

DUET

newsletter

Spring 2022

**ROCHESTER PIANO TEACHERS GUILD, INC. &
GREATER ROCHESTER MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOC.**

RPTG Program with Howard Spindler

Back by popular demand, Howard Spindler will once again inspire and engage us in "Movement and Joy" at the Hochstein School of Music at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 29, 2022. Howard will demonstrate Emile Jacques-Dalcroze's (1865-1950) curriculum based on eurhythmics, utilizing whole body movements and responses to rhythms, pulse and sound. You do not want to miss this program. Kindly RSVP to Sarah Barford at 716-353-1575.

Dalcroze Education is a playful, experiential approach to teaching and learning music. It is a process for awakening, developing, and refining innate musicality through rhythmic movement (often called eurhythmics), ear-training, and improvisation. This

unique approach to musical learning makes music vivid for everyone, from young beginners through adult professionals. When experiencing a Dalcroze class, you begin to feel, express, and master the flow that is essential to music, dance, and the other performing arts. Dalcroze Education has been around for more than a century. The method was developed starting in 1886 by Emile Jaques-Dalcroze, a Swiss composer and educator. It features interactive games and exercises that help students learn to trust their ideas and develop their own intuitions. Today, his ideas about education have been confirmed by scientific research. Dalcroze Education is a rich, complex, multifaceted practice that encourages each of us

to experience it on our own terms, as individuals. Each participant can define it differently, through the lens of their own experience.

Howard Spindler first came to Dalcroze as an undergraduate student at Oberlin in the early 1970s. Over the years, he took part in Dalcroze workshops offered by guest teachers at Eastman and at various festivals around the US. He finally committed to a teacher training course over several summers at the Institute for Jaques-Dalcroze Education in Pennsylvania, where he earned the Advanced Certificate.

A brief membership meeting will follow Mr. Spindler's program.

Two Upcoming Deadlines

April 29, Friday

Postmark Deadline for Jr. All-Star Piano Competition
For more information contact:

Sheri Neilsen at (585) 747-9885
or sheri.neilsen@gmail.com

April 30, Saturday

Deadline to apply for Laura

Heilbronner Scholarship.

For more information contact:
Brian Preston at (585) 461-5359
or bmp@rochester.rr.com

Inside this issue:

Pedagogy Workshop with Dennis Alexander	2
RPTG Election Results	2
David Hochstein Recital Competition	3
RPO with Amy Feng	3
Calendar from May to August	4

Special points of interest:

- RPTG Program "Movement and Joy" with Howard Spindler at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 29, 2022 Hochstein School of Music
- David Hochstein Winners' Recital 7:00 PM Wednesday, May 11, 2022 Hochstein School of Music
- Pedagogy Workshop with Dennis Alexander, clinician June 27-28, 2022, Nazareth College School of Music
- RPO with Amy Feng, pianist at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue

Pedagogy Workshop with Dennis Alexander

SCHEDULE

Monday, June 27

1:00-2:30 PM

“Why Didn’t I Think of That”?

Over the years, Dennis Alexander has received hundreds of questions from piano teachers at workshops, conventions, and through correspondence. This session will highlight numerous questions that deal with technique, motivation, repertoire, sight reading, rhythm, artistry, memorization, teaching adults, stage fright, and other issues that every teacher must deal with, regardless of the level of the student. Mr. Alexander will share numerous “solutions” to these questions through an interactive power-point presentation that will include input from members of the audience.

2:30-2:50 PM—BREAK

2:50-4:30 PM

“Pedagogical Tips for Teaching “24 Character Preludes” by Dennis Alexander

Numerous states now include this collection on their syllabi, and this session explores many aspects of technique and interpretation while using the music from these colorful preludes that are

written for the late intermediate to early advanced level student. The preludes are purposely short, and written in romantic, impressionistic, and contemporary styles. This unique presentation gives teachers and students a unique insight into teaching and performing these preludes in all major and minor keys. (A power-point presentation.)

4:30-5:00 PM

“Question and Answer Session”

Tuesday, June 28

9:00-10:45 AM

“Developing Artistry through Color, Choreography, and Characterization” (this is about an entire morning’s session, so we’ll take a break, & then continue).

This stimulating presentation will cover techniques to help beginning through late-intermediate level students play more artistically and stylistically. Artistic concepts, many music examples, and use of body gestures will be incorporated to give teachers concrete ideas to share with their students. (A power-point presentation)

10:45-11:10 PM—BREAK

11:10-12:00 PM

Continuation of same lecture

12:00-1:00 PM—

LUNCH BREAK

1:00-2:00 PM

“Practical, Purposeful, and Plentiful” – the music of Dennis Alexander

Dennis Alexander has written music for every level, and in this entertaining session, Mr. Alexander will share some of his favorite teaching pieces at each level. Teachers will discover repertoire for festivals, competitions, motivation, “plays easy, sounds hard” ----- there’s something for everybody in this session!

