



Keynotes

A Newsletter of Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association

FEBRUARY, 2017

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

**Christ Church at Grove Farm
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Performances by

**Winners of the
2017 Student Composition Competition and
Teacher Composition Competition**

“Jazz Piano Greats with a Pittsburgh Connection”

**A Lecture/Performance by
Max Leake, Pianist**

Hospitality Table

Please sign in at the Hospitality Table when you arrive on February 15.

PPTA MEMBER SURVEY

We are still finalizing for purpose of review the results of the quick survey sent to members this past month. So far, we are pleased to be able to confirm that PPTA is seen as a valuable organization to be part of in our community! We also received some great suggestions for future programs that we will pursue. We are a diverse, multi-interest group, and know that all programs will not apply or appeal to every member all of the time, but based on comments, we are so pleased to know that we are doing good work in bringing a variety of pertinent topics to continually educate and inform our membership.

2017 Composition Competition Winners

STUDENT COMPETITION

Carol Karl, Coordinator

PRIMARY

FIRST PLACE “Dragon Tales”
Mason Briggs, student of Karen Elstner
Judge: Kim Jamison

ELEMENTARY

FIRST PLACE “The Shimmering Stars”
Maliq Buchak, student of Pat Rossi
SECOND PLACE “The Fireflies”
Daniel Staniszewski, student of Pat Rossi
THIRD PLACE “Water Dance”
Mikayla Diyanni, Student of Becki Lewis
HONORABLE MENTION “The Wizard’s Song”
Toby Crytzer, student of Pat Rossi
Judge: Karen Elstner

SENIOR

FIRST PLACE “Haunted Memories”
Jonah Glunt, student of Scott Anderson
SECOND PLACE “Snowball’s Waltz”
Vincent Pecore, student of Scott Anderson
THIRD PLACE “Haphazard”
James Fenn, student of Anne Lin
Judge: Chad Twedt

TEACHER COMPETITION

Marilyn Louttit, Coordinator

PRIMARY: FIRST PLACE **Phyllis Chvostal**

ELEMENTARY: FIRST PLACE **Tricia Mack**

ADVANCED: FIRST PLACE **Carol Karl**

**Congratulations to all of the teachers and students
listed above! A hearty thanks goes out to
our Judges and Coordinators!**

PERFORMANCE COMPETITION
REMINDER

For those of you who have students entering the Solo and Duet Performance Competitions for 2017, entry forms must be *postmarked no later than March 15th*. Forms for all competitions can be found on the PPTA website under "Student Activities." Any questions or requests should be directed to the Chairperson of the specific competition your student is entering.

**LOIS STREATOR AND LOIS SMITH
MEMORIAL COMPETITION**

In 1992, this competition was begun in honor and memory of these two past PPTA and PA Music Teachers Association members to encourage and recognize young talent.

Postmark Deadline: March 16, 2017
Entry Fee: \$25 per Applicant
\$40 Additional Fee per Non-Member Teacher
Audition Date: April 2, 2017
Recital: April 9, 2017, 3:00 PM

Please note that Winners are required to perform at the recital.

Sponsored by the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of PMTA

Location: Both the competition and the recital will take place at Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1146 Greentree Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

Eligibility: Pianists and instrumentalists in grades 7- 12, Singers age 21 or younger
Applicant must live within a 75-mile radius of Pittsburgh (membership in PMTA is not required)

Repertoire: Two standard works from contrasting periods. (See application for specific details.)

Application may be found at www.gpc-pmta.org/Streator-smith.html
for more information, please contact:
Christine Lewis, Chairperson at
(412) 974-5584

RECITAL VENUE OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS
AT ST. BARNABAS IN GIBSONIA

As of February 1, 2017, the Edward Kean Theatre at St. Barnabas will be offering a split rental fee for The Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association. Two or more teachers will be able to split the cost of a rental for a Sunday. Please contact Rachel Seifried at:
rseifried@stbarnabashealthsystem.com or 724-444-6263

Pa Federation of Music Clubs News

From Joan Stanisha, Federation Secretary

Parade of American Music, celebrated in the month of November-- due March 1. Check the PFMC Website for the report form.
Send report to Priscilla Day, Chairman.

Musical Theme Artwork Contest. Due March 1st.
Membership in the Federation is not required.
Winning art will be featured on the front cover, second place on the back cover of the Junior Winne Music Composition Book. The other entries will be printed throughout the book.
Send to Priscilla Day.

Senior Club Report and the **Junior Rating Sheet** will be coming in April and May

The PFMC Biennial Convention will be held on April 23--26 in Sayre, PA. (Northeastern PA)
Charlene Hubbard, Joan Stanisha and Linda Alisesky will be attending from PPTA.
Contact one of us if you would like to join us on the PFMC Board.

Please contact Joan Stanisha or Charlene Hubbard for more information about any of these items.

VIP RECITAL UPDATE

PPTA will sponsor another VIP (Virtuosos in Performance) Recital on Friday evening, March 10, 2017, beginning at 7:15 until 7:45 PM in the Lobby of Heinz Hall, prior to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra concert.

Late Intermediate to Advanced students of PPTA teachers will perform at this pre-concert event.

If you have a student who is interested, please contact Charlene Hubbard (charlenehubbard@hotmail.com or 412-788-1615) as soon as possible as **there is space for one more performer, or even a duet team!** All members, students, and families are invited to attend this event. Discounted tickets to the PSO concert may be purchased by using the coupon code “psoppta”

PPTA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association Scholarship Award is a one-time competitive merit-based award of \$1,000 for one graduating high school senior (or equivalent) who demonstrates a high level of achievement in piano performance. The Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association Scholarship Award is open to any high school senior not older than 19 on March 15, 2017, and is currently studying for a minimum of two consecutive years as of March 15, 2017, with a teacher who is an active member of the Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association for a minimum of two consecutive years as of March 15, 2017. The application and audition requirements may be found on our website within the drop-down box listing Student Activities. All supporting material must be mailed to The Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association, c/o Michael M. Miller, Scholarship Chair, 977 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15237, and post-marked on or before March 15, 2017. A letter of receipt will be mailed to the applicant no later than April 1, 2017. Live auditions will take place on May 7, 2017 at CMU. Please contact Andrea Doyle, President or Michael Miller, Chair for more information.

HOLIDAY MIXER ON DECEMBER 29TH.

A small, but fun-loving crowd of PPTA members gathered at Andys in the Fairmont Hotel downtown on December 29. All enjoyed an informal social gathering to converse about all things piano: piano studios, interesting students we work with, funny anecdotes, etc., etc.

We hope to continue some informal gatherings in the future in other locations. Looking forward to seeing you at the next one!