



# THE IOWA MUSIC TEACHER

**IMTA**  
**State Conference**  
at Coe College  
**June 4-6, 2023**

*Details inside*

**LXXXV no. 4**  
Spring 2023

**IMTA District & State  
Pre-college Piano Results**

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2022-2023

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# THE EDITOR'S DESK

I am excited to return from the MTNA Conference in Reno, Nevada and share happenings with you. Notably, it is a reunion not to be forgotten after a three-year absence!

My message is short as I have three recommendations:

**1. Please attend the IMTA Conference in Cedar Rapids at Coe College in June.** If you've never or rarely attended, you will discover connections, teaching tips and quite possibly, lifelong friendships beyond measure!

**2. Please read your magazine from cover to cover.** There is so much information, including conference registration and happenings around the state.

**3. Please consider volunteering.** There are those of us who have worked diligently to keep IMTA running smoothly for years. As a board, we have faith in our new members and younger generation who obviously possess the skills and energy to step in. We need you; we welcome fresh ideas! You are encouraged to contact our president, Janci Bronson, or any board member to inquire about the available positions needing filled.

You will benefit from volunteer work and the networking you encounter along the way. Believe it or not, you will profit as an educator and it will directly affect your studio positively! Names of many new members come to mind who had that "quiet voice" but stepped up to volunteer, and eventually became a mighty warrior! I celebrate year number 50 as an IMTA/MTNA member this year. Believe it or not, I was once that timid voice! None of the available positions take an incredible amount of time and your willingness

to serve will enhance your knowledge and connections.

Remember, our deadline for the IMT Summer issue is June 1, 2023. Please submit your student's Senior Recital photos and highlights for the upcoming magazine.

Thank you; have a wonderfully fulfilling Spring season!



IMTA Information Editor

**Cyndie Caruth, NCTM**  
imtamagazine@gmail.com

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# THE IOWA MUSIC TEACHER

Vol LXXXV no.4 Spring 2023

## Membership

*IMTA/MTNA membership year:*

July 1 through June 30.

MTNA National  
membership dues: \$83.00

Active Iowa IMTA dues: \$40.00

All active dues: join by September 1  
to enter competitions.

New members: join by October 1  
to enter competitions.

In order to be eligible to adjudicate  
for IMTA events, you must have paid  
upcoming dues before July 1.

MTNA Senior  
70 years or older: \$62.25

Iowa Senior dues 65 or older: \$20.00

MTNA Collegiate  
membership dues: \$19.00

Iowa Collegiate Student  
member dues \$10.00

Collegiate Membership is open to  
all college music students who are  
also members of an affiliated state  
association and a collegiate chapter if  
available. Collegiate membership runs  
October 1 through September 30.

*A six-month/trial membership is  
offered to individuals meeting active  
membership criteria who have never  
been MTNA members. The six-month/  
trial membership runs from January 1  
through June 30.*

## Contact Us

*Contact a local association president at:  
[iamta.org/local-associations.php](http://iamta.org/local-associations.php)  
and experience valuable meetings and  
networking opportunities.*

*Please contact MTNA at  
(888) 512-5278 or (513) 421-1420  
for further member information.*

Official Publication of the  
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Teachers National Association

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## IMTA Statement of Philosophy

The Iowa Music Teachers Association, reflecting the tradition of Music Teachers National Association, is dedicated to a practical role of artistic service in our society. Through activities involving students, merchants and patrons as well as music teachers, the Iowa Music Teachers Association promotes professional standards in music and fulfills its dedication to cultural leadership. To explore the Iowa Music Teachers Association online, visit [www.iamta.org](http://www.iamta.org).

## IMTA Statement of Function

The function of *The Iowa Music Teacher* is to reflect the philosophy of the Iowa Music Teachers Association; to serve as a vehicle of communication for its members to their state officers, expressing their attitudes and needs; to inform the subscribers and membership of events and ideas; to report musical activity in the state; and to stimulate and encourage active interest participation, and support for the Iowa Music Teachers Association as it maintains its role of leadership in the state of Iowa.

## IMTA Magazine

As a non-profit organization, Iowa Music Teachers Association quarterly magazine subscriptions are mailed automatically to members. Non-member subscriptions are \$10.00 per issue. One sample copy furnished to prospective members without charge upon request. *The Iowa Music Teachers* is not a registered copyright publication. Members have permission to reprint anything contained herein unless there is a specific notice of copyright appended to the article or portion of an article. For further information about the magazine, contact the editor at [imtamagazine@gmail.com](mailto:imtamagazine@gmail.com).

## MTNA Founding and Purpose

In 1876, Theodore Presser and 62 of his colleagues founded Music Teachers National Association with the purpose of advancing the value of music study and music making to society while supporting the careers and professionalism of music teachers. Today with more than 20,000 members, MTNA is a vibrant and powerful professional alliance with members reaping the rewards of collaboration, continuity and connection throughout the lifetime of their music teaching careers. MTNA/IMTA Active Membership is available to any individual professionally engaged in a music activity who is also a member of an affiliated state association. Active members enjoy all benefits of membership and are entitled to participate in all MTNA activities, vote and hold office.



# THANK YOU!

Warmest greetings, IMTA members!

It's with excitement that I write reflecting on the musically satisfying year we've had, with more to come. **Thank you to the many wonderful IMTA leaders and volunteers** who make it possible for our students and teachers to participate in the many enriching experiences, such as our festivals, auditions, MTNA competitions, and various local association events.

## Make plans to attend the IMTA state conference in June 2023!

We look forward with great expectation to one of **IMTA's premiere events, the state conference held at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, June 4-6, 2023.** If you've never attended before, I strongly urge you to consider trying it out this year. More comprehensive details are included later in this magazine, but I wanted to highlight some key benefits of attendance.

I began attending conferences in college and love the **ongoing education** they provide me in terms of the rich diversity of musical topics covered. Our guest pedagogue is my fellow graduate school alumna, **Dr. Julie Knerr-Hague. She is the co-author of the innovative method *Piano Safari*.** It has a unique focus on rote teaching, along with a solid and comprehensive pedagogy foundation. I have no doubt you'll learn many new novel teaching ideas to incorporate into your studios after hearing Julie present.

Additionally, **we have the pleasure of welcoming guest artist Dr. Daniel Shapiro**, a former professor of our very own, Dr. Melinda Westphalen. I look forward to learning new techniques for coaching our upper-level pianists within his Monday masterclass, along with hearing his dazzling concert on Monday evening. Additionally, we look forward to hearing from our other terrific presenters: Chris Goldston, Allison Chenoweth, Dr. Suzanne Torkelson, Nicole Messerschmitt, and Dr. Jason Sifford.

Of equal or perhaps even greater impact is the **professional and social networking opportunities that conferences provide.** Come meet your extended teacher support  
Spring 2023

group at our conferences. The conference provides for an abundance of time to relax from your teaching and performing and to be encouraged and catch up with other teachers, old and new friends alike! You can attend some (1 day attendance offered) or preferably all 3 days of the conference. **Bonus, students attend free. Please consider inviting or even bringing along with you a young professional in your area.**

Please see the complete conference schedule, invite, and registration form later in this magazine. **A HUGE thank you to the amazing conference planning team of Allison Chenoweth, Dr. Abbie Brewer, Dr. Melinda Westphalen, and the Cedar Rapids local music teacher association.** We deeply appreciate your organization and many hours of volunteered time to make our conference a success!

## Thank you to our outgoing IMTA executive board members!

- Local Associations chair: Dr. Sharon Jensen (becoming State President)
- 1st VP Auditions: Cate Bryan (becoming State Treasurer)
- Treasurer: Carroll Caruth
- Secretary: Margie Runaas
- Historian/Archivist: Judy Schliesman
- Advertising: Cyndie Caruth

Lastly, I wanted to say thank you to the IMTA membership and executive board for trusting me as your state President these last two years. I am honored to be able to give back to MTNA and to Iowa's wonderful music teachers that have helped make Iowa feel like my home. We will be in wonderful hands as the IMTA President's gavel is passed to Dr. Sharon Jensen at the June conference. She has a depth of leadership and a compassionate personality that will lead us well.

Remember, many hands make light the work. Please reach out to me or Sharon (sharonkjensenpiano@gmail.com) if you'd like to serve IMTA in any capacity.

See you in June!

## Plan to attend these business meetings at the IMTA conference:

As your president, I also wanted to remind you of the IMTA business that we conduct at the conference at several important events:

### Mon., June 5, 7:00-8:30 a.m.

Executive board breakfast meeting, Alumni House. If you are on the executive board, plan to attend this meeting and give a report.

### Mon., June 5, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

All IMTA membership banquet, Sinclair Auditorium. Come fellowship over delicious food and celebrate the IMTA award recipients.

### Tues., June 6, 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

All IMTA annual membership lunch meeting, Alumni House.



IMTA President

## Dr. Janci Bronson

imtapresident@gmail.com  
jbronson@iastate.edu

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[www.riemanmusic.com](http://www.riemanmusic.com)



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

## **IMTA Magazine Deadline**

**June 1, 2023**

Submit articles to [imtamagazine@gmail.com](mailto:imtamagazine@gmail.com)

Submit advertising to [imtaadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:imtaadvertising@gmail.com)

## **IMTA State Conference**

**June 4-6, 2023**

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Registration deadline: May 1, 2023. Registration is available in this issue or online at [iamta.org](http://iamta.org)

## **IMTA Scholarship Auditions**

**June 4, 2023**

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Available to high school seniors whose teachers are IMTA/MTNA members. Register at [iamta.org/scholarships.php](http://iamta.org/scholarships.php)

## **Honors Recital for all Winners of IMTA**

**Pre-college auditions and MTNA Iowa/State, Divisional, National winners**

**June 4, 2023**

Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 4:15 pm

## **\*Please Note\***

### **All Adjudicators Dues Deadline**

**July 1, 2023**

All adjudicators must pay dues on or before July 1, 2023 in order to be eligible to serve as an IMTA judge for the following season.

This is a June 2022 board ruling that takes effect in order to provide clarity for our chairpersons who begin securing judges in early summer. Only those who pay dues before July 1 will be listed on the probationary or permanent adjudicator's list.

# SUMMER PIANO CAMPS!



## **July 17-21, 2023**

**St. Ambrose University campus (Day Camp)**

Deadline: May 26, 2023

For more info: contact Dr. Marian Lee ([leemariany@sau.edu](mailto:leemariany@sau.edu)) or <https://www.sau.edu/piano-camp-2023>

## **June 18-23, 2023**

**University of Iowa Piano Camp**

(Equivalent repertoire to level D and above)

For more information contact Dr. Alan Huckleberry  
<https://iowasummermusiccamps.uiowa.edu>

## **Middle School June 11-17, 2023**

**High School June 18-24, 2023**

**Dorian Summer Camps**

Apply at

<https://www.luther.edu/music/festivals-camps/dorian-summer-camps>

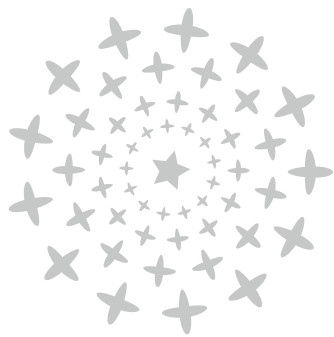
## **June 25-30, 2023**

**Wartburg Meistersinger Camp**

<https://www.wartburg.edu/camps/#allstatereg>

Contact Dr. Suzanne Torkelson with questions at  
[suzanne.torkelson@wartburg.edu](mailto:suzanne.torkelson@wartburg.edu)



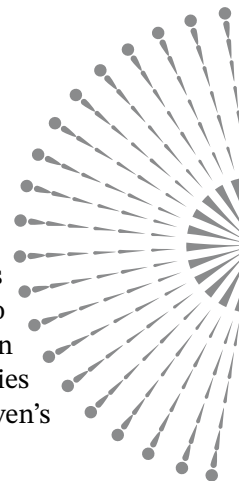


# IMTA

## State Conference

### at Coe College

## June 4-6, 2023



**T**he Cedar Rapids MTA and Coe College are looking forward to hosting the 2023 IMTA State Conference from June 4-6, 2023. Co-chairs Abbie Brewer, Allison Chenoweth and Melinda Westphalen, along with the Cedar Rapids MTA, are looking forward to sharing 3 days of learning and celebration with teachers from across the state.

All the events will take place in Coe's music building, Marquis Hall. The concerts will take place in Sinclair Hall, the performance venue for large ensembles and touring companies. Sinclair also houses Coe's 1929 E. M. Skinner Organ, one of the premier instruments of its kind in the nation. All other sessions will be held in Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium, the venue for solo recitals and small ensembles. Both performance venues house beautiful 9-foot Steinway grand pianos.

We are excited to welcome Christopher Goldston as our keynote speaker, who's Sunday opening session is titled "Continuing the Legacy: The Music of Christopher and Margaret Goldston." Goldston will discuss the launch of his new website and publishing company. Goldston will discuss the process of producing new publications as digital downloads for his website, as well as his use of social media and YouTube to continue the Goldston family legacy.

Sunday evening's popular "Iowa All-Stars in Concert" will feature all collaborative music! We hope you'll enjoy the variety of music featured in this concert. The 2023 commissioned composer piece from Aaron Israel Levin will also be debuted during this recital.

Our guest artist, Daniel Shapiro from the Cleveland Institute of Music, provide a masterclass for local advanced students (levels D, E and F), as well as a presentation on Tuesday. His playing will be showcased in Monday evening's recital.

To get a preview of some of Daniel's playing, you can search "Daniel Shapiro in Recital, Music from The Western Reserve" on YouTube. This concert series includes performances of Beethoven's complete 32 piano sonatas.