2:00-3:15 PM

“Breaking Barriers with Teenagers” – Alternative Teaching Strategies to Help Motivate and Inspire!”

This session will focus on ways to motivate, inspire, and keep those intermediate students practicing instead of becoming another sad statistic in the ever growing pool of “I wish I hadn’t quit taking piano lessons!” (A power-point presentation)

3:15-3:30 PM—BREAK

3:30-4:45 PM

Masterclass with various levels of students

4:45-5:00 PM

“Question and Answer Session”

**Piano Pedagogy
Workshop
with
Dennis Alexander**

June 27-28, 2022

**Nazareth College
School of Music**

[Registration link](https://events.eply.com/PianoPedagogy2022)

or copy and paste

**[https://
events.eply.com/
PianoPedagogy2022](https://events.eply.com/PianoPedagogy2022)**



RPTG Election Results

The slate of officers for 2022-2023 has been duly elected by the RPTG membership. They are as follows:

President
Tasha George-Hinnant

Vice President
Teddy Carr

Recording Secretary
Kathie Ross

Corresponding Secretary
Elier Suárez

Co-treasurers
**Stephanie Mercer &
Brian Preston.**

Congratulations to these folks—but even more, we thank them for their willingness to serve!



2022 David Hochstein Recital Competition

WINNERS IN PIANO

Maxwell Sun – Winner – Student of Elier Suárez
 Sean Li – Runner-Up – Student of Joseph Werner
 Lilah Costanzo – Runner-Up – Student of Brian Preston

JUDGES

Jacob Ertl
 Elinor Freer
 Doleen Hood

WINNERS' RECITAL

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 7 PM with
 Michael Ortiz, clarinet
 Elizabeth Norris, cello
 Maxwell Sun, piano

RPO with Amy Feng—2021 Grand Prize YAA Winner

Founded in 1929 to support the education and outreach programs of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO), the Rochester Philharmonic League (RPL) has held and funded its annual Young Artist Auditions for high school musicians since 1955. Forty-six accomplished high school students from the Greater

Rochester Area competed for a total of \$5,500 in cash awards and scholarships. Ten cash awards, \$500 for winners and \$200 for runners-up, were offered for female vocalist, male vocalist, strings, piano and instrumental (woodwind, brass, percussion, harp or guitar). The winners and runners-up from the five award cate-

gories then competed for the vocal and instrumental \$1,000 college scholarships.

Grand Prize and Aldridge-Tinker Scholarship for Instrumentalists (\$1000 college scholarship) winner Amy Feng of Pittsford Sutherland High School and student of Elier Suárez was chosen

from among the first prize winners in each category. She will perform the first movement of the Schumann Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 54 on Wednesday evening, July 27, 2022 at Temple B'rith Kodesh located on 2131 Elmwood Avenue beginning at 7 o'clock with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

**ROCHESTER PIANO TEACHERS GUILD,
INC. & GREATER ROCHESTER MUSIC
TEACHERS ASSOC.**

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**DUET is also on the Web at:
rochesterpianoteachers.org**

Calendar from May to August

MAY

May 1, Sunday
1, 2 & 3 PM Student Recitals
4 PM RPTG Teachers Recital
Third Presbyterian Church
4 Meigs Street

May 13-15, Friday-Sunday
NGPT Auditions

May 22, Sunday
NYSMTA Repertoire Exam for the
Student Achievement Program
Nazareth College

JUNE

June 3, Friday, 10:00 AM
Board meeting

June 4, Saturday
Junior All-Star Competition
Nazareth College's Rehearsal Hall

June 5, Sunday
Junior All-Star Competition Win-
ners' Recital at Nazareth College's
Wilmot Recital Hall

June 11, Saturday, 6:00 PM
RPTG Potluck Dinner and
Membership Meeting at the home
of Teddy Carr and Mark Regan
Guests are welcome!
RSVP by Sunday, June 5

June 27-28, Monday-Tuesday
Piano Pedagogy Workshop—

We welcome Dennis Alexander
back to Rochester!
Sponsored by RPTG, NYSMTA
and Nazareth College School of
Music at Nazareth College

JULY

July 31, Sunday
RPTG dues are due

AUGUST

August 15, Monday
Deadline for September Duet
Newsletter

August 15, Monday
Deadline for RPTG Handbook
2022-23 changes