneeze in my face or on the keys.

I am thankful for the students who practice their pieces, even if I didn't write it on their assignment sheet.

I am thankful for the students who don't forget to bring their music to their lesson.

I am thankful for the student who asks, "May I play that part again?"

I am thankful for the student who asks, "Was the piece you played on the recital the longest piece ever written?" (I looked that one up. It's called "The Road" and is 10 hours

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Upcoming Programs
- 1 Editor's Notes
- 2 Address Changes
- 3 Positions Available
- 4 AIM Corner
- 4 Directions to Holiday Party

Upcoming Programs

By Suzanne Murray

The Alexander Technique and Playing Piano

Claudia Peyton, M.AmSAT certified since 1995. She graduated from the University of Illinois with BFA and received her MA from Lesley University. Claudia received her Alexander Technique teaching certification from the American Center for the Alexander Technique (ACAT) in Manhattan. Claudia has a unique perspective based on her experience in the Performing Arts and Integrative Medicine arenas. She has taught the Alexander Technique to training candidates for the Alexander Technique, medical professionals of New York Presbyterian Hospital, and acting students of Pace University in New York City. Currently Claudia teaches for the Music Department of Harper College, the acting training program of Victory Gardens Theater, and for Refit, Inc. a Physical Therapy Studio, in Glenview, IL. She has taught all ages with many kinds of needs from improving performance, easing back pain, improving equestrian riding, prenatal classes, symptoms of fibromyalgia, Parkinson's, chronic pain, arthritis, postural problems, asthma, repetitive strain and many more movement related issues.

December Holiday Party

For a fun start to the holiday season, plan to attend our holiday party on Monday, December 7, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, at the home of Deb Lynch, 28880 N. Sky Crest Dr., in Mundelein. Please RSVP to Deb at 847-566-2666, or at DLynch88@gmail.com. Bring a treat to share and a white elephant gift for our famous gift exchange. We will collect voluntary donations for PHD, the Society for the Preservation of Human Dignity, a charity located in Palatine which provides counseling, baby formula, food, and clothing to needy clients.

continued on page 2

long. Mine wasn't even the 2nd longest.)

I am thankful for the student who washes his hands after eating Cheetos in the car and before touching my piano.

I am thankful for the student who responds, "OOOOOh," when I demonstrate good tone.

I am thankful for the parents who understand when I have to reschedule a lesson.

I am thankful for the parents who have become my friends and still treat me professionally.

I am thankful for the child who didn't make it to the restroom on time and had to wear my daughter's shorts home. (It made an interesting day.)

I am thankful for the father who plays duets with his daughters to keep them interested in piano, especially when he tells them how hard it was for him to play his part well.

I am thankful for the student who says, "I can tell how much you like music."

I am thankful for the student who says, "I like how you suggest something to me that doesn't make any sense, and it works." (That's why they pay me the big bucks.)

I am thankful for the students that draw pictures of me playing the piano. (They usually get the hair pretty close.)

I am thankful for the lessons my autistic student doesn't scream at me.

I am thankful for the parents who remember to pay me.

I am thankful for the students who say, "Thank you," at the end of their lesson.

I am thankful for the students who start their lesson with, "I have a surprise for you," and then demonstrate the big step they took in their practice.

I am thankful for the student who asks, "Would you like me to refill your candy dish? It's getting low."

Address Changes

Crescendo Music

Teachers, please note a change in the Crescendo Music ad in the back of the yearbook. There is a 15% discount when you pay with cash or check and a 10% discount when you pay with credit or debit.

Helen Chang

60 E. Emma Ct
Palatine, IL
60067
CELL PHONE (815)793-3367 SAME AS LISTED

Sally Haas

7½ E Miner St
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

January Program

Are you currently teaching students with learning disabilities? Have you felt unsure about working with special needs students? Dr. Elizabeth Bauer of Wheaton College will be presenting a program titled "You Can Do It!: The Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in the Piano Studio" at our **January 18 meeting**.

Beth Bauer Guest Lecturer in Pedagogy, internships,
Wheaton College
DME, Indiana University

Beth Bauer received her doctorate of music education from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Her dissertation is titled "What is an appropriate approach to piano instruction for students with Down syndrome?" Additional degree work includes a Master of Music from Northern Illinois University where she studied with Bill Koehler, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music where she was a student of Daniel P. Horn. Additional pedagogy instruction occurred with Karin Edwards, Larry Rast, and Karen Taylor. Currently, she is a guest lecturer in pedagogy at the Wheaton College Conservatory where she teaches Introduction to Pedagogy, Studio Administration, Group Instruction, and Music to Special Learners and oversees pedagogy student teachers and music internships. In addition to her faculty work in the Conservatory, Dr. Bauer coordinates the music for special learners program at the Community School of the Arts, Wheaton College and teaches precollege piano to beginning to advanced students in the Community School of the Arts.