Dr. Julie Knerr-Hague, creator of the Piano Safari series, is our guest clinician. Julie will give presentations on Monday and Tuesday, on the topics of "Lost Gems of the Teaching Repertoire" and Thinking Deeply About Reading." We will also learn more about the Piano Safari series.

We are also excited to hear from Nicole Messerschmitt on her DMA topic of "Early Impressions from France," where Nicole will introduce repertoire and ideas for your elementary- and intermediate-level students to help them prepare to tackle the music of 20th-century France. Allison Chenoweth will present on "Using World Music Repertoire in the Studio," presenting new music focusing on musical traditions from around the world. You won't want to miss Suzanne Torkelson's presentation on Monday morning, when she will introduce new music to our state auditions repertoire list.

Our exhibit hall will feature West Music and Rieman Music, where you'll be able to purchase new music from the IMTA Auditions syllabus, as well as restock some familiar favorites. You'll also be able to learn more about "Keys to Imagination" with Michelle Sisler. She will demonstrate some of her games and other materials. You can preview her program and products at [www.keystoimagination.com](http://www.keystoimagination.com).

We hope you'll join for the Sunday evening picnic, Monday evening banquet, and Tuesday business luncheon. When you arrive a little early for cocktail hour on Monday, you'll



*See you in  
Cedar Rapids!*





# IMTA State Conference

have the opportunity to hear a small group of local musicians who will provide some light jazz music.

Box lunches will be available to order for Monday's lunch, as campus dining will not be open. If you'd prefer to go off-campus for lunch, check out the list of nearby restaurants close to campus.

Dorms will be available for those who wish to stay on campus. The cost for a single room is \$26 per night, and \$30 per night for a double room. A linens package is a separate charge for \$15 per person. We have blocked rooms at the Staybridge Hotel, a short drive from campus. A limited number of rooms are available at the conference rate of \$109 per night for a king room and \$129 per night for a double queen room. When you call to reserve, please mention the IMTA conference to receive the lower rate. The hotel can be reached at 319-294-8700.

We are looking forward to seeing you in a few short months!  
Abbie, Allison & Melinda

**See page 15 to register for the IMTA State conference, reserve your dorm room, and see meal options.**

**Other conference information:**

**Staybridge Hotel:** 319-294-8700 (Ask for the IMTA Conference rate. Reservations must be made over the phone to receive the discounted rate.)

**Off-campus dining within walking distance:**

Crab Attack Cajun Seafood Shack

Jimmy John's

Scooter's Coffee

Starbucks

Via Sophia's Italian Kitchen

Wendy's

**Off-campus dining within a 5-minute drive:**

La Casita Breakfast Café (open until 2:00)

Quarter Barrel Arcade and Brewery

Subway

Taco Bell

## Conference Co-Chairs

**Abbie Brewer** is an active teacher, pianist, and travel enthusiast based in Cedar Rapids.

She began studying the piano at the age of 8 in Nebraska. After moving to Iowa in junior high, she began performing as a collaborative pianist and continued through high school and three college degrees and to her current career: Assistant Professor of Music and collaborative pianist at Coe College. She has been praised for her thoughtful playing as well as for her confident, direct approach to teaching. Abbie is in demand as a pianist in the Cedar Rapids area and maintains a private piano studio.



Abbie Brewer

**Allison Chenoweth** received her Bachelor of Arts in Music and Anthropology from Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, IA in 2002, and her Master of Arts in Ethnomusicology from the University of Chicago in 2003. After teaching in the Chicago area, Allison moved back to the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area in 2004. In 2005, she began teaching piano full-time at West Music in Marion, IA with the Nancy Cree Keyboard Learning Center.



Allison Chenoweth

Allison is active in both her local association and with the state board. She has held the state board positions of MTNA

Foundation Chair, Vice President for State Membership/Mentorship Chair and Vice-President for State Auditions. She has also served as secretary, vice president and president of her local association. Allison frequently chairs her local association festival and auditions. She also holds the position of director of choir and handbells at her church.

Allison plays clarinet in the Cedar Rapids Community Orchestra, sitting as principal chair. She also enjoys attending local musical events in her free time.

**Dr. Melinda Westphalen** received her Bachelor of Music degree from Ohio Wesleyan University, where she studied with Professor Robert Lawrence. She went on to receive both her Master of Arts and Doctorate of Musical Arts degrees in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Iowa. Dr. Westphalen currently serves as Lecturer in Music on the Grinnell College Music Faculty; she teaches applied piano and keyboard harmony lab and serves as the department accompanist and student recital coordinator. She also holds adjunct positions at Coe College and Mt. Mercy University, teaching private and group piano, Music History, Intro to Music, and serves as collaborative pianist. She has previously taught at the Conservatory of Piano in Worthington, Ohio, and has been a Visiting Artist at Cornell College, and Music Critic for the Dorian Piano Festival at Luther College.



Melinda Westphalen



## Presenters & Performers

**Christopher Goldston** (b. 1972), Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, holds a master of music degree in piano performance and pedagogy from Northwestern University and a bachelor of music degree in piano performance from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. He has taught at Columbia College Chicago and Sherwood Conservatory of Music and currently maintains an independent studio in the historic Fine Arts Building in Chicago, in addition to teaching virtually. In 1991, Christopher received the National Federation of Music Clubs Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Award for his first composition, *"Night Train"*. Since then, he has written numerous pieces for piano, voice, and chamber ensemble, including his *"Thesis for Wind Quintet,"* which won the 1993 Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Composition Contest for North Carolina. He has compositions published by Alfred Music and the FJH Music Company. MTNA has commissioned Christopher for the Collaborative Music Commissioning Project for the 2022 MTNA National Conference.



*Christopher Goldston*  
*Keynote Speaker*

Christopher has been the national coordinator for the MTNA Composition Competition since 2010. He has also served as state and division coordinator for the competition. Christopher has been very active in the Chicago Area Music Teachers Association and has served in numerous roles, including president, and vice-president in charge of programs. He was member of the year in 2008. He also served as president for the Illinois State Music Teachers Association from 2018 to 2020. Christopher was named an MTNA Foundation Fellow in 2020, and is currently serving as MTNA National Secretary-Treasurer for the 2021-2023 biennium.

Christopher is also in demand as a clinician and guest artist. He has presented for music groups across the United States and has presented sessions at numerous MTNA state conferences, as well as at the MTNA national conference in Kansas City, Missouri, in 2004. His students have won local, state, and national composition competitions, including the 2016-2017 Young Artist winner for the MTNA Composition Competition.

**Dr. Julie Knerr Hague** teaches piano at her home studio in Windsor, Connecticut. Dr. Hague is a former faculty member at the Hartt School of Music Community Division, the University of Missouri, Oklahoma City University, and Ohio University, where she taught piano pedagogy, applied piano, and group piano to children and adults of all ages.



*Dr. Julie Kerr Hague*  
*Guest Recital Artist & Clinician*

Julie holds a PhD in Music Education with an Emphasis in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma, where her dissertation on elementary level piano technique was nominated for the Best PhD Dissertation Award in 2006. Additional degrees include MM degrees in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where Dr. Hague studied piano and harpsichord; and a BM in Piano Performance from the University of Puget Sound. Her mentors in Piano Pedagogy include Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast, Christos Tsitsaros, and Reid Alexander. She has been teaching private and group piano for 20 years.

Dr. Hague is coauthor with Katherine Fisher of the Piano Safari Method, and innovative piano method for beginners that combines learning by ear with learning to read music from the beginning of study. Launched in 2010, Piano Safari is now used by teachers and students throughout the United States and in 20 countries around the world. Together, Dr. Hague and Mrs. Fisher give presentations and lectures at national and regional conferences on various pedagogical topics.

**Daniel Sharpio** continues to gain recognition as a leading interpreter of Schubert, Beethoven, Mozart, Schumann, and Brahms, and as a teacher and coach at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He has given critically acclaimed performances across the United States, in Brazil, Britain, Ireland, Spain, France, Italy, Korea, and China, at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, and at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. This season he performs his third complete cycle of the 32 Beethoven piano sonatas; previous live performances of all the sonatas can be found on this website. His DVDs of all of Schubert's major piano sonatas and his CD of Beethoven's *"Diabelli"* Variations have received enthusiastic reviews.

# IMTA State Conference

He has taught at CIM for the past twenty-three years, during which time he has become known as an inspiring teacher who helps students achieve profound understanding and develop vivid interpretations of the great masterworks. His students have won important competitions and obtained teaching posts at prestigious universities and schools of music.



*Daniel Shapiro*  
*Guest Recital Artist & Clinician*

As a chamber musician, Shapiro has had the great fortune of collaborating with some of the world's leading musicians, including Jaime Laredo, Shmuel Ashkenasi, Joseph Silverstein, Cho-Liang Lin, Roberto Diaz, Ronald Leonard, Franklin Cohen and Frank Rosenwein. He has performed regularly with members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony and the Cleveland Orchestra. He has also performed with the Cavani, Mirò, Linden and Rossetti Quartets, and has released chamber music CDs on the Harmonia Mundi and ASV labels. His Beethoven sonata collaborations with violinist Jaime Laredo can be found on youtube.com.

His musical scope also includes the study of conducting: he has worked with Daniel Lewis, Victor Yampolsky, Fritz Zweig, and Gustav Meier. He made his conducting debut at sixteen at Tanglewood, and conducted Mozart's Don Giovanni with the Akron Lyric Opera.

His musicianship has been enhanced and deepened by extensive collaboration with singers: listening to and working with them has been a source of tremendous inspiration. He studied art song with Gwendolyn Koldofsky and opera with Natalie Limonick, and was an opera and art song coach at UCLA.

A native of southern California, Shapiro began the study of piano at the age of six. His teachers included Leon Fleisher, John Perry, Russell Sherman, Joanna Graudan, and Reginald Stewart. He studied at the University of Southern California and at the Peabody Conservatory, where he received his doctorate.

Shapiro is an expert Scrabble player--he is one of the top ranked players in Ohio, having won or placed in several tournaments. He lives with his family in Cleveland Heights.

An Iowa native, **Nicole Messerschmitt** teaches piano at Grinnell College, and



*Nichole Messerschmitt*

maintains a private studio in Iowa City. She also serves as a staff accompanist at Cornell College. Nicole holds degrees from the University of Iowa and Western Illinois University. She is currently finishing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy at the University of Iowa. She performs regularly in a wide variety of settings, and is particularly interested in twentieth-century French music. Her solo performances are featured in the independent film, *Last Chance Tango*.

**Dr. Suzanne Torkelson** is Professor of Piano at Wartburg College, as well as Director of the Tower School of Music, a program of pre-college students studying with Wartburg's student teachers. As past president of the Iowa Music Teachers Association (IMTA) and Repertoire Chairperson for the state of Iowa, she is actively involved in the professional field of piano pedagogy.



*Suzanne Torkelson*

She is a frequent speaker in the areas of piano performance and pedagogy and has received Master Teacher Certification from both MTNA and IMTA. During her many years as Iowa's Repertoire Chair, she published five editions of the IMTA Syllabus Repertoire List, as well as reviews of new music in the Iowa Music Teachers Magazine. Dr. Torkelson spent the 2016-2017 academic year on sabbatical, finishing the last of the eight levels of *Etudes with Technique*® series for FJH Music, and working in London at the Royal Academy of Music. She has served MTNA at all levels, most recently as West Central Division Director and on the national board of directors.

**Dr. Jason Sifford** is a freelance pianist, teacher, and composer with a wide range of abilities and interests. He teaches at Cornell College (Iowa), maintains a private teaching studio in Iowa City, and is in demand as an adjudicator and clinician, lecturing on such diverse topics as classical performance practice, jazz pedagogy, technical development in young pianists, composition, and music technology. He also appears regularly as a music director and theater musician. As a composer, Dr. Sifford is primarily interested in didactic literature for the piano, and his catalog includes several solo collections, a baroque suite, and arrangements of popular and traditional songs. His music is featured in the state syllabi for Iowa and Minnesota, the bulletin for the National Federation of Music Clubs, and the Royal Conservatory of Music (Canada). Dr. Sifford holds degrees from Missouri State University, Louisiana State University, and the University of Michigan.



*Jason Sifford*





# IMTA State Conference

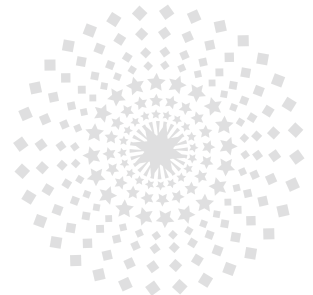
## Schedule

**June 4-6, 2023, Coe College, Cedar Rapids**

All the events will take place in Coe's music building, Marquis Hall.

### Sunday, June 4

11:30-3:30	Registration	Sinclair Auditorium Lobby
12:00-1:30	IMTA/West Music Scholarship Auditions	Sinclair Auditorium
2:00-2:50	<b>Opening Keynote Address: Chris Goldston</b> <b>Continuing the Legacy:</b> <b>The Music of Christopher and Margaret Goldston</b> Christopher Goldston is pleased to announce the launch of his new website and publishing company. Goldston Music is dedicated to the publication and promotion of the compositions by Christopher Goldston and the late Margaret Goldston. Christopher will discuss the process of producing new publications as digital downloads for his website, as well as his use of social media and YouTube to continue the Goldston family legacy.	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
3:00-3:50	<b>Opening Session: Allison Chenoweth</b> <b>Using World Music Repertoire in the Studio</b> Music from around the world is easier than ever to access and use in the studio. We will discuss new music publications and why it is important to include it in lessons.	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
4:15-5:30	Honors Recital—Cate Bryan	Sinclair Auditorium
5:30-7:00	Picnic	Alumni House
7:00-8:30	Iowa All-Stars in Concert Premiere of IMTA Commissioned Compositions Dr. Perry Mears, IMTA Commissioning Chair	Sinclair Auditorium
8:30	Reception <i>Sponsored by West Music</i>	Sinclair Lobby



### Monday, June 5

7:00-8:30	Executive Board Meeting	Alumni House
8:30-8:45	Registration	Marquis Hall, Room 105
8:45-10:15	<b>Presentation: Dr. Suzanne Torkelson</b> <b>New Music on the IMTA Repertoire List</b> Hear the newest repertoire to be added to the state Auditions syllabus.	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
10:15-10:30	Break/Exhibits	
10:30-12:00	Advanced Masterclass—Daniel Shapiro	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
12:00-12:30	Exhibits	Marquis Hall Room 102
12:30-1:30	Lunch	







## Schedule

### June 4-6, 2023, Coe College, Cedar Rapids

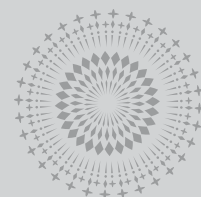
All the events will take place in Coe's music building, Marquis Hall.

