

DUET

newsletter

May 2024

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

Dear RPTG & NYSMTA District 12 (GRMTA) Members...

Each time I sit down to write to you, it's cringingly close to the deadline, and I promise myself that next time, I will write the week before the deadline, saving myself and our dear editor, Elier, some hassle. This is what I told myself last time, in February. However, here it is, April 15th, and the springtime energy has swept me up in its busyness and promises that I can do everything. Lo and behold, it's deadline day again.

Springtime does have a wonderful feel to it. There's a reason spring cleaning is a long-held practice; after the winter hibernation, there's just so much more energy and motivation to freshen things up, to try new things, and possibly change one's perspective, either by waking up your garden, rearranging your furniture, or trying something new with your students!

Our schedule of events for RPTG and GRMTA is no

exception! This is our busy season, and the opportunities abound for our members and their students! The opportunities are wonderful, but the number of things available can be overwhelming. My advice is: remember to stay grounded! If you're inspired to participate, do, but create some kind of system to help you stay on top of all that you're involved in. I love lists and spreadsheets, and I have whiteboards in multiple rooms of my house: studio, kitchen, even the bathroom! I tend to be inspired by the spring energy, but I sometimes go too far and accidentally overcommit!

If you're interested in more strategies for staying focused, organized, and channeling inspiration, come to the presentation I'm giving on May 10th! Sarah Barford, our Chair of Programming, has asked me to present, and I'm delighted to be giving a full-length presentation of the five minute lightning talk

that I gave for our NYSMTA Virtual Symposium this past October, The Benefits of Standardized Studio Practices.

Looking ahead in the calendar, our academic year officially closes with our final membership meeting, which will include a social gathering and potluck dinner, this year generously hosted by Teddy Carr on June 15th. Please RSVP to Teddy by June 1st!

While the potluck concludes our academic year, be sure to attend our Piano Pedagogy Workshop on June 27th-28th. We're trying a Thursday-Friday this year instead of the usual Monday-Tuesday, and we hope this helps some of you with scheduling around those end-of-year lessons and the beginning of summer vacations! I had the chance to see our clinician, Dr. Theresa Bogard, in action at the MTNA conference, and we are really in for a treat. Her mastery of technique

and expressivity is truly enthralling. She will be joined by Howard Spindler, who will give sessions on Dalcroze eurhythmics. For those of you who have had the chance to attend one of his sessions, you know that he is a delight, and his teaching style is playful and insightful. We are truly lucky to have both of these masters as our teachers this summer!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your president these past three years. I'm looking forward to finishing the rest of this year with you all, and will continue to do my best in my new roles on the board as we commence new leadership with Teddy Carr and Kathy Whitlock at the helm.

Sincerely,

Tasha George-Hinnant
RPTG President
NYSMTA District 12
(GRMTA) Chair

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Special points of interest:

- Final RPTG Student Recitals at 1, 2 & 3 plus Teachers' Recital at 4 on Sunday, May 5, 2024
Third Presbyterian Church
- RPTG Program "The Benefits of Standardized Studio Practices" presented by Tasha George-Hinnant at Bocaccini's Italian Bistro, 6720 Pittsford Palmyra Road in Fairport. Lunch to follow. RSVP to Sarah Barford: Barfordpiano@gmail.com
- Junior All-Stars Competition
Saturday & Sunday, June 1-2, 2024
Nazareth University School of Music
- Pedagogy Workshop with Theresa Bogard, clinician
Thursday/Friday, June 27-28, 2024
Nazareth University School of Music

Pedagogy Workshop with Theresa Bogard

Dear Piano Teachers and Music Educators,

I am writing to announce that registration is now open for the annual **Piano Pedagogy Workshop at Nazareth University on Thursday/Friday, June 27-28, 2024**, presented by the RPTG, NYSMTA District 12, and Nazareth University School of Music. **This event will be held in-person at Nazareth University in Rochester, NY. Virtual/Zoom attendance will also be an option.**

We are very excited to welcome esteemed pianist, pedagogue, and master clinician, **Theresa Bogard** as our featured clinician. She comes highly recommended by our last clinician (Peter

Mack), and also just recently gave a featured presentation and piano technique masterclass at the MTNA National Conference. We are also excited to announce our guest clinician, **Howard Spindler**, who will give a session on Eurhythmics.