Our Member of the Year – Janice Wilkans and clinician, Randall Faber

Recital Report

By: Galina Kostukovsky

On Sunday, October 25 two recitals took place at Rolling Meadows Public Library (at 1:30 and at 3:30). Forty-six students of Hyungei Chung, Galina Kostukovsky and Olga Ulitsky participated. The recitals went smoothly with quality performances. There were more than a hundred in attendance.

Rolling Meadows Library

Please do not ask the staff at the Rolling Meadows Library to make copies. This is not a service they provide. If you wish to make a copy, you need to use the coin operated machines available at the library.



We all missed you at the State Convention!

Position Available

PART TIME CHURCH CHOIR DIRECTOR

Millburn Congregational UCC is seeking a Part-Time Choir Director to lead the Senior and coordinate with the Junior choirs. Applicant will be required to work congenially and cooperatively in team ministry with the staff, volunteers and congregation. Bachelors Degree and/or education in music ministry or equivalent experience are preferable.

Resume with references 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.

Job Opening

My name is Tom Vendafreddo, and I got your contact info from Maureen Flood. I am a high school choral director at Lakes Community High School in Lake Villa, IL, and I am in desperate need of a talented choral accompanist to play for my Holiday Concert.

I have three groups that are performing pieces with piano accompaniment. Here are the crucial dates:

Monday, December 7th from 6-8:30pm - Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 8th at 7pm - Concert

If you can find it in your heart to make the time commitment, I would love to have you attend our daytime rehearsals at least once or twice before the dress rehearsal.

Please let me know ASAP if this is something you would be interested in. Depending on how much time you are able to commit in addition to the dress rehearsal and concert, the stipend is between \$300-500.

Thank you so much for considering this gig. My students are excited about the concert, but nervous that we won't find an accompanist to help us out.

If you have any other recommendations, please feel free to send their contact information my way; Tom Vendafreddo 847-331-1223

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next newsletter is December 20th..
Email your events, articles and information to DLynch88@gmail.com.

From Helen Marlais

If you know of any high school students who might be interested in Grand Valley State University and studying with me, please let me know. The "Princeton Review" has named Grand Valley State University as one of the top schools in the Midwest - and one of the best values for the money as well as student's positive ratings about their studies, professors, and general atmosphere of the university.

I am also going to have "GVSU Piano Days" on Friday, Jan 15, and Friday Feb 5. On these Fridays there will be 2 master classes as well as a discussion on how students should prepare for college auditions - how to practice, how much to practice, how to look for the right college, how to find scholarships, what to do at the audition itself, what repertoire/technique one should know...how to set oneself up for success in the music field!

I have 10 piano majors in piano pedagogy class this year, and they are having a really good time learning to be excellent teachers. They each teach a 6-7 year old beginner throughout the year, and I observe and guide them to be better teachers. Then they have a separate pedagogy class as well. I also teach 9 piano majors, and one of them won the top performance scholarship award at our school last year.

We have good scholarship money available for students as well as out of state tuition waivers. This would make coming to GVSU about as costly as attending a community college for most students - it's very reasonable. These out of state tuition waivers are competitive, however, but if I knew a student was coming from you, I would be happy to help because I know that they would be prepared! We have all kinds of performance opportunities for students, and many accompanists are needed every year.

Directions to Holiday Party

Deb Lynch's home; 28880 N. Sky Crest Drive, Mundelein

DO NOT rely on your GPS for the final directions. Some indicate our house incorrectly.

Enter Ivanhoe Community from Hwy. 60, immediately north of Target on the opposite side of the road. At the gatehouse, let the guard know you're there for the Holiday Party of the Year. Turn right after the gatehouse. You will quickly come to a T intersection. Turn left onto Vernon Ridge Drive and take it to the next T intersection. My house will be facing you, across the street and slightly on the left.

AIM Corner

By: Fran Onley

AIM EXAMS-Levels I and II

The Levels I and II AIM exams were held Nov. 15, 2009 at Harper College. Thirteen teachers enrolled 70 students.

The results are as follows:

No. tested	High Score	Low Score	Average Score
A's 10	99.75	93	96.57
B's 15	100	92.5	96.43
C's 12	99.75	84	93.87
II's 28	99.5	80	94.1

A huge thank you to all who helped make the exams a success:

Judges:

Helen Grosshans
Marie Rutter
Vonnie Mrozinski
Helen Chang
Suzanne Fleer
Beverly Taylor
Robin Meredith-Kramer
Soyoung Kee
Fran Onley

Timekeepers:

Jessica Walters
Rick Lowe
Midori Kim
Lyn Ehrgott
Joan James

Score Room:

Bob Onley
Jeanie Carter

Written Room Monitor

Mrs. Huang

Refreshments:

Robin Meredith Kramer
Marie Rutter
Fran Onley
Mary Anne Block
Rick Lowe
Bev Taylor

Computer Work

Mary Anne Block

NWSMTA
28880 N. Sky Crest Drive
Mundelein, IL 60060