#### Monday, June 5 continued

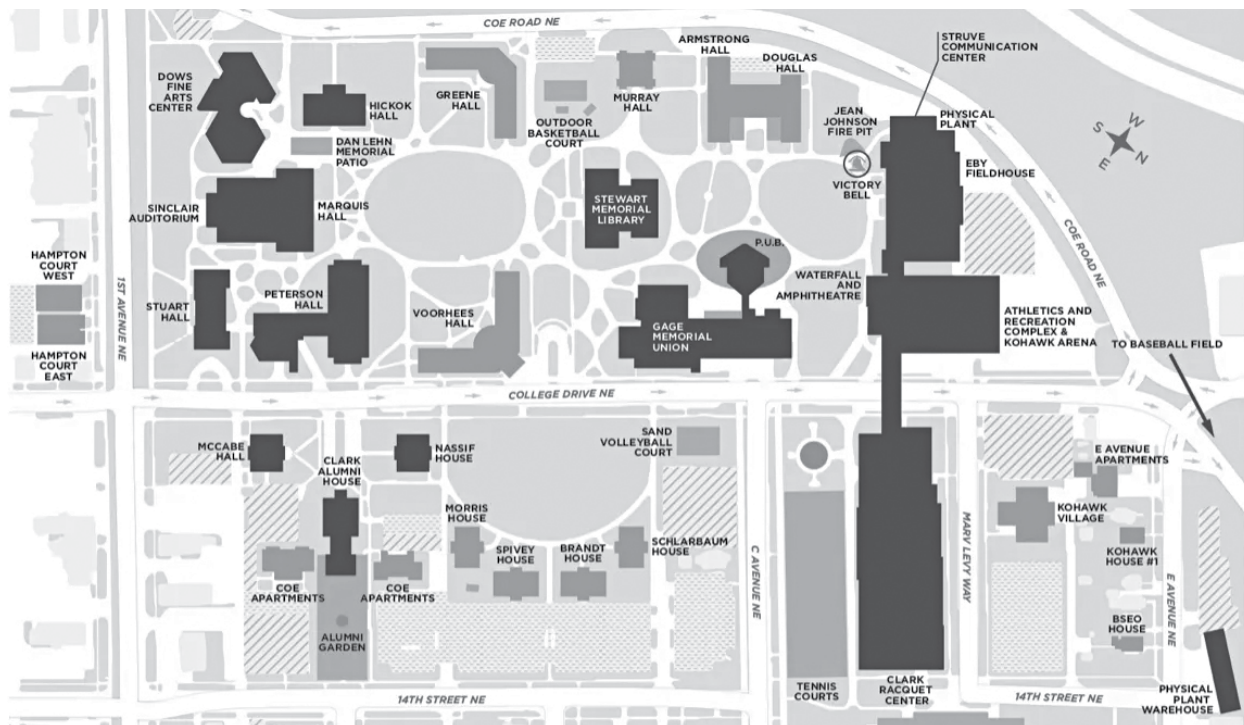
1:30-2:30	<b>Presentation: Julie Knerr Hague</b> <b>Lost Gems of the Teaching Repertoire</b> This session will present pieces that until now have been lost to history. Teachers will be inspired to expand their teaching repertoire as they hear some superb pieces by lesser-known composers. While continuing to teach the standard greats by Bach and Beethoven, students can also study great works by Battmann, Bonis, Boëly, and Birkedal-Barfod. The session will focus on repertoire at the elementary through early advanced levels.	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
2:30-2:45	Break	
2:45-3:45	Elementary Masterclass—Chris Goldston	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
3:45-4:00	Break	
4:00-4:45	<b>Presentation: Nicole Messerschmitt</b> <b>Early Impressions from France</b> Nicole will introduce repertoire and ideas for your elementary- and intermediate-level students to help them prepare to tackle the music of 20th-century France	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
4:45-5:00	Exhibits (close at 5:00)	Room 102
5:30-6:00	Cocktail Hour	Alumni House
6:00-7:15	Banquet	Alumni House
7:30-8:30	Conference Artist Recital featuring Daniel Shapiro	Sinclair Auditorium
8:30	Reception <i>Sponsored by Rieman Music</i>	Sinclair Lobby

#### Tuesday, June 6

7:30-8:45	Local Association Breakfast	Alumni House
9:00-10:00	<b>Presentation: Julie Knerr Hague</b> <b>Thinking Deeply About Reading</b> Are students really reading notation? Or have they formed false assumptions about reading? Teaching students to read notation is a complicated process that takes an extended period of time. In this session, we will explore four ingredients that are necessary for laying to solid foundation in reading music notation.	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
10:00-10:30	Break/Exhibits	Marquis Hall Room 102
10:30-11:30	Presentation-Daniel Shapiro	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium
11:45-1:15	Business Meeting Lunch	Alumni House
1:30-2:30	<b>Tech Presentation—Jason Sifford</b> <b>Design it Yourself:</b> Tips and Tools for making your own posters, programs, and brochures	Daehler-Kitchin Auditorium



# IMTA State Conference



| COMMISSIONING NEWS |

## LEVIN IS COMMISSIONED COMPOSER



IMTA Commissioning Chair

**Dr. Perry Mears**

imtacommissioning@gmail.com



*Aaron Israel Levin, 2023 IMTA Commissioned Composer*

**W**e are looking forward to the premiere of our 2023 IMTA commissioned piece at the State Conference on June 4th at Coe College. The new, untitled work, by Aaron Israel Levin, will be performed by our own Dr. Melinda Westphalen. The chance to hear the first

performance of this exciting piece is yet another reason to make plans to attend the 2023 IMTA State Conference.

The process for selecting the 2024 commissioned composer will begin in July. Information about the application and submission process will be available on the IMTA website beginning in late June. If you have composer friends with ties to Iowa, please encourage them to submit sample works at that time.

Lastly, we would like to encourage you and your local chapter to donate specifically to this commission. While MTNA pays a portion of the commission fee, and the Iowa Composers Forum subsidizes the first performance, we believe that the work of our commissioned composers merits a higher stipend than is currently on the books. Please consider supporting this work this year and into the future.

As always, if you have questions about the commissioning process, or want more information about past or future commissions, please reach out to me. I'm always happy to talk about new music!

## Registration

June 4-6, 2023, Coe College, Cedar Rapids

### Conference Registration Options

Full Conference – 3 Days	\$110.00	\$ _____
Full Conference – First- time attendees - 3 days	\$80.00	\$ _____
Full Conference – Students – 3 day	No Fee	\$ _____
Single Day Registration Fee (per day)	\$55.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday		
Late Registration Fee if postmarked after May 1	\$30.00	\$ _____
Conference Registration Total:		\$ _____

### Housing Option

Dorms: Single room <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Monday	\$26/night	\$ _____
Double room <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Monday	\$30/night	\$ _____
Optional linens package: includes sheets, pillow, blanket & towels	\$15/person	\$ _____
Roommate Request: _____		
Housing Total:		\$ _____

### Meal Options

Sunday Evening Backyard Cookout	\$18.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Veggie burger requested		
Monday Breakfast Buffet	\$15.00	\$ _____
Monday Box Lunch Sandwich, potato salad, cookie, beverages	\$13.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Veggie Option requested		
Monday Evening Banquet	\$26.00	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanese Airline Chicken		
<input type="checkbox"/> Apple Cider Glazed Pork Tenderloin		
<input type="checkbox"/> Penne Pasta with Asparagus and Fontina (vegetarian)		
Tuesday Local Assn./Certification Breakfast	\$10.00	\$ _____
Tuesday Business Mtg. Buffet	\$18.00	\$ _____
Meal Total:		\$ _____
Total Enclosed:		\$ _____

Registrations must be postmarked by **May 1** to avoid the late registration fee. If you register online, checks must be postmarked to Allison Chenoweth by the deadline date of May 1. Registration Refunds: Fees will be refunded in full until May 1. Refunds less \$30.00 will be given until May 15. No registration refunds after May 15.

**MAIL TO:**  
**Allison Chenoweth**  
**1108 23rd St SE**  
**Cedar Rapids, IA 52403**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO IMTA**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

IMTA Member: ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ I am nationally certified  
☐ This is my first IMTA Conference

# *Keys to Excellence*

## Piano Series 2022-2023



**Sławomir Dobrzański** – Kansas State University

Masterclass: October 2 @ 4:00pm

Concert: October 3 @ 7:30pm



**Nicholas Roth** – Drake University

*Sally B. Bartlett Memorial Concert*

November 28 @ 7:30pm



**Wei-Yi Yang** – Yale University

Masterclass: February 5 @ 4:00pm

Concert: February 6 @ 7:30pm



**Nadia Weintraub** – Israel

Masterclass: April 23 @ 4:00pm

Concert: April 24 @ 7:30pm

All events in Sheslow Auditorium

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- // Music

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Keyboard Education  
Bachelor of Arts in Music  
Minor in Music  
Possible lessons for non-major

## FACULTY MEMBERS

Dr. Mei-Hsuan Huang (Piano Performance)  
Dr. Janci Bronson (Piano Pedagogy)  
Dr. Tin-Shi Tam (Carillon)  
Dr. Miriam Zach (Organ and Harpsichord)

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[music.iastate.edu](http://music.iastate.edu)

The Department of Music and Theatre congratulates Dr. Janci Bronson as she begins her term as President of the Iowa Music Teachers Association.



**MEI-HSUAN  
HUANG**

piano performance



**JANCI  
BRONSON**

piano pedagogy



**MIRIAM  
ZACH**

harpsichord,  
organ



**TIN-SHI  
TAM**

carillon

# HELP FOR SALE

In the last few years, a large number of consultants have appeared, promising to help creatives and teachers take their businesses to the next level. Some of these services are completely legitimate and run by teachers looking to share their expertise and experience. Others seem designed to convince teachers to part with their money in return for a polished, pre-packaged version of conventional wisdom.

I took a few of these consultants up on their offer of a free trial consultation and learned a great deal about this relatively new industry works. Here's what I learned:

## **There are No Guarantees**

First, no consultant can promise that they'll be able to make you any money. What they can promise is that they'll be there for you. This could mean a phone call or Zoom meeting, or access to a special website or social media group where you can interact with them and their other clients. Sometimes they'll offer online classes with varying levels of support. These could be live or in-person and may or may not be interactive. Regardless, it's important to know what the consultant is actually promising. Their marketing may say "a proven system to generate six figures for your teaching business," but that could just mean they'll let you watch a video of them explaining how they helped one person accomplish that. (And this may or may not be relevant to your situation.)

## **Costs Vary Widely**

Second, the costs of these services can run anywhere from \$100 to \$4000. Often, the more expensive services are aimed at music school owners who already generate considerable revenue. The less expensive options may be every bit as good (or better), but aimed at single-teacher studios instead. Here, you have to weigh the potential benefits. Consider this – if a \$200 consulting fee helps you land two new students that you wouldn't have otherwise found, then you could easily recoup that fee

in one month – totally worth it! If a \$1000 consulting fee helps land you ten students, then that too could pay for itself within a month. The question is, do you have the money up front and are you willing to take the risk?

## **You Still Have to Do the Work**

And third, you still have to do the work. This is something we're already familiar with. We can give our students great advice, hold them accountable in weekly lessons, and offer opportunities for them to grow and learn, but they still have to sit down at the piano and do the work! Those who benefit most from consulting services are often those who are already have the time, energy, and motivation to do the work but who need someone to go to for advice and accountability.

## **How Do I Find a Good Consultant?**

If you've been intrigued by the idea of hiring a consultant or taking an online class to grow your studio, I'd highly recommend exploring established and popular websites, blogs, podcasts, and Youtube channels. These creators have often already established themselves as experts in the field, and you can often check out their free offerings to see if they might be the right fit for you.



**IMTA State Technology Chair**

**Dr. Jason Sifford, NCTM**  
 imtatechnology@gmail.com



# RECOGNIZING OUR OUTSTANDING IOWA NCTM TEACHERS



IMTA Certification Chair

**Linda Allebach, NCTM**  
imtacertification@gmail.com

Explore your own path to certification! Linda is there to guide you as well as connect you with others who are undertaking this professional journey. Contact her today!

It's a special time of year for the Iowa Music Teachers Association. After Auditions comes a new season of planning and new music for our students. Spring Break means a well-deserved week off from teaching and maybe a vacation. Perhaps several of us were able to attend the MTNA Convention in Reno, Nevada. It's just a special time of year!

*For those of us who value the National Certification of Music Teachers program, it means that we honor one Iowa teacher who has done so much for our local and state organization.* Let's not take for granted those who have a talent for teaching as well as organizing and sharing their gifts with others.

We would love to receive a letter from every local in Iowa nominating a NCTM teacher from their club! Writing not only about degrees and accomplishments in the nominees' field but leadership examples throughout your community would be a good start for this letter. Expressing our appreciation for their work through a nomination is one way we can continue to thank our NCTM members and encourage others to get Nationally Certified.

