



Keynotes

A Newsletter of Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association

NOVEMBER, 2015

NOVEMBER 18, 2015

**Christ Church at Grove Farm
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Welcome

Andrea Doyle, President

Student of the Month

Madison Heidenreich

Program

Leslie Amper

“Celebrating American Music Month”

Student of the Month

Madison Heidenreich, a sixteen-year-old junior at West Allegheny High School, has been studying piano for ten and a half years. For eight of those years, she has participated in the PPTA Evaluations and was selected to perform in the PPTA Evaluations Honors Recital in 2015. Madison will be moving onto level eight next year in the PPTA Evaluations. Along with studying piano, she has also played the flute for seven years and has been in marching band for four years. She plans to run for drum major in her senior year.

Madison gives flute lessons to elementary students every week. She currently has an internship for music ministry at her church and she participates in yearly mission trips with her youth group. In college, she plans to pursue a degree in music ministry, along with a degree in sonography. Madison would like to thank her family, teachers, and friends for all their love and support over the years.

Her teacher is Suzanne Givi.

In celebration of American Music Month, Madison will be playing Spanish Dance by American composer, Anton Bilotti.

Hospitality Table

Please sign in at the Hospitality Table when you arrive on November 18.

WELCOME, PMTA MEMBERS

We would like to extend a special welcome to those members of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the Pa Music Teachers Association who are attending today. We appreciate their support in co-sponsoring today’s program.

PROGRAM NOTES

Leslie Amper has created a lecture/piano recital entitled Creativity in Hard Times: The Federal Music Project of the 1930's. The program is a discussion of the performance and educational activities of the Great Depression including live performance of piano music which was among 6000 new American works written during the time of such difficulty. Featured composers include Florence Price, William Grant Still, Roger Sessions, Ruth Crawford and Aaron Copland. Leslie Amper's engaging and informative program clearly presents the vibrant contribution the Federal Music Project made to people's lives all over the United States during the Great Depression. Currently teaching at the Longy School of Music of Bard College, the New England Conservatory Preparatory Department, and Wheaton College, Leslie Amper has lectured at Boston University, as well as at the New Hampshire Music Festival, where she is a regular performer.

Please add to your yearbook:

**Tom Hill
2331 Pittock Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217**

**(412)421-1484
tom.hill.music.studio@gmail.com**

PPTA STAR EVALUATIONS

The planning meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 11 at 9:30 am at Christ Church at Grove Farm. All teachers interested in entering their students in Evaluations, as well as those who would like to learn more about the program should attend. Contact Lee Kikuchi with any questions.

November and December GPS Recitals

Please mark your calendars for our first GPS (Great Performers Series) Recital of the year on Sunday, November 15, at Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church on Greentree Road at 3:00 pm. Please e-mail Andrea Doyle for more information, or to sign up student performers. Teachers are welcome to perform if space is available.

The next GPS Recital will be on Sunday, December 6 at **1:00 pm** at Christ Church at Grove Farm. Contact Suzanne Givi to sign your students up for the December GPS Recital.

STUDENT COMPOSITION COMPETITION

Applications for the 2015-16 Student Composition Competition are due by the December general meeting, December 16. Chairperson, Carol Karl will be at the meeting to collect them, or teachers may send them to Carol in the meantime. Applications and Rules are posted on the Website; if you have a problem accessing them, or have any questions, please contact the Chairperson, Carol Karl, either by phone or email.

412-833-4624; ctrkarl1@verizon.net

The PPTA Scholarship Award will be available for the 2015-2016 year, even as the Scholarship program is under revision. You should check our website for more information and to download a scholarship application. Please note that this is a one-time award for one high-school senior, and unlike past years, it is nonrenewable at this time. Contact Scholarship Chair Michael Miller with questions.

Pa Federation of Music Clubs News

PPTA teachers, please include a sentence acknowledging the National Federation of Music Clubs on your recital program. Suggested wording to use is: "Under the sponsorship of the National Federation of Music Clubs."

