

# STACCATO NOTES

*Official Newsletter of the Seattle Music Teachers Association*

*March 2009*

THERE WILL **NOT** be a meeting in March. Our next meeting is, **April 21**. I hope you or your students are participating in one of the many performance opportunities and festivals this month. The deadline for the April issue of *Staccato Notes* is **March 27**. Thank you. There are many lists of students and teachers in this issue, and I apologize in advance for misspellings. Kathryn Mortensen, *Staccato Notes* editor. Deadline for April *Staccato Notes*, **March 27**. <kmortensen@att.net>

## *Letter From Your President*

Dear Colleagues,

Last month I was coming home from a trip and found myself waiting in the airport for my plane. I happened to glance at a magazine which featured an article about heroes in a local community. (Heroes being defined as someone who gave a good deal of time to their customers, students, clients, etc.). Not a music teacher was listed among them! While I admired the work of those people who were listed, the author writing the article missed the boat when she did her research, in my humble but biased opinion!

March is the month of adjudications and more adjudications! Many long hours go into the preparation and planning of these events just so our students can have the opportunities to perform. If that's not giving, I don't know what is. Whether it is SMTA adjudications, Simon-Fiset Scholarship Competitions, the Seattle Young Artists Music Festival or the students recitals held at the Hearthstone or Soundbridge, there are countless SMTA teachers involved in these activities. So you, dear teachers, get my vote as a hero in the Seattle community.

Thanks for your service! See you in April.  
**Martha (Marti) Garrett**, SMTA President

## *The Dorothy Woodcock Memorial Scholarship Fund*

We are excited to offer SMTA teachers and their students a unique scholarship opportunity. These need-based scholarships will be awarded to those students who have won a place in our hearts by their dedication and love of music.

Applications for Dorothy Woodcock scholarships can be picked up from Scholarship Committee members. These are supplemental tuition scholarships for the year 2009-2010 for students whose families are having financial difficulty or who have already been receiving discounted tuition. We will also be looking at each student's commitment to practice and lesson attendance. All levels of students may apply.

The applications will need to be completed and returned before the end of April. Review will be done and decisions made by some time in July. Please direct any questions regarding these scholarships to Anita Manuel (Chair), Kathryn Mortensen, Bonnie Blanchard-Romain, or Martha Garrett (see your Directory for contact information).

## *Simon-Fiset Composition Competition Winners*

Our adjudicator this year was Keith Eisenbrey. His credentials are as follows:

Keith Eisenbrey is a native of the Puget Sound area. He started playing piano at the age of 6 and began composing when he was 16. He received a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Washington, and a Master of Fine Arts from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College in New York State. He studied composition with Dell Wade, Ken Benschopf, John Rahn, and Benjamin Boretz, and piano with Victor Smiley, Joan Purswell, and Neal O'Doan. Other teachers and musicians who have had a profound influence on his musical life include Frances Walton, Mikael Scheremetiew, Lockrem Johnson, Greg Short, Stu Dempster, J. K. Randall, and Elaine Barkin. He is a co-founder of Banned Rehearsal, which at 24 is one of Seattle's oldest free-improvisation ensembles. His critical and theoretical work has appeared in *Perspectives of New Music*, *News of Music*, and *Open Space Magazine*, and he assisted in the editing of Boretz's *Meta-Variations: Studies in the Foundations of Musical Thought* for its recent republication. His oeuvre includes a large body of solo pieces for various keyboards, songs, hymns, chamber works, and compositions for digital media. Keith lives in the Maple Leaf neighborhood of Seattle with his wife Karen and their two boys, John and Isaac.

Congratulations to the following students and their teachers.

Myrtle Noble (Grades 1-3)

1st Place William Zheng, Teacher is Sharon Van Valin

2nd Place Hannah Zhao, Teacher is Sharon Van Valin

Vie Husted (grade 4-6)

1st Place Connor Jensen, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

2nd Place Sonja Traubeck, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

3rd Place = Tie

Amber Kim, Teacher Sharon Van Valin and Nicolas Woo, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mention, Bryan Zhao, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mention, Stone Cao, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mention, Ethan Marzban, Diane Williams

Laura Jensen (grades 7-9)

1st Place Benjamin Davis, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

2nd Place David Lien, Teacher Peter Mack

3rd Place Benjamin Davis, Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mention Candy Chang, Teacher Sarah Bassingthwaighte

