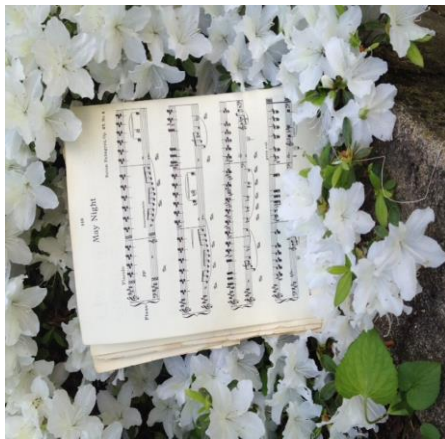


Please send newsletter information to: Karen Koch, 618-224-7102, kk@musicmarket.com
GATEWAY ARCH EAST CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2015

<http://gatewaymusicteachers.org> Illinois State Music Teachers Association

President: LeAnn Halvorson; Vice President/Programs: Mary Anderson; Secretary: Stephanie Owen; Treasurer: Karen Koch



May Night & Azaleas

UPCOMING EVENTS (See details in articles)

Fri, May 15

GAE, 11 AM Business Meeting and Luncheon at Ravanelli's Restaurant, O'Fallon. Elections & Member of Year Election.

GAE LUNCHEON FINALE

Time to wrap up another year of musical growth and busyness. Why not give yourself a treat with food and fraternizing on Friday, May 15 at Ravanelli's Restaurant in O'Fallon? There will be the election of officers and Member of the Year, as well as suggestions for AIM planning, starting at 11 AM. Everyone will be able to order off the menu, but it would be helpful for planning if you would let Heidi Shepherd know that you plan to attend, so that she can let the restaurant can have an idea of how much space we are likely to need. CALL or EMAIL (618-632-4192) h.shep8@gmail.com

Trick Treats GAE on April 24!

Stephanie Trick lived up to the hype around her presentation at our GAE meeting at Piano Distributors, as she gave dazzling performances along with interesting and educational commentary about the evolution of ragtime, boogie woogie, and jazz. It was obvious that she deserves her international reputation as an accomplished performer and musician specializing in early 20th century American music.

There was a short business meeting following the program. In response to requests from President LeAnn Halvorson for volunteers to assist with GAE activities, several members stepped up to help. Stephanie Owen is the only officer whose term is expiring, and she agreed to accept

a second two-year term.

Other jobs, and the volunteers so far:

- 1) Repertoire Checker for AIM Performance Exams (Debbie Meier & Mary Anderson)
- 2) AIM Exam Printing, Collating, Teacher Binder preparation (Gill Cerbin)

Volunteers for the following positions are still needed.

- 1) Webmaster for the GAE website.
- 2) Theory AIM Scheduler for 2016
- 3) Site Coordinator (Job Description Needed) Heidi?
- 4) GAE MTA public relations person to help us become more visible in the area.

2015 AIM EXAMS: CODA (From Joan Witte)

Thanks to all who participated in this year's AIM exams. We had thirteen teachers participating in performance exams at SWIC with a total of 110 students registered, and four teachers participating at SIUE with a total of thirteen students registered.

As a reminder, if you have a student who passed the theory exam in February but did not complete the performance exam in April, he/she still receives a pin but not a certificate. The student may either take the performance exam at the same level next year or advance to the next level of theory.

Congratulations to the following students who completed level 9 or above: level 9 – Lauren Cerbin, student of Stephanie Owen; Jordan Nguyen, student of Amy Jo Sawyer; Stacey Pettit, student of Deb Meier; Andrew Romano, student of LeAnn Halvorson; level 10 – Alp Aktuna, student of Huei Li Chin; Sienna Stroud, student of Amy Jo Sawyer; Walter Thomas-Patterson, student of Mary Anderson; level 11 – Grace Choi, student of Ruth Stith. The following students completed the theory exam: level 10 – Diana Risse, student of Amy Jo Sawyer; level 12 – D.J. Crockett and Jacob Nguyen, students of Amy Jo Sawyer; Tyler Slaby, student of Frances Gregg. These students and teachers are to be commended for their hard work!

In addition to plaques/bars and certificates, those students mentioned above who received a passing score on both theory and performance will also be awarded cash prizes from GAE in the following amounts: \$25 for level 9, \$50 for level 10, \$75 for level 11, and \$100 for level 12.

NCKP for 2015.