How about it? Write that letter today and email or mail it to me by May 1st. Make your local club more visible in the state and highlight the great work of a NCTM teacher by simply writing a letter of nomination. Thank you!



STEINWAY & SONS

Steinway has announced the **Top Teacher** awards recognizing the following educators for their excellence in teaching and community service.

Those awarded for the 2022 year were as follows:

Allison Chenoweth  
Mei-Hsuan Huang  
Nancy Cree  
Tina Chapman  
Jason Sifford

Barb Michaelson  
Chuck Michaelson  
Judy Schliesman  
Amy Jo Wrobel  
Cyndie Caruth

Congratulations to these teachers for their continued hard work and dedication!



# MUSIC AT AUGUSTANA

**For more information on music degrees, areas of study, scholarship audition dates, and scheduling a campus tour, please visit: [www.augustana.edu](http://www.augustana.edu)**

**Music scholarships** – \$1,000-\$4,000 annually for students of any major

**Carl B. Nelson Music Education Bonus Scholarship** – \$500 additional scholarships annually for students majoring in music education

**Augie Choice** – \$2,000 to support hands-on learning, such as international study, research or an internship.

**Augustana College**

**Augustana College Department of Music**  
639 38th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201-2296  
**800-798-8100 x7233**

# SPRING TREASURER'S REPORT



**Carroll D. Caruth**  
imtafinance@gmail.com

Balances as follows: 3/10/23

Checking:	\$31,248.50
Scholarship Account:	\$6,303.04
CD Balance:	\$37,911.29

The Biennial Report for the State of Iowa was filed early March to the Secretary of State. This report helps keep our status as a 501c3 non-profit entity. This will need to be renewed in 2025.

On January 11, 2023, the CD's held at Veridian Credit Union were combined to a single CD and renewed for 9 months at a considerably higher rate of 4% APR. These are paid quarterly with the first dividend on March 31st. Thank you for your support and hope to see you at Coe College in June.

As always I welcome any comments or concerns. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

**Carroll Caruth**  
IMTA Treasurer  
515-577-8863  
2105 NW Pleasant Street  
Ankeny, Iowa 50023

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### 2022-23 Scholarship Audition dates

**December 10, February 25, April 1,**  
or by appointment.

**Optional-** schedule a weekday audition or  
send in your audition through YouTube.

To schedule your  
**Music Scholarship Audition**  
or for more information please contact:  
music@sau.edu 563-333-6146

**www.sau.edu/music**



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# From the Past

## 1990 STATE CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

by Amy Mulford

It all started on the drive back from Storm Lake to Iowa City after the 1989 Convention. Catherine Burke, Ruth Lutz and I had been informed by our President, Dee Matthiessen, that we would be on the steering committee for the 1990 Convention--it seemed a perfect time to bounce ideas around. Sharon Kay Stang and Mary Beth Barteau were added to the committee and with the guidance of our Chairperson, Carole Thomas, and President Dee, it all came together.

All seemed to be going smoothly until we were informed that the School of Music would be closed for repairs for the entire summer! Alas, what to do! President Dee contacted other possible colleges in this part of the state to see if one of them could host the convention. It was too late--their calendars had been set for those dates. But clinicians had been contacted for the program and I had made arrangements for housing and meals so we had to move ahead. I contacted the University Memorial Union and found a room that would seat 120--the Terrace Room seemed to meet our needs if we were willing to give up having a stage. What we thought would be a

handicap actually turned out to be a plus; everything was under one roof.

Dr. Marvin Thostensen led off the Convention at 9:30 a.m. with several suggestions on teaching theory to our students. We were off to a flying start!

Tony Caramia, clinician for the University of Illinois at Champagne-Urbana, gave a fascinating session on Jazz Piano Styles. His specific hints for teaching the jazz style such as tempo, accents, articulation, grace notes and many other helpful ideas were enlightening. The afternoon session was devoted to teaching beginning improvisation. Mr. Caramia used a 4th grade student in the audience to demonstrate how you begin this process. He really inspired the student. She went home and found she could produce amazing sounds! The session ended with a thirty-minute recital of jazz and ragtime that received a wonderful response.

Dr. Joel Brown had the next session on Teaching the Bach Inventions. Don't start them too early and expect an average student to work on one for four or five months to achieve a good performance was one of his points.

Scholarship Auditions had a large group of entries this year. The first place winner was Matthew Brady, piano (student of Mary Beth Barteau). Second place winner was Kate Kloss, voice (student of Karla Goettel).

Carole Thomas delighted us all with a presentation of New Music for the Intermediate Pianist.

The Keynote Address was given by Dr. Richard Slaven, Supt. of Schools in Ohio. He gave us a very thought-provoking session that made us realize what an opportunity we have to touch our students' lives. We can give them a vision of what they can be and, most important, praise them when they are successful.

Dr. Kenneth Amada gave us his ideas on how to teach our students to practice. The statement "There is no such thing as full speed practice" will be shared with all of our students!

The honors recital was wonderful with 24 students performing. This truly made us aware of what IMTA is all about.

The Independent Music Teachers Forum Breakfast was tasty and the discussions were informative. Each table was given a topic to discuss and report on. (See Mary Miller's article elsewhere in this issue.)

A continuation from last year's program on Judging a Student Performance was helpful to all teachers in preparing students for auditions as well as giving ideas to those teachers who will be doing the judging. The judges were Sue Hudson,

Patricia Medley and Suzanne Torkelson.

We had two wonderful recitals. The Thursday evening recital was presented by several members of the University of Iowa School of Music. They performed on viola, violin, cello, clarinet and piano. Included was the premier performance of "Six Afterludes for Piano for Four Hands" by Eric Zioleck. It was performed by Carole Thomas and Mary Beth Barteau. This was our commissioned work for the year and will become an entry for the National Composer of the Year Award for 1991--we all enjoyed the composition and wish it further success. The Friday evening recital was given by Uriel Tsachor, a visiting professor at the University of Iowa. It was a beautiful performance by an artist who has performed as a soloist as well as with major symphonies in Europe and the United States.

The banquet in the lovely Triangle Club room with background music by Jim Hall, piano, and Ron Rohovit, bass, was a highlight. The award of the year was presented to Marie Barta (accepted by Ann Barry due to Marie's illness) by our President, Dee Matthiessen.

It seemed everyone left the Convention saying such things as "best ever," but we know we will be singing that same refrain next year at Cedar Falls too--it seems to happen every year! If you haven't attended an IMTA State Convention, please try it next year. Where else can you gain new ideas to help you become a better teacher, see old friends and make new ones, be entertained and enjoy eating out for three days! See you in Cedar Falls in 1991!



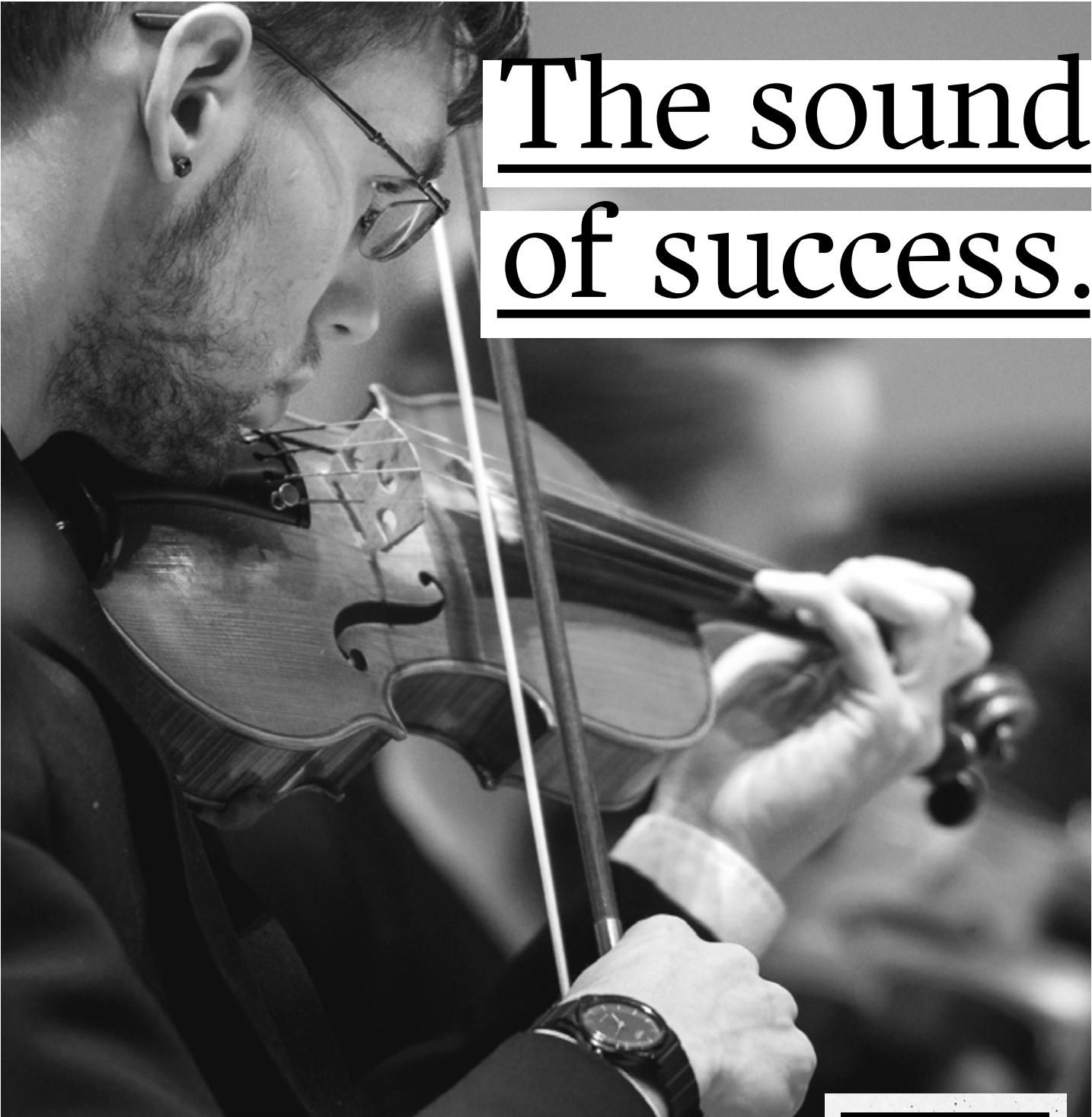
Tony Caramia led a session on jazz piano styles.

### AUTHOR'S CORNER



Amy Mulford





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**MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP  
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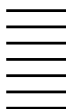
February 3rd, 2023  
February 10th, 2023

**Drake**  
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Department  
of Music

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23\_0091



# TERRACE HILL PIANO COMPETITION

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED



**Junior Competition:** 3rd place winner, Zoe Podlich, 1st place Hannah Cotran, 2nd place winner Anna Lu, THEMA chair, Dr. David Piersel.



**Senior Competition:** Kevin Reynolds, Iowa's First Gentleman; 1st place winner Aidan Makeeff; 2nd Place winner Dino Vallem; 3rd place winner Angelina Chen; Dr. David Piersel, THEMA chair.

The annual Terrace Hill Piano Competition was held Saturday, February 4th, in Maytag Auditorium at Iowa PBS, Johnston. Although the Senior-level competition is no longer televised, the partnership with Iowa PBS continues.

For the first time both the Junior and Senior levels were held the same day, with a full complement of entrants: twelve Junior contestants and six Seniors. This year's judge was Mary Beth Shaffer of Ankeny.

### Junior Competition Winners

Junior contestants who placed received cash prizes, courtesy of Jennon and Beth Caruth, Clarity Enrollment Solutions:

Winner: **Hannah Cotran**, Urbandale  
*Student of Cyndie Caruth*

Second Place: **Anna Lu**, Johnston  
*Student of Cyndie Caruth*

Third Place: **Zoe Podlich**, Johnston  
*Student of Pat Schroder*

Senior contestants who placed received two-year scholarships to enroll as a piano major or minor at any Iowa college or university, with the winner awarded "The First Family of Iowa" scholarship:

### Senior Competition Winners

First Place: **Aidan Makeeff**, Clive  
*Student of Dr. Nicholas Roth*

Second Place: **Dino Vallem**, Waterloo  
*Student of Dr. Ted Reuter*

Third Place: **Angelina Chen**, Ames  
*Student of Larisa Kanevski*

Details for the 2024 competition will be available no later than July 1, 2023, at the following web site: [terracehill.iowa.gov/thema](https://terracehill.iowa.gov/thema).

Appreciation and thanks is extended to supporters of the Terrace Hill Piano Competition:

Iowa PBS

West Music - annual major scholarship contribution

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines - sponsor for competition judge

Jennon & Beth Caruth, Clarity Enrollment Solutions - sponsor for Junior competition awards

Des Moines Music Teachers Association

Federated Music Club of Des Moines

Iowa Music Teachers Association

Music Teachers of Central Iowa



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

with Dr. Julie Knerr Hague

## Learning along the way

**Dr. Julie Knerr Hague** is the coauthor, with Katherine Fisher, of the *Piano Safari Method*. She teaches piano at her home studio in Connecticut. Julie taught applied piano, piano pedagogy, and group piano as a faculty member at the University of Missouri, Oklahoma City University, Ohio University, and the Hartt School Community Division.

Julie holds a PhD in Music Education with an emphasis in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma, where her dissertation on elementary level piano technique was nominated for the Best PhD Dissertation Award in 2006. Additional degrees include MM degrees in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a BM in Piano Performance from the University of Puget Sound. Her mentors in piano pedagogy include Jane Magrath, Barbara Fast, Christos Tsitsaros, and Reid Alexander.