Honorable Mention Helen Miller, Teacher Diane Williams

Honorable Mention Christina Sun, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

Lockrem Johnson (10-12)

1st Place Robert Yaman, Teacher Peter Mack

2nd Place Adele Thornton, Teacher Sarah Bassingthwaighte

3rd Place Ernest So, Teacher Sharon Van Valin

First place winners will perform at the composer's salon on **March 6th**. 8pm Admission is free for students and their parents and teachers

Composers Salon is located at the Good Shepherd Center 4649 Sunnyside Avenue N, Seattle, WA 98103 If you have any questions or comments please contact Ann Cummings

[Ann@InsidetheMusic.com](mailto:Ann@InsidetheMusic.com) (206)726-9152

## *Minutes from the General Meeting - February 17, 2009*

Due to the absence of President Martha Garrett, **Vice President Jeffrey Pettijohn** calls meeting to order at 9:40am

### **Announcements:**

**Kathy Fuhlman Dewalt** reminded members of the upcoming Ten Grands Concert, which will take place on April 3, at Benaroya Hall, at 7:30pm. The concert is a benefit for the Snowman Foundation, which helps provide music education to kids in underserved communities in Seattle. She also stated that tickets are \$40 for music teachers, and can receive a free ticket for every 10 tickets sold.

**Julia Schnebly-Black** then announced an upcoming concert by the Octava Chamber Orchestra. It takes place on February 22, at 5:00pm at the Shoreline Unitarian Church. They will be performing music by Antonio Vivaldi, Wolfgang A. Mozart, and Amy Rubin.

**Ellen Rossen** then announced an upcoming Master Class by Nelita True, which will take place at Brechemin Auditorium, on Friday, February 20, at noon. She will also be performing at Brechemin on Saturday, February 21, at 7:30pm. Included in her program is Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op. 31, No. 3.

**John Van Lierop** informed the members that he has issues of Clavier Companion available. If any members are interested in subscribing, subscriptions will be available in the fall.

**Jean Dawkins** then reminded members that Piano Adjudications are happening shortly. She stated that there was an incorrect address sent out for the University Christian Church, and the correct address will be published in the next Staccato Notes. She also stated for any teachers whose students will be adjudicated by Mae Ling Kwok that she is vision impaired, and that teachers should print their student information in a larger font if possible.

### **New Members Present:**

**Mike Matesky** is a member from Bothell who teaches and performs cello. He also owns the Opus 4 Recording Studio in Bothell, and announced that a cd recorded at his facility of fellow member Jensina Byington is now available. On her album, she performs works of Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Brahms, and Schumann.

**Celia Nicks** is a violin teacher in the Seattle area, and is not currently an SMTA Member, but would like to become one.

**Christine Bailey** is a piano teacher in the Greenwood and Ballard area. Although she is not technically a new member, this is her first meeting she has attended.

Vice President **Jeffrey Pettijohn** then announced this Month's Meeting Topic: a Round Table Discussion on Parents, Payments, and Problems. Jeffrey moderated this discussion addressing various issues that SMTA members face in their teaching studios.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

**Curtis Dahl** Recording Secretary,

## ***2009 Simon-Fiset Scholarship Piano Competition Results***

The Awards Recital featuring the first and second place winners of both the Simon-Fiset String Competition and the Simon-Fiset Piano Competition will be held Sunday, **April 19** at 5:00 PM at Sherman Clay, Seattle. The students can arrive at 4:30 pm. Students warm up in the recital room upstairs, and please do not put music or cases on the pianos.