The National Conference for Keyboard Pedagogy, held in alternating years in Lombard IL, is scheduled this year for July 29-Aug 1. Several GAE members will be attending. Information about this conference is available [here](#).

TIDBITS

Walter Thomas-Patterson, student of **MARY ANDERSON**, recently won the silver medal in his division (Grade 7-8) of the St. Louis Area Music Teachers Association Young Artist Competition. He performed Chopin's "Scherzo Op. 20 in B Minor" on the Winner's Recital at Missouri Baptist University. He will also perform on a winner's recital at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis as part of the 2015-16 Shepley Concert Series.

Walter also placed second in his division at the SIUE Young Pianist Competition. He performed on the Winner's Recital at Piano Distributors in Fairview Height on April 25. Two students of **AMYJO SAWYER** also participated in the Young Pianist Competition.

Three of our members are involved with the Highland Community Chorus. **LUANNE MURPHY** is the director, and for their concert on Sunday, June 7 at St Paul Church, 314 Ninth Street in Highland, they have chosen the title "In Memoriam: A concert of Remembrance and Hope". Appearing as soloists will be **JOAN WITTE** on harp and soprano **EMILY OTTWEIN**, with the featured piece being John Rutter's "Requiem". Tickets are available in advance at highlandcommunitychorus.org

DEBBIE MEIER sent this message to all:

It is unlikely that I will be able to attend the meeting next Friday. I really hate to miss it but my



doctor's appointment with my cardiologist was already scheduled for that date. I would like to thank all GAE members for their prayers, cards, and good wishes during my hospitalization. I meant to thank everyone personally but somehow it slipped my mind at the last meeting. I have been feeling great and have resumed all of my usual activities including my walking (exercise).

From **AMY JO SAWYER**: I performed the accordion with the Edwardsville High School String Orchestra under the direction of Victoria Voumard at their Spring Concert on May 6. The piece was entitled "Tam Lyn", a Traditional Scottish Fiddle Tune. "It had lots of fast notes and was a lot of fun!"

GILL CERBIN sent the following: Lauren (student of Stephanie Owen) has been a busy beaver... She was listed as a Finalist in the Hal Leonard international (USA & Canada) competition Art Song category for 13-15 year olds out of over 1,000 entries. She also received a perfect score at IGSMA STATE competition A solo voice. She was also accepted to sing the National Anthem at the Grizzlies ball game this summer.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITY...

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS !

Grab your instrument, tell your friends and family, and join

THE INTER-GENERATIONAL SUMMER ORCHESTRA

sponsored by the

Belleville Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

Two months of music fun
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY !!



Sessions are Monday evenings 5:30 – 7:30 PM
June 1 through July 20, 2015
at the Philharmonic Hall, 116 N Jackson, Belleville
Ending with a concert at 2 PM Saturday, July 25th
Program open to ALL musicians 6th grade to age 99!!

Pre-register by May 23RD
Registration form at: www.bellevillephilharmonic.org
For more information or to register after May 23rd please contact:
Barb @ (618) 589-3992, bearhodes@hotmail.com
or Lynette at (314) 471-6705, mistypugz@gmail.com



A note from **RUTH STITH** included this photo and the explanation: “My piano ensemble class at SLU performed a 'progressive piano' concert on April 24. We started with a piece for one hand, and ended the program with a piece for 16 hands at one piano! It was a lot of fun, and the marketing/communications team at SLU just videotaped us playing the finale yesterday. It will be released sometime this summer. Here's a picture that they did to promote the concert (and please accept my apologies for not telling GAE about the concert ahead of time, although I doubt anyone would want to make the very long drive across the river!).

BONUS



AN EDIBLE KEYBOARD!

IDEA FOR REFRESHMENTS AT YOUR NEXT RECITAL: Karen Koch used this idea that was a big hit at her May 9 recital—easy, inexpensive, and fun.

Instructions:

Find a board or bookshelf, cover it with aluminum foil and line up white KitKat bars from end to end to create the white keys. Cut chocolate KitKat bars in half and arrange them in groups of 2's and 3's on top. To secure them, use a bit of white icing underneath. Watch them disappear to the accompaniment of ooh's and aahs! (Note: Walmart carries white KitKat bars. I used 3 packages of white and 2 of chocolate. Size is adjustable, but 88 keys would require a VERY long board and perhaps logistical transport problems!)

