



# Keynotes

A Newsletter of Pittsburgh Piano Teachers Association

**OCTOBER 2018**

**[pittsburghpianoteachers.org](http://pittsburghpianoteachers.org)**

**Pittsburgh Youth Concert Orchestra (PYCO)  
School of Music and Music Store  
150 Lake Drive, Suite 103  
Wexford, PA 15090**

PPTA PRESENTS:  
DR. TIMOTHY SHAFER  
PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, PENN STATE UNIV.

“Student First Virtuoso Pieces: Developing Comfort”  
A Lecture/Recital

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

The program will include the performance of about 12-15 pieces from a variety of composers that work well as early virtuoso pieces. We will explore strategies for helping students build facility in advancing level pieces. What are the common mistakes students make in approaching these increasingly difficult works, and how can we help them navigate through these difficulties? There will be significant discussions of technique and the student’s physical approach to the instrument, along with some videos showing slow motion movement of the hands.

Dr. Shafer earned degrees in piano performance from Oberlin Conservatory and Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music. He has concertized extensively throughout the United States, performing, teaching, and discussing the rich heritage of piano repertoire. He is the recipient of Oberlin Conservatory’s “Rudolf Serkin Outstanding Pianist Award,” Indiana University School of Music’s annual Concerto Competition, and the Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association “Teacher of the Year” award.

**PPTA STAR EVALUATIONS**  
**PLANNING MEETING**

**Dear Members,**

**There is a very important planning meeting to launch this year's STAR Evaluations program. If you plan to participate in STAR, it is strongly recommended you attend.**

**Please join on Wednesday, October 10  
At 9:30 AM at PYCO School of Music  
(Room 203, 150 Lake Drive, Wexford, PA 15090)**

**If you are interested but unable to attend, please contact STAR Chair, Marsha Goulding at [mjindel01@gmail.com](mailto:mjindel01@gmail.com)  
STAR Evaluations is one of the most valuable programs PPTA offers to our teachers and their students. I am excited for all of the improvements that have been made to the program over the past year, and for proposed changes this year! Find out more at the meeting on October 10!**

**Sincerely,**

**James Iman  
President PPTA**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 3:00 – 5:00 PM at Modern Piano, 11883 Perry Hwy., Wexford, PA 15090**

**JAZZ IMPROVISATIONS FOR THE NOVICE...AND NOT SO NOVICE!**

**Presented by Scott Anderson**

### **ANNUAL HOLIDAY BRUNCH AND MEMBER PERFORMANCES**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm at PYCO School of Music**

### **GPS RECITALS**

***There will be a GPS (Great Performer Series) Recital at 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 28, 2018 At Unity Presbyterian Church (formerly Wallace) on Greentree Rd. Contact Andrea Doyle by October 21 to sign your students up to perform at this recital.***

***Suzanne Givi will be coordinating a GPS Recital on Sunday, December 9 at 1:00 PM at PYCO. Contact Suzanne at [sgivi@outlook.com](mailto:sgivi@outlook.com) by December 2 to participate***

**Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the Month at 9:30 AM, September – December and February – June.**

**All PPTA members are welcome to attend.**

**\* Please check with a Board Member before coming to confirm the location.**