### **Grades 5-6**

**1st Place** Jason Dan

**2nd Place:** Andrew Liu

**3rd Place:** Bill Yuhao-Tang

**Loran Olsen Award:** Michael Jiang

**Honorable Mention:**

Nathan Chang

Elizabeth Wei

Ethan Marzban

### **Teacher**

Hong Liu

Natalya Ageyeva

Peter Mack

Ni Liu

Mary Toy

Mary Toy

Diane Williams

### **Grades 7-8 Leonard Odegaard Awards**

**1st Place** Chris Lu

**2nd Place** John Ma

**3rd Place** Raymond Zhang

**Loran Olsen:** Toby Chen

**Honorable mention:** Anastasia Nicolov

Peter Mack

Mary Toy

Willard Schultz

Mary Toy

Pamela Chang-Rice

### **Grades 9-10**

**1st Place** Michael Lee

**2nd Place:** Toni McFall

**3rd Place:** Tania Rivers-Moore

**Loran Olsen Award:** Petrina Jap

**Honorable Mention:**

Nyan Gadepalli

David Golub

Willard Schultz

Peter Mack

Willard Schultz

Joan Schoepflin

Joan Schoepflin

Peter Mack

### **Grades 11-12**

**1st Place:** Kaveh Waddell

**2nd Place:** Madeline Wong

**3rd Place:** Denis Elizarov

**Loran Olsen:** Anneliese Dailey

**Honorable Mention:** Irvin Lien

Mary Toy

Pamela Chang-Rice

Willard Schultz

Peter Mack

Joan Schoepflin

Representing the Seattle Chapter at the **Washington State Convention Honors Recital** will be:

Jason Dan 5-6

Michael Lee 9-10

Chris Lu 7-8

**Alternates are:**

Kaveh Waddell 11-12

Madeline Wong 11-12

Toni McFall 9-10.

Hong Liu

Willard Schultz

Peter Mack

Mary Toy

Pamela Chang-Rice

Peter Mack

Congratulations to the winners and their teachers, as well as to all the participating students and teachers. Thank you to Jeffrey Pettijohn, Regina Yeh, Viktoriya Otto, Sandra Labadie, Simon-Fiset Piano Committee

## *Welcome to Our New and Returning Members*

Joan Marie Dirska, Piano, Organ, Composition  
1818 NW 197th St  
Shoreline, WA 98177  
(206) 384-1312  
jdirska@gmail.com

Mr EsDavid, Piano, Voice  
1830 31st Ave  
Seattle, WA 98122-3230  
(206) 328-2514  
esdavid@drizzle.com

Sanja D. Futterman, Violin, Strings  
9510 20th Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 524-9645  
lfalan@comcast.net

Susie S. Kim, Violin, Viola  
404 S 289th St  
Federal Way, WA 98003  
(253) 661-5911  
susieskim@msn.com

Anne M. Reese, Piano  
11525 32nd Ave NE  
Seattle, WA 98125  
(425) 941-1749  
anne@annereese.com

ADDITION to the directory;  
Lora Verkhovsky  
e-mail address <loraverk@gmail.com>

## *Announcements, Calendar and Classifieds*

SMTA Board Meeting will be **March 13** at 9 am, at the home of Martha Garrett.

SEATTLE YOUNG ARTISTS MUSIC FESTIVAL **March 23 - 28**, at University of Washington.

### SEATTLE CHILDREN'S CHORUS

"Songs of the Heart" Saturday, **March 28**, 2:00 pm at First Free Methodist Church, Seattle. Complimentary & Discounted Tickets for Music Educators! Call for Information, Tickets, or Audition Packet: 206-542-5998 or visit our Website at [www.seattlechildrenschorus.org](http://www.seattlechildrenschorus.org)

SMTA STUDENT RECITAL The Spring SMTA student recital will be at the Hearthstone beginning at 2:00 on Sunday, **April 26**, 2009. We are now taking student names for the recital. Please call **Carolyn Friedkin** at 206 522-5965 or email [cbienn@yahoo.com](mailto:cbienn@yahoo.com) to include your student(s) in the recital. All pieces should be memorized and all levels of music literature are encouraged.

The **Sixth Annual Grieg Recital for Young Piano Students**, open to students up to the age of 18, takes place on Saturday, June 13 at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. The recital, sponsored by the Seattle-Bergen Sister City Association, is devoted to the piano music by the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. Students must submit an audition tape/CD by **May 1**. Musicality and interpretation are the primary criteria for selection; age is not a factor. There are no rankings or prizes so the recital provides an opportunity for students to perform in a non-competitive environment. For more information, contact Tharald Borgir at 206 523 1435 or by e-mail: [tborgir@comcast.net](mailto:tborgir@comcast.net).