Registration information can be found on our website, and session descriptions will be announced shortly: <https://www2.naz.edu/school-music/summer-music-arts-institute/piano-pedagogy-workshop>

Early Bird Registration Deadline: June 1, 2024. (click on "To Register")

CALL FOR MASTER-CLASS PARTICIPANTS

-Online submission form found on the website

-Submission form DUE: Friday, June 7, 2024

-Ages 5-18, all levels and repertoire accepted

-Participating students must be in-person

-Theresa Bogard (and/or outside panel) will select participants based on variety of levels/ages and repertoire

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

I hope you will be able to join us for what is sure to be a stimulating and inspiring event!

Best wishes,

Jacob Ertl and Tasha George-Hinnant, Co-Chairs Pedagogy Workshop Planning Committee

Piano Pedagogy Workshop with Theresa Bogard

June 27-28, 2024

Nazareth University School of Music

[Registration link](#)



RPTG Election Ballot

Hello Members,

This is a reminder that the election of next year's officers is still ongoing via our Website. Go to [Slate of Officers](#) in the upper bar to see the ballot and cast your vote.

The deadline is May 3rd. Ballots not received will be counted as an affirmative vote for all candidates.

Thank you all.

The Nominations Committee

RPTG Program & Luncheon

Our next member program is Friday May 10th at 11am and features Tasha George-Hinnant presenting "The Benefits of Standardized Studio Practices." Tasha is not only Guild President and NYSMTA District 12 Chair, but also runs a full piano studio. Tasha will

share with us how she's turned her studio into a model of efficiency, saving herself a lot of effort and stress along the way.

Immediately following the meeting, please stay and socialize with us as we enjoy a casual lunch together at Bocaccini's.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to catch up before the school year ends. RSVP to Sarah Barford 716-353-1575 barfordpiano@gmail.com

Program & Luncheon with Tasha George-Hinnant

Friday, May 10 at 11 AM

**Bocaccini's Italian Bistro
6720 Pittsford Palmyra Rd
Fairport, NY 14450**



2024 David Hochstein Recital Competition

WINNERS IN PIANO

Milo Anderson – Winner – Student of Elier Suarez
 Logan Canfield – Runner-Up – Student of Elier Suarez

JUDGES

Bonnie Choi
 Jacob Ertl
 Tamari Gurevich

2024 Vincent Lenti Piano Competition Winners

SENIOR DIVISION

1st Place: **Sean Cooney**, student of Akina Yura
 2nd Place: **David Yang**, student of Elier Suarez
 3rd Place: **Julian Chumacero**, student of Elier Suarez

JUNIOR DIVISION

1st Place: **Jasmine Wu**, student of Elier Suarez
 2nd Place: **Tristan Zhang**, student of Fang-Wei Hsu
 3rd Place: **Yang Zhao**, student of Elier Suarez

Honorable Mentions:

Bethany Huang, student of Howard Spindler,
 and **Max Thiele**, student of Kym Schifino

YOUNG PERFORMER DIVISION

1st Place: **Alan Wu**, student of Elier Suarez
 2nd Place: **Alex Chang**, student of Elier Suarez
 3rd Place: **Isabel Zhang**, student of Alla Kuznetsov

Honorable Mention:

Hui Zhao, student of Elier Suarez



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

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

Rochester Piano Teachers Guild, Inc.

presents

Spring Piano Recitals

Sunday, May 5th, 2024
Student Recitals at 1:00, 2:00, 3:00pm
Teachers' Recital at 4:00pm

**Third Presbyterian Church
4 Meigs Street
Rochester, NY 14607**

**Apply by April 22nd
online or paper application**

For more information, please contact beth@bethfisherpiano.com