As an accomplished collaborative pianist, Julie enjoys performing with both instrumentalists and singers. Her former piano teachers include Duane Hulbert, James Barbagallo, William Heiles, Timothy Ehlen, and Edward Gates.

Julie is a frequent lecturer and adjudicator at festivals throughout the United States. Her current research interests include elementary level piano technique, lesser known pre-college piano repertoire, and group piano pedagogy.

*Article by Dr. Julie Knerr Hague*

Teaching has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember in one form or another. When I was very young, I would “teach” the bears that lived in my doll house, arranging them in classes and calling on them to answer questions and sing songs. That was the start of my teaching career! Since those first steps, I have been blessed by many varied teaching influences that have guided me to the career I find myself in today as a teacher, author, researcher, publisher, composer, and church musician.

If one thinks of a “standard” path that might take a person from child to musician, one might imagine a series of excellent piano teachers, followed by college and graduate school classes, perhaps enhanced by teaching internships. And yet, as I look back on my own formative years, the influences that had the deepest impact on my musical life were much more subtle. I think of myself primarily as a teacher, author of curriculum, and researcher of pre-college piano literature, and over the years, pivotal influences have shaped me in my journey toward these focuses of my music career.

My mother was one of my first teaching influences. During my middle school years, I was granted leave during study hall to help my mother in her Kindergarten class. Helping her organize teaching materials and observing how she taught the children in her class was the highlight of my school day. Mom also shaped my first experiences with writing curriculum. She not only taught Kindergarten, but she also art to the upper grades. I remember fondly the hours I spent with her during the summers as she developed a high school art history curriculum. I assisted her with easy tasks, but looked back, I realize now that I absorbed so much that relates to my own work now as a method coauthor. Mom also provided my first taste of private teaching. The summer after ninth grade, she allowed me to tutor a few of her Kindergarten



students in reading. She suggested fun activities I could teach to the children, and I found that I absolutely loved helping children learn in creative ways.

Piano lessons were another highlight of my childhood. We had an antique upright piano in our house. It had chipped ivory keys that stuck in the summer, and a mouse lived under the piano! I started lessons at the age of six through a traditional Middle C method. I was a natural reader and became immediately adept at reading music notation. Sight reading has always been a joy. In fact, I still spend much of my time today reading through music for my research into lost composers from the past.

My parents took a hands-off approach to practicing, and I wish I had been more diligent in my practicing. However, I did make good use of the times I should have been practicing by climbing up to stand on the piano bench and change the records on the record player we kept on top of the piano. I was entranced by these recordings of Chopin, Beethoven, and Rachmaninoff Piano Concertos, Beethoven Symphonies, and other great works. Looking back, I realize now how formative these listening experiences were in my musical development.

As I graduated high school and headed to college, I knew I wanted to major in music, but exactly what my career path should be seemed murky. This was when another mentor reentered my life. From the ages of eight to ten, I had studied with an excellent teacher before our move from Connecticut to California, and I kept up a correspondence with her over the years. One day while I was in college, she sent me a brochure about piano pedagogy with a note that said she had thought of me when she saw it. I did not even know there was a branch of study called “piano pedagogy,” but I was intrigued by her suggestion.

I majored in Piano Performance at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. My college years were wonderful. I grew so much as a pianist and musician through excellent classes and professors, gained much experience as an accompanist, and developed lifelong friendships with fellow musicians. After I graduated, I was not sure what to do next. At that time, I was focused primarily on accompanying, but I did not yet have the confidence to successfully start auditioning for graduate school programs.

I decided to stay in Tacoma and teach piano, accompany for ballet classes, and play for singers and instrumentalists at the university. Teaching my very first piano lesson as a newly graduated musician was anything but auspicious. I was scheduled to travel to the little girl’s home to teach her lesson, but I realized just before it was time to leave that I had lost the piece of paper with the name, address, and phone number of my new student! In those days before cell phones and the internet, I flipped through the white pages in the phone book hoping to find their last name, which I was sure started with a “B,” to no avail. I had to wait until they called me to find out why I had not shown up as scheduled. I apologized profusely and rescheduled for the next week. Thankfully, this rocky start was not a sign of things to come, and I discovered that I loved teaching children and had a knack for it. I had found my niche. I started staying up late making teaching aids and worksheets to help my students progress in their piano journeys

and was always looking for ways to improve my teaching.

A few years later, another mentor entered my life, unbeknownst to her at the time. I decided to join MTNA and attended my very first state conference. At the conference, Dr. Jane Magrath lectured on intermediate piano literature. At one point, she said, “For time’s sake, we are going to skip over some of these pieces, since I am sure you already know them.” I thought, “Wait! I don’t know those pieces. I should know those pieces! I need to go to grad school and learn more!”

I was accepted into the graduate program at University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, and it was in the basement of the music library that another formative influence appeared. In the days before streaming services, we checked out CDs from the music library. On the desk at the checkout counter was a computer that had a database where we could search for CDs based on various criteria. I do not know why this database struck me as more interesting than a standard library catalog, but I was fascinated. I decided during my time in Illinois that I could do something similar, and my ambition became to create a database of all pre-college piano literature. This hobby has been a joy that has lasted with me to this day, and in the next few years, I hope to launch this searchable database of literature for public use by other teachers and students.

After two Masters degrees from the University of Illinois in piano performance and piano pedagogy, I headed to Oklahoma to work on my PhD in Music Education with an Emphasis in Piano Pedagogy. Dr. Magrath, who had unknowing launched my graduate school years through her lecture at the state conference, became one of my pedagogy professors, and I became her administrative assistant. This gave me valuable practice in administrative tasks and provided me with access to her extensive library of pre-college piano repertoire as another way to add to my repertoire database. Besides the wonderful classes and professors, I met numerous colleagues who helped me develop as a teacher and musician through our informal discussions in the Pedagogy Library. That little room was the focus of so much creative energy as we all congregated there between classes to discuss our teaching ideas and browse through materials.

One unusual but profound influence on my thoughts about teaching came from the School of Ballet at the University of Oklahoma. I had accompanied ballet classes to pay the bills since college days, but somewhere along the way I decided to start taking ballet classes myself as an adult beginner. Some teachers might have had the attitude that our classes were not very important, since we adult beginners had inflexible bodies and would likely never progress very far. However, I had one teacher who was a true pedagogue. She realized that we, even as adult beginners, wanted to be taught correctly, were eager to learn, and took ballet seriously both as an art form and as exercise. Her classes were intense, kind, and wonderful. I realized that regardless of innate ability, all students deserve good teachers who help them reach their goals and potential. I also recognized that the beginning stages of learning a skill are foundational. A teacher who understands how to best teach the fundamentals is crucial

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at the early stages of training. I discovered that I actually prefer teaching piano to beginners, as I find it endlessly fascinating to see how each individual student learns and to help students gain the skills that provide a solid foundation for their future work at the piano. These ideas also played a part in the careful planning that went into the creation of Piano Safari.

Perhaps the most influential person I met during my time at the University of Oklahoma was Katherine Fisher. Little did I know when we met in that first week in pedagogy class that we would become friends, business partners, and the creators of an internationally known piano method, Piano Safari. But when Katherine mentioned that she had always thought of writing a piano method, I realized I had also had this thought! We started sketching our initial ideas on scraps of paper over coffee at the campus cafe.

When the time came to choose my dissertation topic, I wanted it to write something that would be of practical use to teachers. I decided to study beginning-level technique because I did not feel I had adequate technical training growing up, which manifested in a lack of confidence in my playing. I also had many questions about how to better teach technique to my own students. During my dissertation and post-dissertation research, I interviewed and observed twelve well-known teachers of pre-college piano students from around the country about how they taught technique. I learned much about technique, but more about teaching! Observing these teachers changed everything about my teaching. Although the teachers came from various technical schools of thought and used a variety of methods and materials, they all had wonderful ideas that helped me grow and change immensely in my own teaching. Out of my dissertation research came the Seven Animal Techniques found in Piano Safari Level 1. I also began to incorporate more play and props (like stuffed animals) in my lessons with younger children, which greatly enhanced the joy in the lessons. And I became acquainted with the use of rote teaching in lessons.

Katherine and I had both taught a variety of the methods available on the market, and we knew we wanted to use an intervallic reading approach in Piano Safari, since we had both had much success with this reading approach as found in Frances Clark's Music Tree method. In order to add more exciting pieces to our step-by-step intervallic approach to the reading in Piano Safari, we decided to add some Rote Pieces for students to learn alongside their Reading Pieces. These Rote Pieces were specifically composed around keyboard patterns beginners could easily understand, such as groups of two and three black keys, the music alphabet, whole tone, and chromatic patterns. Just as young children can understand stories that are too difficult for them to read on their own, students can also play and understand music that is more difficult than they can read. These Rote Pieces are longer and more complicated than their short and simple Reading Pieces. Our goal was to include Rote Pieces that would be motivating and exciting for students to learn while they also work on basic reading skills in their Reading Pieces.

As we implemented this unique Rote plus Reading approach, we discovered that motivation is only one of the many benefits

of rote learning in piano lessons. Compared to our previous experience with only teaching reading, we found that the study of Rote Pieces helped students develop better rhythmic skills, technical fluency, confidence, and musical understanding. They also used the patterns from their Rote Pieces to create their own improvisations and pieces. The combination of teaching Rote and Reading from the beginning was a huge lightbulb moment in our teaching careers, and with the development of Piano Safari, many teachers and students have benefited from this blend of two historically separate approaches.

Between a dissertation (me), marriage and babies (Katherine), several university positions (me), and several moves (both of us), it took us ten years to develop Piano Safari Level 1 from its inception during graduate school to its current form. We initially wrote Piano Safari for use with our own students, but we found that other teachers were also interested in it. Neither of us had any preparation for starting a small business, and we have learned along the way the ins and outs of entrepreneurship. We are both incredibly blessed to have met each other and become such close friends as well as business partners. We both enjoy writing new materials, interacting with teachers around the world, and teaching our own students.



*Piano Safari was created by Julie Knerr Hague and Katherine Fisher*

Piano Safari has grown from Level 1 to three levels, and we have expanded the original core method with the addition of Piano Safari for the Older Student for older beginners and Piano Safari Friends for preschool students. We have begun work on the Advancing Pianist series for technique and sight reading beyond Level 3. Two large projects around the corner include the launch of our online pedagogy institute in August of this year and, in the future, a graded anthology series based music I have discovered from my repertoire database research.

As I look back on my music career, I see that seemingly small experiences, from assisting in my mom's Kindergarten class, to finding a database in the basement of a library, to a brochure in the mail from a former teacher, all had an incredible influence on my music career. It reminds me to be mindful in every interaction with my young students, as I may not know how a small interaction might have a profound influence on my students' future paths.

# STUDENTS PROGRESS DURING FESTIVAL SEASON

I blinked and Festivals are over. In fact, winter is almost over, and thank goodness! While I am tired of the illness and weather requiring me to reschedule numerous lessons in January and February, I can see how much progress each student has made this school year. If I tracked student progress since August on a chart I would see two spikes indicating a leap in growth for each student. The first progress spike came right after our IMTA Festival in December and the second spike came right before recital in January. I am sure many of you could say the same for your students' progress.

This year 247 students from across the state participated in IMTA Festivals. In 11 centers, 49 teachers participated and the centers ranged in size from only 1 teacher to as many as 12 teachers participating in the same event.

A few of the probationary judges adjudicated for several festivals, and two more teachers have completed the probationary judge's requirements. Those teachers are Dr. Xiao Hu

of Decorah and Dr. Vakhtang Kodanashvili from Cedar Falls. Congratulations! All of the new judges' names will appear on the IMTA Judges List for the 2023-2024 year.

If you are interested in being added to the list of judges, please complete the Probationary Judging Application and send it to me. Probationary Judges need to judge for three festival events and receive positive feedback from the festival chairs. Upon doing this they will be added to the IMTA Judges List the following July and will be able to adjudicate for Auditions.

To find the Probationary Judging Application, login to the [iamta.org](http://iamta.org) website. Then click on the gold "Adjudicators" tab. You will find the application as well as the Evaluation Form to be completed by a Festival chair after a festival event.

If you have questions about becoming a probationary judge, please feel free to contact me by email at [imtafestivals@iamta.org](mailto:imtafestivals@iamta.org) or phone 712-830-9239.