**TAX TIME** is approaching. Please consider employing **William Penn Montgomery**. He has been SMTA treasurer and Chapter President and he deserves our support. In addition to having a MA in Music, William also has a masters degree in Income Tax Accounting and he is a Licensed Tax Accountant. He can be reached by mail at PO Box 99826, Seattle, WA 98199-0826 or phone **(206) 282-6688** or e-mail <[taxprep@earthlink.net](mailto:taxprep@earthlink.net)>

Announcements, Calendar and Classifieds, continued from page 5

### SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL

Jumpstart your career: Seattle International Piano Competition 2009 has 6 categories to offer for participants of any age to apply, including the youngest ones. This competition invites all to share their free of restrictions program in a beautiful Benaroya Hall. Application deadline: **June 1**.

Finalists may participate in masterclasses on Oct 11, 2009, with such jury members: Dr. Hamm and (UBC), Dr. Sicsic (U of Toronto), and other guest artists. Awards: cash prizes, concert invitations, SIPF jury invitation, debut cd and inclusion in the 2009 DVD !

Dvd's from 2008 SIPF are available now!

More info: 425 829 1117, [www.seattlepiano.competition.org](http://www.seattlepiano.competition.org)

SHERMAN CLAY Lunchtime concert series resumes each week on Thursdays at 12:15. This month features Ann Cummings, Chris Bowlby, Cassandra Carr, Jennifer Caine.

Also, the 10 GRANDS PREVIEW CONCERT is on March 26 at 7PM with Regina Yeh, Michael Allen Harrison and Bogey Vujkov.

Jazz Great Jessica Williams plays here on March 28 at 7PM.

We have a great selection of rental pianos for students beginning at \$29.95 per month.

We have an incredible selection of used pianos at this time, featuring an unprecedented used Steinway selection, but also Estonia, Yamaha, Kawai, Baldwin and Mason & Hamlin. Please call for details!

Ben Klinger, Manager, Seattle Showroom Sherman Clay 206.622.7580

### EASY CHAMBER MUSIC FOR PIANO AND VIOLIN(S)

My new next door neighbor is a violin teacher, so I have been inspired to compose some easy pieces for our students to play together. I have tried to put the violin and piano parts at similar levels of difficulty with the hope that students around the same age will be able to play together. So far I have two sets of three pieces. One set is for late elementary piano and one violin, while the other is for early intermediate piano and two violins. All the violin parts are playable in first position, although my friend says one of them also makes a very good exercise for students beginning to learn shifting. I would be delighted to share this music with other teachers who might enjoy it. If you'd like a copy please email <[janetanderson@att.net](mailto:janetanderson@att.net)>. Comments on how your students do with the pieces will also be welcome. -- Janet Anderson

**Classical Music Job** The job contact is Susan Dolacky from Shoreline Community College.

"I am trying to staff a music therapy position for a sweet old lady who wants someone to come into her home and sing/play classical music for her. If you are interested, please email me at [scheduling4@fedeltahomecare.com](mailto:scheduling4@fedeltahomecare.com) The client lives in Renton and this would be part of a quality of life program for an elderly lady. "

**Pianos for sale privately in Seattle area.** Payment plans available. Teacher referral reward!

**Steinway B** Chosen by renowned opera singer-teacher Ellen Faull for her studio piano. *Nothing left to do!* A completely restored vintage Steinway: new soundboard, new pinblock, new strings, new Steinway action. Just regulated and voiced. A remarkable sound! Refinished ebony, ivory keys and duet artist bench. Dealer-suggested price is \$45K. The estate of Ms Faull is generous offering the instrument for \$34,500, less than half the price of a new B.

**Petrol 5'8"** built in 2002. Flawless condition. Barely played by adult beginner returning to China. Impressive dynamic range and tonal palette. Finely regulated and voiced. Adjustable bench \$16,950bo.

**Steinway O** Complex tone quality unique to the vintage era. Technicians and musicians love it! New action, new strings, regilded plate, beautiful refinished ebony cabinet, pristine inside and out, ivories in excellent condition. Restored by one of Seattle's esteemed RPTs. A strong investment at \$22,500.

Pianos for sale privately in Seattle area, cont. from page 6

**August Forster 6'3"** 1984 Focused European tone quality, sounds like a 7-foot piano. New hammers, regulated, voiced, detailed. A very special piano. \$29,500.

**Baldwin L 6'3"** An unusually fine 1982 instrument, dark, deep tone, not at all percussive. Chosen by a piano teacher for retirement; satin ebony, finely regulated and just voiced. Includes artist bench. \$15,950 obo.

