

November 2019

Newsletter

WVMTA

Musings from the President

I think that we can all agree that a very special THANK-YOU is in order for Diann, Gwyn, Holly and Christy for presenting an enlightening session on the AIM Program at our October Meeting. Diann and Gwyn, thank-you both so much for all that you have done to give Theory Registration a whole new look. For anyone who has not yet sent their AIM registration fee to Gwyn, please do so as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to attending the ISMTA Conference on November 1 & 2 and hope that some other members will be attending. If anyone would like to carpool, I'll be leaving home at around 5 am on Friday. Christy Nielsen will be leaving a couple of hours later! We all wish Adeline Meyers, a student of Viktoriya Livanov, lots of luck when she competes in the ISMTA competition on Saturday.

Our Fall Recital, "A Festival of Colors" in memory of Marianne McGraw will take place on Sunday, November 3 at the New England Congregational Church in Aurora. It is not too late to register students. Please remember the guidelines of 6 minutes per student and 18 minutes total per teacher. Please send me a text message (630-303-4904) or call me if you do send an email. I wouldn't want to have anyone's registration to be overlooked!

Our November 13 meeting will be the Intermediate Student Master Class conducted by our own Larry Dieffenbach. Master classes with Larry are always a special event. He is, indeed, a Master Teacher! Our meeting will begin at 9:30 with the Master Class beginning at 10:00.

I hope that everyone is enjoying the emerging fall colors as much as I am. While the unevenness of the weather has made fall cleanup of the garden challenging, I find the brilliant reds and oranges to be life energizing.

This fall many people seem to be going through difficult time. Some have lost loved ones, some have lost beloved pets and some are dealing with illness; either their own or a loved one's. Let us remember to cherish each day that we have each other. We are all fortunate to be a part of a wonderful and supportive group where we are nourished intellectually and cared for spiritually.

- Nancy Sen

Upcoming

- Nov. 12 - Monthly Meeting
- Nov. 23 - AiM Theory Exam

Here is a Quizlet for Level 6 terms. Includes terms from previous levels:

https://quizlet.com/_789ysx



AiM Theory 2019

Thank you everyone for getting your enrollments in by the registration deadline!

We have about 3 weeks until the exam day! November 23!



Things to do with your students:

- Continue to listen to their harmonizations and transposition pieces to build confidence.
- Have your students take the practice tests in the workbooks as well as the ones offered in the syllabus.
- Make an ear training link on musictheory.net for your students to practice intervals
- Remind your students that on the test day they need to report at the registration desk before they take any test.

Preparing yourself for exam day:

- Open every email from Gwyn and Diann! We will be sending important information!
 - When you get your student's schedule, print them out a map and directions to get to Elgin Community College.
 - When you get your judging assignment, review the syllabus for each level that you will be testing to re-familiarize yourself with levels that you might not have taught this year.
 - Plan to arrive at Elgin Community college Building H **30 minutes prior** to your assigned judging time.

If you didn't attend the Judges meeting on October 9, you will need to attend the Judges meeting on November 23. The time of the meeting will be decided with scheduling.





Additional AiM Theory Preparation for Your Students:

Level 5 Harmonic minor scale writing:

- Things for your student to pay attention to:
 - ◇ some write the major scale,
 - ◇ the accidental on the raised 7th is forgotten
 - ◇ And/or the accidental on the V chord is forgotten
 - ◇ Ideas: Teach to always write the key signature and to find all written 7ths and add accidental.

Interval writing: First draw the correct interval, then put in correct accidental.

Transposition piece: Prepare students to know the correct page and be ready to show it at registration. Coach them to say their name loud and clear to the teachers at registration.

Harmonization guidelines:

- Level 12: Harmonize a new tune at sight: Students may play melody before beginning the harmonization.
- Level 7-11: Specific instructions for each tune. Student may use various styles of accompaniment. Chords other than those designated may be added except when the bass line is indicated.
- Level 3-6: Students may explore chords in any posi-

tion and various styles of accompaniment. Chords other than those designated may be added to the harmony when appropriate.

- Level 3: The V chord may replace the V7 chord.
- Level 2: Two-note harmonizations are acceptable. Students may explore chords in any position and various styles of accompaniment. The V chord may replace the V7 chord.

