

OCTOBER, 2015

**OCTOBER 21, 2015**

**Christ Church at Grove Farm**

**9:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

***(Music Mart opens at 9:00)***

**Welcome**

Andrea Doyle, President

**Student of the Month**

Chris Chengshi

**Program**

“Everything a Pianist Needs to Know

About Garageband”

Bill Purse

Duquesne University

**Hospitality Table**

Please sign in at the Hospitality Table when you arrive on October 21.

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**Music Mart Coming in October**

Bring your new and like-new “musical items” to the October 21 meeting for this Musical Gift Shop.  Please place a price tag on each item.  The “Shop” will be open at 9:00 AM for you to browse, as well as during the break and after the meeting.  Anything left over can be claimed after the meeting, or left to be dispersed to charitable organizations.  All proceeds from this sale will go to the Piano Maintenance Fund.

Teachers may also bring their own musical materials (i.e. publications, teaching aids) to sell. Please contact Marsha Goulding if you are interested in selling your items

**COMPETITION UPDATE**

**Please be sure to check the website for updated information on the Student Composition Competition and location changes for the 2016 Performance Competitions.**

**Student of the Month**

The October Student of the Month is Chris Chengshi, an eighth grader at Hampton Middle School in Allison Park. He is 13 years old. Chris enjoys competing in chess tournaments, and video games such as Super Smash Bros., Melee and Project M. He will be playing Brahms’ Rhapsody in G Minor, Op. 79, No. 2. Chris studies with Mary Lynne Bennett.

**October Program Notes**

Professor Bill Purse is chair of the Contemporary Music, Media and Jazz Department at Duquesne University, where he received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Music.

In 2001, Mr. Purse received the Lifetime Achievement Award for guitar pedagogy and performance. He has pioneered the use of interactive multimedia, distance learning, MIMI/hard disk recording, and desktop music publication for his classroom and private teaching at Duquesne. Purse is also the author of the highly acclaimed primer series for Coda Music’s Finale family: The NotePad Primer, The PrintMusic! Primer, and The Finale Primer published by back Beat Publications.

GarageBand turns your iPad, iPhone, and iPod touch into a collection of Touch instruments and a full-featured recording studio. Come to the meeting to learn more!

**PPTA’s 80th Anniversary is Coming Soon!**

**Do You Have a Story to Tell?**

PPTA is looking for short stories from our members. What kind of stories? Stories about teaching piano: inspirational, funny, sentimental, memorable, and motivational. Need some topic ideas? A Recital Re-do…A Competition Calamity…A Lesson Learned….

Charlene Hubbard will be compiling a collection of true stories over the next few months. Our goal is to get enough stories to put in book form. Right now there is not limit on submissions. Each story should be 500 words or less.

**So get your story in now!**

Please e-mail to [charlenehubbard@hotmail.com](mailto:charlenehubbard@hotmail.com)

Questions please e-mail or call 412-788-1615

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**Reserving Recital Dates at Christ Church**

Christ Church has instituted a new policy for those wanting to reserve recital time. **Recitals dates cannot be reserved more than six months prior to that date.**As always, the PPTA owned Steinway and Kawai grand pianos are available to members for their recitals at Christ Church.  The fee includes a **$100** rental fee to the church, and a **$100** security deposit to PPTA (which is refundable if the piano is left in good condition.   (Two separate checks)   
If the recital is scheduled after 3:00 p.m., the church also charges a **$25/hr** staffing fee.  Members of PPTA are entitled to one recital per year (Sept. through June) at the above rates.  Further recitals may be scheduled for the above charge plus $100.  Contact Suzanne Givi, [sgivi@outlook.com](mailto:sgivi@outlook.com)  for additional information. **Please do not call the church directly.**

**TIME TO RENEW!**

**The PPTA group subscription to Clavier Companion magazine will expire with the January/February 2016 issue. The group rate is $20 per person. If you would like to renew, or if you would like to be a new subscriber, please make your check out to Mimi Priano and mail it to her at 1932 Stoltz Rd., South Park, PA 15129. Checks must be received before November 1.**

**PPTA STAR EVALUATIONS**

PA FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS NEWS

MUSIC FESTIVAL DATES

The January Festival Preparation meetings are:  January 6 for the North Hills, at the

Divine Providence Convent, and January 27 for Pittsburgh East, at Westminster Presbyterian

Church at 9:30 a.m.   The Festival dates are:  February 28 for Pittsburgh North, at Duquesne

University, and March 19 for Pittsburgh East, at Westminster.  Go for those Gold Cups!!  There are 7 now, including the President's Cup.

