



Connecticut State Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Winter 2006

<http://www.csmta.org/>

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2006 CSMTA Contemporary Showcase

A Festival of Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Piano Music

This year's festival will be held on Sunday, March 19, beginning at 1 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2080 Boulevard, West Hartford.

The featured guest speaker is Dr. Scott McBride Smith, President of the Royal America of Conservatory Exams and President and CEO of the International Institute for Young Musicians. He is a respected teacher of prize-winning piano students and resides in Irvine, Calif. An internationally recognized

authority on piano teaching, Dr. Smith is co-author of the widely used college text *The Well-Tempered Keyboard Teacher*.

Dr. Smith is an Associate Editor of *Keyboard Companion*, a magazine for early-level piano study and the Series Editor of *Four Star Sight Reading and Ear Tests*, published by The Frederick Harris Music Co., Limited.

McBride Smith has given workshops for teachers' groups throughout the US, in Asia and South America. He will be a presenter at the 2006 MTNA national conference.

Designation of Festival As Fundraiser

In recognition of the extraordinary need of our colleagues in Louisiana, the CSMTA Board has designated the 2006 Contemporary Showcase as a fund raiser for the teachers in Louisiana who were adversely affected by hurricane Katrina. As you may know, the Showcase is entirely underwritten by CSMTA; this year, we will donate half of all of the registration fees received for the Showcase to the MTNA Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund.

Louisiana remains filled with destruction. Families have been devastated are still homeless and displaced, and many teachers are without studios, pianos and students. Many students and their families are now living in FEMA trailers, and many parents are unemployed.

Music lessons have become an impossibility for many students. However, people are starting to return home, cleaning and rebuilding, beginning and adjusting to a very different way of life.

So far, \$27,500 has been raised from MTNA for the MTNA Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund. This money is being dispersed to Louisiana Music Teachers Association and given to teachers in need. LMTA is still in need of monetary donations so that they can continue to subsidize tuitions for students and piano rentals, and help rebuild teaching studios.

We are so fortunate in Connecticut not to have had such a natural disaster which has wreaked havoc on so many lives. The CSMTA Board would like to use this event as a way to help bring a musical

MTNA Competition— Eastern Division Results:

Junior Piano:
Honorable Mention,
Lenny Lu (Edith
Sullivan)

Senior Piano:
Alternate, Lindsay
Garritson (Luiz de
Moura Castro)

Senior Strings:
Alternate, Kate
Smirnova (Ann
Setzer)

community back together to good health and fortune.

In addition, because the registration fee is a very reasonable \$10, the CSMTA Board is strongly encouraging students, parents and teachers to take this opportunity to make an additional donation to the relief fund. Students/parents may check an additional box on the registration form.

Teachers who would like to make a donation to their Louisiana colleagues may send checks directly to me, payable to CSMTA, writing "MTNA Katrina Fund" on the memo line of the check. To my teacher colleagues, I would like to express my personal hope that a spirit of giving will strengthen ties within our own CSMTA community.

Showcase Rules and Regulations

David Westfall

The purpose of the Showcase is to generate a continuing interest in contemporary music by sharing and performing new, exciting repertoire. It is strongly urged that teachers choose compositions that are written in a contemporary idiom; therefore, we discourage pieces by composers who write in typically 19th century (i.e., tonal) style. Instead, we suggest that students play music from composers who lived after 1950.

There are exceptions, of course: Bartok comes to mind. Impressionists such as Charles Griffes, Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel should be excluded. Further, while the intermediate music of Kabalevsky is a valuable teaching resource

and immensely popular and tonal—and also known to everyone—it would be more beneficial for teachers to

seek out newer, less familiar repertoire.

I would be pleased to talk with any teacher who would like to talk about the appropriateness of any specific

composition; please call me at 860-347-4189.

1. There is no minimum age requirement, even though the level of playing should, at a minimum, be at the level of an op. 36 Clementi sonatina. The maximum age limit is 18.
2. The registration fee is \$10 per student and is non-refundable.
3. It is urged that all selections be performed from memory, unless a work is extremely atonal.