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## Council Bluffs

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS **RESULTS**

January 21, 2023 at New Horizon Presbyterian Church

Chair: Berneil Hanson Co-Chair: Julie Bond

Adjudicator(s): Maria Jacobsen, NCTM, Lisa Batten

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Keegan Meyer** (*Dianne Lawson*)

1st Alternate: **Imogene Griner** (*Sandra Peterson*)

Honorable Mention: **Ella Geier** (*Candace Sutter*)

Honorable Mention: **Dominic Jimenez-Maldonado** (*Julie Bond*)

Honorable Mention: **Paul Stevens** (*Nancy Schoen*)

Honorable Mention: **Grant Watson** (*Julie Bond*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Charlotte Cronin** (*Dianne Lawson*)

1st Alternate: **Landon Heino** (*Sandra Peterson*)

Honorable Mention: **Henry Conroy** (*Nancy Schoen*)

Honorable Mention: **Skyler Rauss** (*Candace Sutter*)

Honorable Mention: **Logan Taulborg** (*Candace Sutter*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Connor Lang** (*Julie Bond*)

1st Alternate: **Ash Lau** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Aaron Adkins** (*Julie Bond*)

Winner: **Braydon Fujan** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Bennett Lambelet** (*Bryan Stanley*)

1st Alternate: **Eric Scheutz** (*Bryan Stanley*)

Honorable Mention: **Emily Long** (*Kristin Taylor*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL **RESULTS**

### LEVEL B:

94% **Paul Stevens** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL B:

94% **Charlotte Cronin** (*Dianne Lawson*)

90% **Henry Conroy** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL C:

98% **Ash Lau** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL D:

96% **Lauren Walmrath** (*Debra Heald*)

94% **Braydon Fujan** (*Nancy Schoen*)

### LEVEL F:

100% **Bennett Lambelet** (*Bryan Stanley*)

92% **Eric Scheutz** (*Bryan Stanley*)



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# Des Moines/Ankeny IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS **RESULTS**

January 28, 2023 at Faith Baptist Bible College, Ankeny

Chair: Cyndie Caruth, Amy Jo Wrobel

Adjudicators: Dr. Suzanne Torkelson, Dr. Jason Sifford

## LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Elise Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Winner: **Mira Ye** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 1st Alternate: **Bella Ye** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 2nd Alternate: **Aria Smart** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Charlotte McClure** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Rebecca Ren** (Sue Hudson)  
 Honorable Mention: **Jason Shen** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Griffen Werstein** (Sarah Reeves)

## LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Aiden Feldmann** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Alternate: **Arnav Dervesh** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Nicholas Masumura** (Sue Hudson)

## LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Lisa Lu** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Alternate: **Cecelia Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Joanna Foo** (Sue Hudson)

## LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Anushka Dervesh** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Winner: **Becca Zhang** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Winner: **Isabelle Ryan** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 1st Alternate: **Aakansha Ganesh** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 2nd Alternate: **Olivia McClure** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 3rd Alternate: **Vincent Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Vivian Zhang** (Cyndie Caruth)

## LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Gwenyth Franczyk** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Alternate: **Duy Xuan Ha Duong** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Honorable Mention: **Taylor Leeds** (Cyndie Caruth)

## LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Duy Xuan Duc Duong** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Winner: **Chloe Liang** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 Winner: **Anna Lu** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 1st Alternate: **Aidan Makeeff** (Nicholas Roth)  
 2nd Alternate: **Hannah Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL **RESULTS**

## LEVEL A:

100% **Michael McGarry** (Bonnie Corron)  
 100% **Aria Smart** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 98% **Charlotte McClure** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 98% **Rebecca Ren** (Sue Hudson)  
 96% **Jason Shen** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 90% **Bella Ye** (Cyndie Caruth)

## LEVEL B:

98% **Aiden Feldmann** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 94% **Nicholas Masumura** (Sue Hudson)  
 90% **Kate Shi** (Sue Hudson)

## LEVEL C:

100% **Cecelia Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 94% **Alex Ren** (Sue Hudson)  
 92% **Joanna Foo** (Sue Hudson)  
 92% **Penelope Petsche** (Sue Hudson)

## LEVEL D:

100% **Anushka Dervesh** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 100% **James Foo** (Sue Hudson)  
 98% **Becca Zhang** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 96% **Vivian Zhang** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 92% **Sevey LeNeave** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 92% **Olivia McClure** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 92% **Tristan Rulli** (Nicholas Roth)  
 92% **Isabelle Ryan** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 90% **Aakansha Ganesh** (Cyndie Caruth)

## LEVEL E:

96% **Jenna McClain** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 94% **Ellen Eichstedt** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 94% **Gwenyth Franczyk** (Cyndie Caruth)

## LEVEL F:

100% **Sarah Eichstedt** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 100% **Adam Koch** (Sue Hudson)  
 98% **Hannah Cotran** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 98% **Chloe Liang** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 98% **Anna Lu** (Cyndie Caruth)  
 96% **Duy Xuan Duc Duong** (Cyndie Caruth)

## Des Moines Suburbs

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

January 21, 2023 at Grandview University

Chair: Galina Jarrell

Adjudicators: Dr. Melinda Westphalen, Rachel McCoy

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Aubrey Johnson** (*Catherine Bryan*)

Winner: **Colette Lam** (*Catherine Bryan*)

1st Alternate: **Evangeline Embree** (*Catherine Bryan*)

2nd Alternate: **Reece Sheriff** (*Catherine Bryan*)

Honorable Mention: **Ruby Cyr** (*Catherine Bryan*)

Honorable Mention: **Sadie Wang** (*Susan Kuyper*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Andy Nguyen** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

Winner: **Niharika Udipi** (*Irina Kaplan*)

1st Alternate: **Warren Place** (*Susan Kuyper*)

2nd Alternate: **Grace De Haan** (*Susan Kuyper*)

Honorable Mention: **Lydia Brock** (*Sherri Lauritsen*)

Honorable Mention: **Nolan Crockett** (*Catherine Bryan*)

Honorable Mention: **Vrishti Innanji** (*Cheryl Corbett*)

Honorable Mention: **Emma Whiting** (*Catherine Bryan*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Owen Heaston** (*Catherine Bryan*)

Winner: **Asher Palagummi** (*Timothy LaFleur*)

1st Alternate: **Ketziah Wittenberg** (*Susan Kuyper*)

2nd Alternate: **Lisa Zhang** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

Honorable Mention: **Stella Pothoven** (*Galina Jarrell*)

Honorable Mention: **Faith Eugenia Scott** (*Rosa Scott*)

Honorable Mention: **Mentari Yang** (*Galina Jarrell*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Bella De Haan** (*Susan Kuyper*)

Winner: **George Shcharansky** (*Galina Jarrell*)

Winner: **Isabelle Turner** (*Irina Kaplan*)

1st Alternate: **Marianne Rose Scott** (*Rosa Scott*)

2nd Alternate: **Amaney Kashoob** (*Galina Jarrell*)

3rd Alternate: **Rebekah Wittenberg** (*Susan Kuyper*)

Honorable Mention: **Alexandra Kosokina** (*Galina Jarrell*)

Honorable Mention: **Fiona Ladwig** (*Susan Kuyper*)

Honorable Mention: **Laura Streck** (*Judy Schliesman*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Kevin Chow** (*Irina Kaplan*)

Winner: **Vrishank Vennapusa** (*Galina Jarrell*)

1st Alternate: **Dheeraj Tunuguntla** (*Joy Rubenking*)

2nd Alternate: **Linda Lu** (*Patricia Schroeder*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Zoe Podlich** (*Patricia Schroeder*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A:

98% **Evangeline Embree** (*Catherine Bryan*)

98% **Reece Sheriff** (*Catherine Bryan*)

94% **Ruby Cyr** (*Catherine Bryan*)

94% **Oliver Hill** (*Kim Newhouse*)

94% **Colette Lam** (*Catherine Bryan*)

94% **Anna Thompson** (*Kim Newhouse*)

92% **Aubrey Johnson** (*Catherine Bryan*)

90% **Jaden Zheng** (*Marcia Hintz*)

### LEVEL B:

96% **Niharika Udipi** (*Irina Kaplan*)

92% **Grant Armitage** (*Kim Newhouse*)

92% **Nolan Crockett** (*Catherine Bryan*)

92% **Kaitlyn Weaver** (*Sherri Lauritsen*)

90% **Lydia Brock** (*Sherri Lauritsen*)

90% **Vrishti Innanji** (*Cheryl Corbett*)

### LEVEL C:

98% **Stella Pothoven** (*Galina Jarrell*)

98% **Mentari Yang** (*Galina Jarrell*)

96% **Owen Heaston** (*Catherine Bryan*)

94% **Ada Burns** (*Catherine Bryan*)

94% **Asher Palagummi** (*Timothy LaFleur*)

94% **Maddie Vowels** (*Judy Schliesman*)

90% **Paxton DeJong** (*Angela Binns*)

### LEVEL D:

98% **Rebekah Wittenberg** (*Susan Kuyper*)

96% **Isaiah Hartog** (*Timothy LaFleur*)

96% **Isabelle Turner** (*Irina Kaplan*)

94% **Alexandra Kosokina** (*Galina Jarrell*)

94% **George Shcharansky** (*Galina Jarrell*)

94% **Laura Streck** (*Judy Schliesman*)

### LEVEL E:

92% **Kevin Chow** (*Irina Kaplan*)

### LEVEL F:

94% **Zoe Podlich** (*Patricia Schroeder*)

## Cedar Rapids

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 3, 2023 at Coe College  
Chair: Amy Linville, Abbie Brewer

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Stella Luo** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
Winner: **Adam Mixdorf** (*Rebecca Nickles Mick*)  
1st Alternate: **Adley McFarland** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
2nd Alternate: **Sofia Cunningham** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
Honorable Mention: **Abraham Guerra** (*Devon Guerra*)  
Honorable Mention: **Ryker Marzen** (*Otto Getz*)  
Honorable Mention: **Emerick Wilcox** (*Leah Anderson*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Sapphire Gibbins** (*Amy Linville*)  
Winner: **David Rediger** (*Amy Linville*)  
1st Alternate: **Sally Owens** (*Sarah Drollette*)  
2nd Alternate: **Annabelle Bohn** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
Honorable Mention: **Rebecca Drollette** (*Sarah Drollette*)  
Honorable Mention: **Avery Messenger** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
Honorable Mention: **Fletcher Sams** (*Amy Linville*)  
Honorable Mention: **Liv Von Muenster** (*Amy Linville*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Aaron Bunjer** (*Amy Linville*)  
1st Alternate: **Elias Marshall** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
Honorable Mention: **Isabella Frese** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
Honorable Mention: **Courtlyn Morrissey** (*Amy Linville*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Elijah Dreyer** (*Otto Getz*)  
Winner: **Wren Rediger** (*Amy Linville*)  
1st Alternate: **Remi Wilcox** (*Rebecca Nickles Mick*)  
2nd Alternate: **Claire Gladish** (*Leah Anderson*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Acacia Coates** (*Sarah Bunjer*)  
Winner: **Jayce Hingtgen** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
1st Alternate: **Grace Luo** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
2nd Alternate: **Ella Adolphs** (*Leah Anderson*)  
Honorable Mention: **Ella Wallis** (*Otto Getz*)  
Honorable Mention: **Lilly Womersley** (*Otto Getz*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Joslynn Ovel** (*Amber Riggenbach*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A:

98% **Stella Luo** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
96% **Sofia Cunningham** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
96% **Adley McFarland** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
94% **Brianna Bohn** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
92% **Adam Mixdorf** (*Rebecca Nickles Mick*)

### LEVEL B:

98% **Fletcher Sams** (*Amy Linville*)  
96% **Aaron Fuemmeler** (*Rebecca Nickles Mick*)  
94% **Sapphire Gibbins** (*Amy Linville*)  
94% **Avery Messenger** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
94% **Alaina Parker** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
92% **David Rediger** (*Amy Linville*)  
92% **Liv Von Muenster** (*Amy Linville*)  
90% **Sally Owens** (*Sarah Drollette*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Simeon Junk** (*Otto Getz*)  
98% **Aaron Bunjer** (*Amy Linville*)  
98% **Elias Marshall** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
98% **Everett Sams** (*Amy Linville*)  
94% **Isabella Frese** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
94% **Cora Von Muenster** (*Amy Linville*)  
92% **Hayley Morris** (*Allison Chenoweth*)

### LEVEL D:

98% **Daniel Drollette** (*Sarah Drollette*)  
98% **Wren Rediger** (*Amy Linville*)  
96% **Caden Messenger** (*Allison Chenoweth*)  
94% **Stefan Happel** (*Otto Getz*)  
92% **Henry Granger** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
92% **Remi Wilcox** (*Rebecca Nickles Mick*)  
90% **Elijah Dreyer** (*Otto Getz*)

### LEVEL E:

98% **Victoria Brewster** (*Amy Linville*)  
96% **Ella Adolphs** (*Leah Anderson*)  
96% **Jayce Hingtgen** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
96% **Grace Luo** (*Melinda Westphalen*)  
94% **Acacia Coates** (*Sarah Bunjer*)  
90% **Janie Owens** (*Sarah Drollette*)

### LEVEL F Results:

92% **Joslynn Ovel** (*Amber Riggenbach*)



## Ames

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

January 28, 2023 at Iowa State University, Simon Estes Music Hall, Ames

Chair: Nai-Ying Liao, Paula Forrest

Adjudicators: Nicholas Roth, Sharon Jensen, Tim La Fleur, Diane Smith

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Viviana Zwingelberg** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Alternate: **Atesh McKilligan** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **Jailine Luo** (*Cindy Lin*)

Honorable Mention: **Ian Wang** (*Ann Wong*)

Honorable Mention: **Hanshu Zhang** (*Paula Forrest*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Vitalina Zwingelberg** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Alternate: **Sam Yao** (*Ann Wong*)

Honorable Mention: **Katie Chen** (*Ann Wong*)

Honorable Mention: **Sophia Li** (*Cindy Lin*)

Honorable Mention: **Wilbert Zhang** (*Cindy Lin*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Emma Ke** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Winner: **Isaac Wang** (*Paula Forrest*)

1st Alternate: **Emma Jiang Chen** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

2nd Alternate: **Annie Yeh** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **William Glasnapp** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **Jennifer Ji** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **Masha Kovnir** (*Paula Forrest*)

Honorable Mention: **Drake Wang** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **Ethan Wang** (*Ann Wong*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Claire Lu** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Winner: **Amelia Luo** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

1st Alternate: **Lucas Du** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

2nd Alternate: **Raylene Chen** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

Honorable Mention: **Tiffany Fang** (*Paula Forrest*)

Honorable Mention: **Chloe Lee** (*Paula Forrest*)

Honorable Mention: **Anneka Singh** (*Paula Forrest*)

Honorable Mention: **Alyssa Zheng** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Amaya Dassanayake** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

Winner: **Emma Zheng** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

Winner: **Adam Zhu** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

1st Alternate: **Grace Wu** (*Paula Forrest*)

2nd Alternate: **Gretchen Mizerak** (*Janci Bronson*)

3rd Alternate: **Akshay Sarda** (*Paula Forrest*)

Honorable Mention: **Sophia Kyveryga** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

Honorable Mention: **Lynda Sun** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Helen Mao** (*Mei-Hsuan Huang*)