**Chickering 7'4" grand**, a stately piano with a tremendous, rich, sonorous tone, just beautifully refinished by Tynnis Promet. The cabinet is stunning. Restring. Belonged to a major church downtown and was just acquired and updated by a Seattle RPT with new Abel new hammers. Includes a new artist bench and tuning. Asking \$26,500 obo.

For more information and photos, contact SMTA member [esther\\_warkov@comcast.net](mailto:esther_warkov@comcast.net) 971-255-0388 Esther Warkov, Ph.D [www.thepianoconnection.com](http://www.thepianoconnection.com) 971.255-0388 (Portland)

### *Certification Class*

I am writing to inform you of a unique opportunity for MTNA members. I will be teaching a two-year class, in Olympia, for teachers who would like to become certified. The classes will prepare teachers to gain their certification under the present requirements and under the new requirements. These classes are also for teachers who simply want to enhance their teaching and the learning of their students but do not wish to pursue certification. The classes will meet once a month for twenty months for four hours each time starting in September 2009. Class content will include lectures in piano pedagogy, music theory and music history. Class participants will also have the opportunity to study piano, do practice teaching, and have their students participate in master classes and evaluations. Although I will not be "teaching to the test," assignments and projects will either prepare the participant for the MTNA certification requirements or actually be the projects that MTNA requires or projects that meet the specific needs of the individual teacher. It is my aim to make the classes as stress free as possible, giving the participants their choice whether to complete the projects or not. I will, however, assist participants in preparing their projects, portfolios and videos as required in the certification program.

I am uniquely qualified to teach these classes. I have been nationally certified for many years and in addition to serving on certification committees I was an independent teacher for many years before obtaining my advanced degrees. Subsequently, I taught piano performance and pedagogy at California State University, Northridge for 20 years. I am also the author of the 2006 piano pedagogy textbook, "Professional Piano Teaching" published by Alfred,

More information is available by emailing [mewsic@comcast.net](mailto:mewsic@comcast.net) or [carlcaej@gorge.net](mailto:carlcaej@gorge.net)

Kindest Regards,

Jeanine M. Jacobson, DMA

Professor Emeritus, California State University, Northridge.

Pianist, Lecturer, Master Teacher, Author

### *From the Historian*

*Staccato Notes* March 1985

Cassandra Carr and Pat Bowman, duo-pianists from Seattle University, will present the program, "The Choreography of Ensemble Playing". They will discuss placement of the hands, body movements, pedaling, bench placement, what to wear, and more.

thank you to **Carolyn Malnes**

## *Musikgarten*

On Saturday, April 25th, Musikgarten is sponsoring a FREE Workshop Preview from 2:00 until 5:00 at Prosser Piano. This is a chance for teachers and prospective teachers to gather in order to get an overview of all that Musikgarten offers, in terms of curricula, teacher training, and business support. The highlight of the day is the demonstration class of children and their parents. Additionally, all Preview participants will be actively engaged in the singing/movement activities, enabling you to pass these on to your students immediately!

The early-childhood music community in Seattle is a vibrant one, alive with energy and ideas. They share teaching tips, business strategies, and advertising costs! Realizing the importance of early-childhood music, they readily welcome new teachers into their fold. Nancy Kubo, a long-time Musikgarten teacher in the Seattle area, will be presenting the Preview. A very knowledgeable Musikgarten teacher, Nancy willingly shares her expertise with newer teachers.

Musikgarten is a wonderful way for piano teachers to establish a built-in feeder program for their studios, ensuring that potential students will have the musical foundation necessary for succeeding in future musical endeavors. Musikgarten gives you appropriate ways to deal with children who are not yet ready for the rigors of private study. The research into how children learn music states that although there is no doubt we should engage children in music-making at an early age, private instrument lessons are not recommended early on. Those years, between birth and age nine, should be dedicated to affecting how musical a child will be for the rest of his/her life – by engaging him/her in singing and movement activities. By doing this, we are tuning the child's ear, and developing his/her body, into a rhythmic, graceful instrument through which s/he can express music on the piano.

To register call Musikgarten: 1-800-216-6864

## **STACCATO NOTES**

*Official Newsletter of the Seattle Music Teachers Association*  
**P.O. Box 75302, Seattle, WA 98175-0302**