  Our Achievement Memory Book for 2014, earned 2nd place and $20 at the PFMC meeting in Altoona, thanks to the efforts of our creative historian, Haddie Weber.  It will be on display at the October meeting.

It's time for the biennial PFMC convention, this time in the mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania, in April, 2016. More information coming will be forthcoming.   Senior clubs are asked to prepare a basket, so we're looking for an interesting theme and goodies to include. The Fall District Meeting was hosted by the North Hills Music Club. The entertainment was delightful including lively songs by the North Hills chorus and an amazing performance by Eric Wang, student of Marsha Goulding.

It will be PPTA's turn to host the Fall District Meeting in October 2016.

**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 General Meeting**

**We will be collaborating with the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of PMTA for our November 18 program, which will feature a presentation on the Federal Music Project of the 1930’s by Pianist Leslie Amper. In celebration of American Music Month, our Student of the Month will be performing a piece by an American composer.**

**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.

*Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra*

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

*The Grand Classics 2015-2016 Season highlights include piano performances with* ***Conrad Tao****,* ***Yuliana Avdeeva****,* ***Denis Kozhukhin****,* ***Emanuel Ax****, and* ***Daniil Trifonov****. Each will be bringing their talents for audiences to hear, a Beethoven “Emperor” Concerto, a Rachmaninoff Concerto, the Brahms epic Concerto No. 2, Liszt’s Concerto No. 1 and a premiere composition by Tao.*

*The POPS 2015-2016 Season programs include*

*West Side Story, Highmark Holiday Pops, The Ultimate Oscars,*

*All of these and more are available to purchase online at* ***www.pittsburghsymphony.org*** *and enter the* ***Promo Code: PPTA***

New Members-WELCOME!

**CHABALA,** Leslie…………………………..(412) 736-3274

137 Pennsylvania Ave.

Bridgeville, PA 15017

[chabala.leslie@hfa-pgh.org](mailto:chabala.leslie@hfa-pgh.org).

**HENRI**, Laura………………….............……(412) 486-3079

2595 College Park Rd.

Allison Park, PA 15101

[laura.henri3@gmail.com](mailto:laura.henri3@gmail.com)

**MARTIN,**Gabrielle………………......……..(412) 538-7797

105 Westbury Dr.

Moon Township, PA 15108

[martingabrielle88@gmail.com](mailto:martingabrielle88@gmail.com)

**WOODS**, Brandy……………………………(724) 503-5411

242 Stark Ave.

Imperial, PA 15126

[brandywoods.musiced@gmail.com](mailto:brandywoods.musiced@gmail.com)

Yearbook Update:

**CORDLE**, Linda………………........……….(412) 474-3227

(Please use this phone number to contact Linda)

**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 educations.

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. Here is a sample from Andrea Doyle:

“Every performing musician realizes the necessity of mentally preparing for the unexpected in any performance. Stuff happens! Phones ring....coughing fits occur...loud, unexplained noises can be suddenly distracting. The best laid plans for a student recital can go a bit awry. One never knows what might happen. Something does help to save the day, however, and that is, keeping a sense of humor!

Preparing my students for a recital a number of years ago, held at Christ Church at Grove Farm, I gave the standard instructions to all regarding dress for the occasion: no jeans, soccer cleats, but you needn’t rent formal wear! One young guy said earnestly to me, “Oh, I am going to wear my tux”. I bit the inside of my cheek and replied, “Of course you may, if that’s what you would like to do”, imagining what all of my other students would think!

At the time of the recital, performers and families gathered in the hall. As the tuxedoed student walked in, I happened to be in a good vantage point to see faces, and I have never seen so many raised eyebrows! A minute later, however, it was my own eyebrows that were raised as another student and family entered carrying a wicker basket. I was astonished to realize there was a puppy in it! Surely, someone wasn’t actually bringing a puppy to the recital? Before I could walk over to suggest taking the dog elsewhere, the mother disappeared into the kitchen of Fellowship Hall. Thinking all was settled, we began. The second performer was Mr. Tux. About two minutes into his piece, the puppy started to howl from the kitchen. The rather mouthy little brother of another student said VERY loudly, “ It must think he

(Mr. Tux) is a dogcatcher!”, causing all of the surrounding people to shake with laughter, including, fortunately, the parents of Mr. Tux.

I believe that was the event that caused me to change forever in my mind the notion of student recitals being necessarily serious and formal. Sometimes all it takes is a kid in a tux and a puppy.”

**So, get your story in now!**

**Please email to** [**charlenehubbard@hotmail.com**](mailto:charlenehubbard@hotmail.com)

**Questions please email or call 412-788-1615**