Winner: **Devon Tsia-Olson** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

1st Alternate: **Minerva Cao** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

2nd Alternate: **Lizzie Deng** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

Honorable Mention: **Laura Chen** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

Honorable Mention: **Jonathan Stoker** (*Mei-Hsuan Huang*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A:

100% **Hanshu Zhang** (*Paula Forrest*)

98% **Atesh McKilligan** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Viviana Zwingelberg** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

### LEVEL B:

94% **Tiffany Zhou** (*Paula Forrest*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Emma Jiang Chen** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

100% **William Glasnapp** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Cece Fulton** (*Paula Forrest*)

98% **James Huang** (*Paula Forrest*)

98% **Jennifer Ji** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Emma Ke** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Masha Kovnir** (*Paula Forrest*)

98% **Drake Wang** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Iris Wang** (*Paula Forrest*)

96% **Chloe Lu** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

96% **Harry Wang** (*Ann Wong*)

94% **Daniel Carlson** (*Michiyo Nakatani*)

94% **Elliott Coffey** (*Michiyo Nakatani*)

94% **Isaac Wang** (*Paula Forrest*)

92% **Asher Reuel** (*Michiyo Nakatani*)

92% **Annie Yeh** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

90% **Ethan Wang** (*Ann Wong*)

### LEVEL D:

100% **Sunney Que** (*Paula Forrest*)

98% **Amelia Luo** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

96% **Tiffany Fang** (*Paula Forrest*)

94% **Claire Lu** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

92% **Anneka Singh** (*Paula Forrest*)

92% **Alyssa Zheng** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

90% **Anna Mussig** (*John Devlin*)

### LEVEL E:

100% **Adam Zhu** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

98% **Gretchen Mizerak** (*Janci Bronson*)

98% **Laurel Mizerak** (*Janci Bronson*)

98% **Lynda Sun** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

98% **Grace Wu** (*Paula Forrest*)

## AMES THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS CONTINUED

96% **Sophia Kyveryga** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

94% **Chloe Berns-Schweingruber** (*Michiyo Nakatani*)

92% **Amaya Dassanayake** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

92% **Mick Wu** (*Ann Wong*)

90% **Akshay Sarda** (*Paula Forrest*)

### LEVEL F:

100% **Lizzie Deng** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

100% **Mengze Li** (*Paula Forrest*)

100% **Helen Mao** (*Mei-Hsuan Huang*)

100% **Devon Tsia-Olson** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

98% **Siray Zhu** (*Nai-Ying Liao*)

96% **Sarah Yao** (*Ann Wong*)

94% **Minerva Cao** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

94% **Laura Chen** (*Larisa Kanevski*)

94% **Jonathan Stoker** (*Mei-Hsuan Huang*)

90% **Sherry Wang** (*Ann Wong*)

## SEIMTA Mt. Pleasant

## IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 3, 2023 at Iowa Wesleyan University

Chair: Katie Hoth

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Jane Dameron** (*Alyssa Wagler*)

Alternate: **Hadley Schrader** (*Alyssa Wagler*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Abigail Henriksen** (*Robin Henriksen*)

Alternate: **Ella Joyce** (*Katie Hoth*)

Honorable Mention: **Ava Granquist** (*Katie Hoth*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Abraham Antonio** (*Lise Marcell*)

Alternate: **Zachary Joyce** (*Katie Hoth*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A :

94% **Hadley Schrader** (*Alyssa Wagler*)

### LEVEL C:

94% **Abraham Antonio** (*Lise Marcell*)

90% **Zachary Joyce** (*Katie Hoth*)

## Lamoni/Osceola

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 11, 2023 at Graceland University, Lamoni

Chair: Sarah Hostetler

Adjudicator: Rebecca Nickles Mick

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Jocelyn Wells** (*Lois Selby*)

1st Alternate: **Cooper McConnell** (*Lois Selby*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Gabe Neely** (*Sarah Robinson*)

1st Alternate: **Ty Borner** (*Sarah Robinson*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Isaiah Cirligel** (*Lois Selby*)

1st Alternate: **Payton Banks** (*Lois Selby*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Luke Miller** (*Sarah Robinson*)

1st Alternate: **Elaina Labertew** (*Sarah Robinson*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A:

94% **Cooper McConnell** (*Lois Selby*)

### LEVEL B:

92% **Gabe Neely** (*Sarah Robinson*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Isaiah Cirligel** (*Lois Selby*)

### LEVEL E:

96% **Elaina Labertew** (*Sarah Robinson*)

94% **Luke Miller** (*Sarah Robinson*)

## SLAMTA (STORM LAKE)

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 11, 2023 at St. John Lutheran, Storm Lake

Chair: Jeanette Hinkeldey

Adjudicator: Bruce Perry

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Collin Wirtz** (*Marilee Kleespies*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Alivia Glienke** (*Jeanette Hinkeldey*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Honorable Mention: **Zachary Renner** (*Suzanne Winterhof*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A :

100% **McKenna Mills** (*Suzanne Winterhof*)

94% **Will Phillips** (*Marilee Kleespies*)

90% **Collin Wirtz** (*Marilee Kleespies*)

### LEVEL E:

96% **Miranda Mills** (*Suzanne Winterhof*)



## Mason City

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS **RESULTS**

February 3, 2023 at NIACC, Mason City

Chair: Gail Morris

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Anna Du** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

1st Alternate: **Nora Carlsson** (*Melissa Phillips*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Nathaniel McInroy** (*Vicki Hoffman*)

1st Alternate: **Elena O'Keefe** (*Gail Morris*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Isabel Weaver** (*Melissa Phillips*)

Alternate: **Arman Nikoueiha** (*Sylvia Dieterichs*)

Honorable Mention: **Leah Gerrietts** (*Lissa Pohlman*)

Honorable Mention: **Ahan Tandon** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

Honorable Mention: **Claire Weaver** (*Melissa Phillips*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Kevin Du** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

1st Alternate: **Mason Li** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Helen Peng** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

1st Alternate: **Cedric Liu** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

Honorable Mention: **Owen Smith** (*Sylvia Dieterichs*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Henry Mauser** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

1st Alternate: **Summer Lim** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

Honorable Mention: **Anders Haglund** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL **RESULTS**

### LEVEL A :

90% **Gram Nelson** (*Christie Haacke*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Claire Weaver** (*Melissa Phillips*)

98% **Leah Gerrietts** (*Lissa Pohlman*)

96% **Isabel Weaver** (*Melissa Phillips*)

94% **Savannah McInroy** (*Bonnie Kuns*)

92% **Jayla Cooley** (*Lissa Pohlman*)

92% **Arman Nikoueiha** (*Sylvia Dieterichs*)

90% **Ahan Tandon** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

### LEVEL D:

100% **Kevin Du** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

100% **Mason Li** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

92% **Blake Hoeft** (*Vicki Hoffman*)

### LEVEL E:

98% **Helen Peng** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

96% **Owen Smith** (*Sylvia Dieterichs*)

94% **Cedric Liu** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

### LEVEL F:

96% **Henry Mauser** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

94% **Summer Lim** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

90% **Anders Haglund** (*Suzanne Torkelson*)

## QCMTA Quad Cities

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 4, 2023 at St. Ambrose University

Chair: Roberta Quist, Charlie Schmidt

Adjudicators: Amber Riggenschach, Deb Ausborn, Dr. Nicholas Roth

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Brayden Isaacson** (*Roberta Quist*)

Winner: **Jocelyn Jiang** (*Roberta Quist*)

1st Alternate: **Parker Luszczyk** (*Roberta Quist*)

2nd Alternate: **Robby Cagle** (*Marian Lee*)

Honorable Mention: **Malia Saito** (*Nora Reiter*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Jovin Binto** (*Roberta Quist*)

Winner: **Emma Isaacson** (*Roberta Quist*)

1st Alternate: **Jack O'Malley** (*Roberta Quist*)

2nd Alternate: **Harry Richards** (*Roberta Quist*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Carter Luszczyk** (*Roberta Quist*)

Winner: **Madeline O'Malley** (*Roberta Quist*)

1st Alternate: **Zander Panek** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

2nd Alternate: **Jeremiah Rodgers** (*Anne Johnson*)

Honorable Mention: **Ishika Motwani** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

Honorable Mention: **Annabelle Pettersen** (*Roberta Quist*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Jackson Havercamp** (*Roberta Quist*)

Winner: **Jonathan Rice** (*Marian Lee*)

1st Alternate: **Sabrina Richards** (*Roberta Quist*)

2nd Alternate: **Jack Tarpey** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Victoria Rice** (*Marian Lee*)

1st Alternate: **Julianne Binto** (*Roberta Quist*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Jack Stremlow** (*Marian Lee*)

1st Alternate: **Connor McMann** (*Roberta Quist*)

Honorable Mention: **Molly Isaacson** (*Roberta Quist*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A:

100% **Jocelyn Jiang** (*Roberta Quist*)

100% **Malia Saito** (*Nora Reiter*)

98% **Sophie Johnson** (*Roberta Quist*)

96% **Robby Cagle** (*Marian Lee*)

96% **Iris Wang** (*Roberta Quist*)

94% **Parker Luszczyk** (*Roberta Quist*)

90% **Lillian Petersen** (*Carlene Albrechtsen*)

### LEVEL B:

98% **Jovin Binto** (*Roberta Quist*)

96% **Harry Richards** (*Roberta Quist*)

94% **Paige McMann** (*Roberta Quist*)

94% **Kiara Motwani** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

94% **Jack O'Malley** (*Roberta Quist*)

94% **Evelyn Schmitt** (*Nora Reiter*)

90% **Kairon Saito** (*Nora Reiter*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Sage Carney** (*Roberta Quist*)

100% **Madeline O'Malley** (*Roberta Quist*)

100% **Annabelle Pettersen** (*Roberta Quist*)

98% **Carter Luszczyk** (*Roberta Quist*)

98% **Claire Pfeiffer** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

96% **Camille Hayes** (*Richard Sessler*)

96% **Ishika Motwani** (*Laura*

*Crumbleholme*)

94% **Brendan Kiel** (*Marian Lee*)

94% **Joseph Tavernier** (*Colin Evers*)

94% **Aaron Tobey** (*Richard Sessler*)

92% **Zander Panek** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

90% **Jeremiah Rodgers** (*Anne Johnson*)

### LEVEL D:

100% **Robert Majchrzak** (*Perry Mears*)

100% **Zach McMann** (*Roberta Quist*)

96% **Jack Tarpey** (*Laura Crumbleholme*)

92% **Sabrina Richards** (*Roberta Quist*)

### LEVEL E:

100% **Julianne Binto** (*Roberta Quist*)

90% **Victoria Rice** (*Marian Lee*)

### LEVEL F:

100% **Molly Isaacson** (*Roberta Quist*)

98% **Jack Stremlow** (*Marian Lee*)

96% **Connor McMann** (*Roberta Quist*)

## NAMTA

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

January 28, 2023 at Wartburg College  
Chair: Dr. Andrea Johnson

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Charlie Larson** (*Ann Barry*)  
1st Alternate: **Thomas Haile** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
Honorable Mention: **Lorena Boyle** (*Chandar Boyle*)  
Honorable Mention: **Alne Deford** (*Chandar Boyle*)  
Honorable Mention: **Maggie Wilson** (*Ann Barry*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Nile Treinen** (*Chandar Boyle*)  
1st Alternate: **Neva Doeden** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
Honorable Mention: **Osro Biedermann** (*Linda Martin*)  
Honorable Mention: **Jonah Crouch** (*Ann Barry*)  
Honorable Mention: **Charlotte Green** (*Nicole Green*)  
Honorable Mention: **Simon Potvin** (*Linda Martin*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Baoyuan Ding** (*Ted Reuter*)  
Alternate: **Rishika Shettigar** (*Ann Barry*)  
Honorable Mention: **Delia Morgan** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Thomas Aguilar** (*Ann Barry*)  
Winner: **Emily Liu** (*Ted Reuter*)  
1st Alternate: **Maggie VerDught** (*Ann Barry*)  
2nd Alternate: **Levi Roberts** (*Chandar Boyle*)  
Honorable Mention: **Miguel Maldonado** (*Laurie Braaten-Reuter*)  
Honorable Mention: **August Treinen** (*Ted Reuter*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Ethan Boyle** (*Ted Reuter*)  
Winner: **Jessica Treinen** (*Ted Reuter*)  
Alternate: **Ana Aguilar** (*Ann Barry*)  
Honorable Mention: **Baoni Ding** (*Ted Reuter*)  
Honorable Mention: **Kristen Engelhardt** (*Nicole Green*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Dino Vallem** (*Ted Reuter*)  
1st Alternate: **Elizabeth Stanish** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

### LEVEL A :

98% **Thomas Haile** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
96% **Charlie Larson** (*Ann Barry*)

### LEVEL B:

92% **Jonah Crouch** (*Ann Barry*)  
92% **Elsie Gabel** (*Ann Barry*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **Delia Morgan** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
98% **Rishika Shettigar** (*Ann Barry*)

### LEVEL D:

96% **Thomas Aguilar** (*Ann Barry*)  
94% **Emily Liu** (*Ted Reuter*)  
90% **Levi Roberts** (*Chandar Boyle*)

### LEVEL E:

98% **Kristen Engelhardt** (*Nicole Green*)  
94% **Jacob Herring** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
92% **Jessica Treinen** (*Ted Reuter*)  
92% **Keller Wilson** (*Ann Barry*)

### LEVEL F:

100% **Elizabeth Stanish** (*Patricia Reuter Riddle*)  
98% **Dino Vallem** (*Ted Reuter*)  
92% **Nyle Vallem** (*Ted Reuter*)



## Fort Dodge/Humboldt

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS **RESULTS**

February 11, 2023 at St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Fort Dodge