New Members

Tamila Azadaliyeva, Box 270225, West Hartford, CT 06127 (860) 729-7601 <tamila_a@yahoo.com> Piano (H)

Barbara Johnson, 59 Berlin St., Middletown, CT 06457 (860) 346-2595 <christdo@hartford.edu> Piano (H)

Address and Email Changes

Pi-Hsun Shih, 100 Northbrook Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117, (860)523-0183, <PIHSUNSHIH@Yahoo.com>

Estrid Eklof, <estrid@comcast.net>

Ronald Hawkins at Carnegie Hall

Ronald Hawkins will be performing Saturday evening, March 25, at 8:30 p.m., at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, 154 West 57th Street, New York.

The program includes works by J.S. Bach, Brahms, Debussy, Cui, Scriabin, Mompou and the Glenn Gould Piano Sonata.

Tickets are available at Carnegie Charge, (212) 247-7800 or online at http://carnegiehall.org/article/box_office/events/evt_7377.html?selecteddate=03252006



Registration Form: CSMTA Contemporary Showcase

Mail the application to David Westfall, 1 Ravine Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 with \$10 fee (non-refundable) payable to CSMTA, postmarked by March 3. Questions? Call David Westfall @ 860.347.4189

Please include the complete name of the composer and title of the selection, along with opus number. If part of a collection or suite, please include its name.

Student information:

Entrant _____
 Phone _____ School Grade _____ Age _____

Teacher information:

Teacher _____ Phone _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 _____ Zip Code _____
 (City) (State, if other than CT)

1. Composition _____
 Composer _____ Timing _____
2. Composition _____
 Composer _____ Timing _____

Please check the appropriate contribution toward the MTNA Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund.

____ Student contribution I wish to donate the following amount: \$ _____
 ____ Teacher contribution I wish to donate the following amount: \$ _____

(Check should be made payable to CSMTA. Write "MTNA Katrina Fund" on the memo line of the check.)

Rocherolle Publishes, Presents

Eugenie Rocherolle of Old Lyme will be participating in the Hal Leonard Publishers Showcase at MTNA.

Scheduled for Monday, March 27, at 1:00 p.m., she will present two new piano publications: a collection of solo arrangements of the Beatles and a new work for two pianos, eight hands, commissioned by the Musical Arts Society of New Orleans.

Entitled *Jambalaya—A Portrait of Old New Orleans*,

Eugenie will be joined by Margaret Otwell, Carol Klose and Phillip Keveren to close the showcase in a performance of the work.



A new feature at the convention will be "Just Duet," several sight-reading sessions on multiple pianos with participating teachers.

Two pieces of Eugenie's latest duet book, *American Panorama*, will be included in the session on Tuesday, March 28, at 9:15 a.m.

Fairfield Chapter News

On Sunday, Jan. 29, Fairfield Chapter held their 21st Annual Music Competition at the Suzuki School of Music in Westport.

Thirty-two students participated, fourteen of whom were selected to perform in our Winners' Circle program at the Steinway Gallery of Pianos in Westport on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 4.

Adjudicators for this year's event were Donald Alfano and Angela Robinson. We congratulate

the following students and their teachers:

- Esther Teo, student of Kristen Mosher
- Henry Hobbs, student of Sandra Shaw Murphy
- Aileen Yang, student of Benita Rose
 - Michael Mei, Crystal Xue, Emily Froehlich and Brian Simalchik, students of Edith Sullivan
 - Sharon Ra, Paul Whittingham and Mai Ishikawa, students of Shari Weisz
- Dorothy Shek, Julian Shively and Gita Abhiraman, students of Debbie Kahan



Hartford Chapter Young Composer's Day

Hartford Chapter will hold its annual Young Composers Day on Sunday, March 5, at South Church in Middletown at 3:00 p.m.

This event is open to students ages 6 to 18 of teachers in any chapter. Interested students may submit original compositions, registration form and \$8 fee (payable to Hartford Chapter CSMTA) no later than Feb.

17 to Carolyn Halsted, 18 McKenzie St., Middletown, CT 06457.

For more information call 860-343-0677.

Manuscripts must be legible and easily photocopied and may be either hand-written or printed on computer. (Teachers, please choose whichever method promotes optimal learning for your students.)

Hartford Chapter Young Composer's Day Registration Form

Name _____

Age ____ Grade _____

Student's Phone _____

Teacher's Phone _____

Title of composition(s) _____

I will participate in recital.

I will not participate in recital but would like my composition(s) included in "Opus 15" booklet.

Parent signature _____

Teacher signature _____



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