MUSIC ESSAY THEME: "Music...Notes to the Future"

The Federation's "National Music Essay Contest" is coming up. Each state awards \$50 to the winning essay. Open to students in grades 7 through 12. Student need not be a member of the Federation of Music Clubs.

This year's theme is: "Music....Notes to the Future". The essay is to be typed, no longer than 500 words. A wallet -sized photo of the student should be submitted along with the essay.

Essay and photo should be sent to by January 15, 2016 to:
NFMC Regional Chairman: Nathalie Steinbach, 15 Mount Vernon Ave. Fredericksburg, VA 22405.
You may find the entry form online at: [nfmc-music.org/publications/Arts Division AR13](http://nfmc-music.org/publications/Arts%20Division%20AR13)

Auditions for the Aiken's Cadman Memorial Award are due January 15, 2016. The four districts of PFMC hold auditions biennially with the final competition to be held at the State Convention in Sayre, PA. Categories are piano and orchestral instruments, including organ and percussions. District winners receive \$200 and State winners, \$400. There is a \$5 entry fee. For more information, please go to the PFMC website for rules, application form, and repertoire description form.

There are many Awards, Competitions, and Auditions offered by NFMC and PFMC for students every year. However, please check the websites to see if your studio must be a Federated Club in order for your students to be eligible to apply.

nfmc-music.org pfmc-music.org

Charlene thanked Marsha Goulding and her student Eric Wang for his performance at the PFMC Annual Fall District Meeting on October 3. The meeting was held in Pittsburgh at St. John's Lutheran Church. Next year, PPTA will be hosts for this meeting.

PPTA's 80th Anniversary is Coming Soon!

WE WANT YOUR STORIES!!!

PPTA is compiling short stories for a book to be published to commemorate our 80th anniversary next year. The stories can be comedic, sincere, reflective, inspirational or educational.

Need some topic ideas? A Recital Re-do...A Competition Calamity...A Lesson Learned..... Charlene will be compiling a collection of true stories over the next few months. Each story should be 500 words or less.

So, get your story in now!

A SPECIAL REQUEST for stories from past Presidents and Board members!!!

*Please email to
charlenehubbard@hotmail.com.*

Questions please email or call 412-788-1615.

ANNOUNCING THE 2016 STREATOR-SMITH COMPETITION

**Sponsored by the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of PMTA*

**Established in honor two founding members of the Chapter, Lois Streator and Lois Smith, who were also members of PPTA for many years.*

Competition: April 17, 2016
Winners' Recital: April 24, 2016

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

Repertoire: Two standard works form contrasting periods

See application for specific details at:

<http://www.gpcpmta.org/streator-smith.html>

Application must be postmarked by April 8, 2016

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra **Discounted Tickets Available!**

As a member of PPTA, you are entitled to receive discounted tickets for BOTH the Grand Classics & the Pops Series Performances.

On November 27 and 29, conductor Manfred Honeck presents "A Waltz Tradition" for the Thanksgiving weekend. This Pittsburgh tradition presents waltzes and polkas by the Strauss family. Each year offers new pieces and new surprises. In addition, Principal Clarinetist, Michael Rusinek, will perform selections from Rossini and Weber with the symphony.

These amazing and uplifting concerts will be sure to leave you in high spirits for the upcoming holidays ahead!

To purchase discounted tickets online, visit **www.pittsburghsymphony.org** and enter the **Promo Code: PPTA**

Virtuosos in Performance or VIP

VIP is a new opportunity offered by the PSO for students of PPTA members.

Our students will perform for concertgoers before the 2:30 pm concert at Heinz Hall, on December 6th, 2016

Teachers please consider student's that are very "well-prepared" at a level of playing from intermediate to advanced and beyond.
The contact for this special VIP event is Charlene Hubbard, PSO liaison.
For more information please call or email. 412-788-1615
charlenehubbard@hotmail.com

DECEMBER 16 HOLIDAY BREAKFAST AND MEMBERS IN CONCERT

An invitation to all members to perform Solo, duet or duo at our December Meeting.

Contact Marsha Goulding or James Iman to participate.