Chair: Deb Ausborn, Mavis Chen

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Marie Feddersen** (*Mavis Chen*)

Winner: **Suan Jo** (*Mavis Chen*)

1st Alternate: **Carsten Hrnicek** (*Mavis Chen*)

2nd Alternate: **Jenna Lim** (*Mavis Chen*)

Honorable Mention: **Everett Hill** (*Mavis Chen*)

Honorable Mention: **Harin Oh** (*Mavis Chen*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Ava Otteros** (*Joan Hopkins*)

Alternate: **Addison Potter** (*Mavis Chen*)

Honorable Mention: **Clara Brown** (*Mavis Chen*)

Honorable Mention: **Reba Moffitt** (*Mavis Chen*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **Joel Schroeder** (*Linda Benson*)

Alternate: **Marissa Schrad** (*Deborah Ausborn*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Jacob Sorenson** (*Nancy Blair*)

Alternate: **Maggie Mikkelsen** (*Linda Benson*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL **RESULTS**

### LEVEL A:

100% **Jhea Castareda** (*Mavis Chen*)

100% **Luke Chua Chiaco** (*Mavis Chen*)

100% **Carsten Hrnicek** (*Mavis Chen*)

100% **Caed Moffitt** (*Mavis Chen*)

98% **Suan Jo** (*Mavis Chen*)

96% **Jenna Lim** (*Mavis Chen*)

94% **Aubrey Anderson** (*Deborah Ausborn*)

94% **Everett Hill** (*Mavis Chen*)

94% **Gavin Majewski** (*Mavis Chen*)

92% **Marie Feddersen** (*Mavis Chen*)

92% **Harin Oh** (*Mavis Chen*)

### LEVEL B:

94% **Max Anderson** (*Mavis Chen*)

94% **Reba Moffitt** (*Mavis Chen*)

94% **Ava Otteros** (*Joan Hopkins*)

92% **Ayana Hopkins** (*Joan Hopkins*)

90% **Clara Brown** (*Mavis Chen*)

90% **Rene Schroeder** (*Linda Benson*)

### LEVEL C:

100% **McHone Corban** (*Mavis Chen*)

96% **Joel Schroeder** (*Linda Benson*)

92% **Marissa Schrad** (*Deborah Ausborn*)

### LEVEL D:

96% **Jacob Sorenson** (*Nancy Blair*)

92% **Ava Binkley** (*Linda Benson*)

## Dubuque

# IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS **RESULTS**

February 4, 2023 at Loras College

Chair: Sharon Jensen, Leslie Appleby

### LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Jaina Moser** (*Sharon Jensen*)

Winner: **Emily Welter** (*Luke Tyler*)

1st Alternate: **Isaac Miller** (*Leslie Appleby*)

2nd Alternate: **Austen Roling** (*Leslie Appleby*)

Honorable Mention: **Ian Kim** (*Sharon Jensen*)

Honorable Mention: **Symphony McCoy** (*Rachel McCoy*)

Honorable Mention: **Roy Thompson** (*Sharon Jensen*)

### LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Jack Mostert** (*Sharon Jensen*)

1st Alternate: **Vivian Hoelscher** (*Leslie Appleby*)

Honorable Mention: **Joshua Roling** (*Leslie Appleby*)

### LEVEL C Results:

Winner: **William Wolfe** (*Sharon Jensen*)

1st Alternate: **Ruth Baker** (*Sharon Jensen*)

Honorable Mention: **Addilyn Dolan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

Honorable Mention: **Cal Welter** (*Luke Tyler*)

### LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Thomas Noonan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

1st Alternate: **Randen McManus** (*Leslie Appleby*)

Honorable Mention: **Alena Welter** (*Luke Tyler*)

### LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Alex DeWitt** (*Sharon Jensen*)

1st Alternate: **Anna Van Otterloo** (*Sharon Jensen*)

### LEVEL F Results:

Winner: **Jacob Noonan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

## THEORY HONOR ROLL **RESULTS**

### LEVEL A :

98% **Isaac Miller** (*Leslie Appleby*)

96% **Declan McCoy** (*Rachel McCoy*)

94% **Jaina Moser** (*Sharon Jensen*)

92% **Roy Thompson** (*Sharon Jensen*)

### LEVEL B:

98% **Eliza Lindsey** (*Sharon Jensen*)

94% **Ruah Kim** (*Sharon Jensen*)

90% **Vivian Hoelscher** (*Leslie Appleby*)

### LEVEL C:

98% **Addilyn Dolan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

98% **Josephine McKeon** (*Sharon Jensen*)

98% **William Wolfe** (*Sharon Jensen*)

96% **Cal Welter** (*Luke Tyler*)

94% **Jackson Lampe** (*Leslie Appleby*)

92% **Ruth Baker** (*Sharon Jensen*)

92% **Olivia Disch** (*Sharon Jensen*)

92% **Bridget McKean** (*Amy Dolan*)

### LEVEL D:

98% **Thomas Noonan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

96% **Randen McManus** (*Leslie Appleby*)

92% **Alena Welter** (*Luke Tyler*)

### LEVEL E:

98% **Cecilia Wolfe** (*Sharon Jensen*)

96% **Anna Van Otterloo** (*Sharon Jensen*)

### LEVEL F:

90% **Jacob Noonan** (*Sharon Jensen*)

# ECMTA Iowa City IMTA DISTRICT PRE-COLLEGE PIANO AUDITIONS RESULTS

February 5, 2023 at University Of Iowa, Voxman Hall, Iowa City

Chair: Ruth Johnson, Tina Chapman

Adjudicators: Joan Trapp, Charles Schmidt, Perry Mears

## LEVEL A Results:

Winner: **Louise Gooblar-Perovic** (*Ruth Johnson*)

1st Alternate: **Austin Gilchrist** (*Nancy Cree*)

Honorable Mention: **Landon Xie** (*Nancy Cree*)

## LEVEL B Results:

Winner: **Emily Ding** (*Tyler Hendrickson*)

Winner: **Hannah Kim** (*Minji Kwon*)

1st Alternate: **Noah Wiechert** (*Lauree Christman*)

2nd Alternate: **Mason Bany** (*Mary Dieker*)

Honorable Mention: **Max Biger** (*Nancy Cree*)

Honorable Mention: **Kate Qian** (*Dasha Wemmie*)

## LEVEL C1 Results:

Winner: **Abigail Chen** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

Winner: **Khloe Zhao** (*Lauree Christman*)

1st Alternate: **Serah Song** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

2nd Alternate: **Rosanna Yang** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

Honorable Mention: **Stellah Verry** (*Tina Chapman*)

Honorable Mention: **Oceana Zhang** (*Rene Lecuona*)

## LEVEL C2 Results:

Winner: **Celeste Miller** (*Nicole Messerschmitt*)

Winner: **Samantha Scheetz** (*Tina Chapman*)

1st Alternate: **Yukta Borse** (*Tina Chapman*)

2nd Alternate: **Clark Erdahl** (*Nancy Cree*)

Honorable Mention: **Edith Dawson** (*Mary Dieker*)

Honorable Mention: **William Shey** (*Nancy Cree*)

Honorable Mention: **Nishvith Sudhakar** (*Barbara Michaelson*)

Honorable Mention: **Sephora Whalen** (*Ruth Johnson*)

## LEVEL D Results:

Winner: **Alice Gooblar-Perovic** (*Ruth Johnson*)

Winner: **Victor Yao** (*Ruth Johnson*)

1st Alternate: **Serene Song** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

2nd Alternate: **Erin Chen** (*Lauree Christman*)

Honorable Mention: **Ellie Chen** (*Carole Thomas*)

Honorable Mention: **Milla Wiechert** (*Lauree Christman*)

## LEVEL E Results:

Winner: **Youan Lee** (*Minji Kwon*)

Winner: **Jerry Li** (*Rene Lecuona*)

1st Alternate: **Abby Guo** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

2nd Alternate: **Andrew Chen** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

Honorable Mention: **Richard Yang** (*Barbara Michaelson*)

# THEORY HONOR ROLL RESULTS

## LEVEL A:

100% **Louise Gooblar-Perovic** (*Ruth Johnson*)

100% **Charlie LaBrecque** (*Nancy Cree*)

100% **Landon Xie** (*Nancy Cree*)

98% **Austin Gilchrist** (*Nancy Cree*)

## LEVEL B:

96% **Emily Ding** (*Tyler Hendrickson*)

94% **Henry Erdahl** (*Nancy Cree*)

94% **Lukas Johnston** (*Tina Chapman*)

94% **Noah Wiechert** (*Lauree Christman*)

92% **Rory Marshall** (*Jason Sifford*)

90% **Max Biger** (*Nancy Cree*)

90% **Kate Qian** (*Dasha Wemmie*)

## LEVEL C1:

100% **Abigail Chen** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

100% **Khloe Zhao** (*Lauree Christman*)

96% **Niklos Polyak** (*Nancy Cree*)

96% **Oceana Zhang** (*Rene Lecuona*)

94% **Rosanna Yang** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

90% **Natalie Yoon** (*Minji Kwon*)

## LEVEL C2:

100% **Clark Erdahl** (*Nancy Cree*)

100% **Samantha Scheetz** (*Tina Chapman*)

100% **Sephora Whalen** (*Ruth Johnson*)

98% **Nina Renaud** (*Nancy Cree*)

98% **William Shey** (*Nancy Cree*)

98% **Olga Tenev** (*Nancy Cree*)

96% **Edith Dawson** (*Mary Dieker*)

96% **Jackson LaBrecque** (*Nancy Cree*)

94% **Celeste Miller** (*Nicole Messerschmitt*)

92% **Shrainya Sankepally** (*Tina Chapman*)

92% **Nishvith Sudhakar** (*Barbara Michaelson*)

## LEVEL D:

98% **Serene Song** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

98% **Spencer Wu** (*Nancy Cree*)

96% **Erin Chen** (*Lauree Christman*)

94% **Alice Gooblar-Perovic** (*Ruth Johnson*)

92% **Victor Yao** (*Ruth Johnson*)

90% **Ellie Chen** (*Carole Thomas*)

## LEVEL E:

100% **Andrew Chen** (*Chiaki Kubota*)

98% **Richard Yang** (*Barbara Michaelson*)

96% **Jozsef Polyak** (*Nancy Cree*)

94% **Emma Lai** (*Rene Lecuona*)

94% **Jerry Li** (*Rene Lecuona*)



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WEST CENTRAL DIVISION OF MTNA

## Spotlight on Collegiate Chapters

**D**id you know that the West Central Division currently has thirty-one MTNA Collegiate Chapters? Enjoy the following overview which features eleven of these dynamic chapters!

### **University of Northern Iowa MTNA Collegiate Chapter – Cedar Falls, Iowa**

Chapter size: 6

Membership instrument demographic: Piano (performance, pedagogy & collaborative)

Activities: The chapter recorded and published arrangements of folk tunes for a YouTube channel to promote folk music of diverse cultures. Folk arrangements from African American, Korean,

Chinese, Japanese, and Malaysian cultures were recorded and published online.

Chapter members also organized and volunteered to lead the local association IMTA Festival. The student organizer hired judges, collected payment, organized the schedule, and recruited volunteers to help from other collegiate chapter members!

Collegiate Chapter President was accepted to present a 50 minute session at the 2023 MTNA National Conference. She will travel to Reno with her collegiate chapter colleagues to present in March, splitting the cost of travel and lodging.

*Continued on next page*



**MTNA WCD Director**

**Mary Beth Shaffer**  
mbs723@shafferstudio.net



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*Continued from previous page*

**Colorado State University Pueblo MTNA – Pueblo, CO**

**Chapter size:** 12

**Membership instrument demographic:** Piano, Strings, Voice, Guitar

**Activities:** Chapter members gave an outreach performance at Primrose Retirement Community of Pueblo and chapter members' students presented a studio recital at Hoag Hall, CSU Pueblo.

Chapter members also attended & presented Poster Sessions at the 2022 Colorado State Music Teachers Association Conference in Boulder and presented a Poster Session program for Pikes Peak MTA in Colorado Springs.

**University of Kansas MTNA – Lawrence, KS**

**Chapter size:** 12

**Membership instrument demographic:** Piano (99% most years)

**Activities:** The chapter continues to administer the Pianos without Borders program, which offers online piano lessons to underserved student populations in Kansas. This program is made possible by the support of the Band of Angels Foundation, Yamaha Music Corporation and the Kansas City, KS Public Schools.

The chapter presented a group workshop A New Approach to Practice: Fresh Ideas to Motivate Your Students at the KMTA Conference September 17, 2022

Individual chapter members have been selected to present at the MTNA National Conference, the GP3 Conference, and the Collegiate Symposium.



Colorado State University Pueblo MTNA

**Missouri State University MTNA – Springfield, MO**

**Chapter size:** 6

**Membership instrument demographic:** Piano

**Activities:** In October, the chapter collaborated with the Springfield Area Music Teachers Association to organize a masterclass event where members gave masterclasses for students of local teachers.

In November, members attended and represented their chapter at the 2022 Missouri Music Teachers Association State Auditions & Conference.

Spring semester, the chapter will be holding a bake sale on campus to raise money for bringing in a guest artist to give a recital and masterclasses for their members.



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**University of Omaha Collegiate MTA – Omaha, NE****Chapter size:** 8**Membership instrument demographic:** Piano, Voice, Violin**Activities:** The chapter is pursuing research into published practice techniques and whether these are actually useful. Their research has been accepted to be presented at the 2023 National MTNA Conference. This has been their main focus this year, as well as raising funds for travel. The chapter utilized the game, Kahoot, to assist our student population with their studies for final exams in certain classes.**CU Boulder Collegiate Chapter of MTNA – Boulder, CO****Chapter size:** 20+**Membership instrument demographic:** Mostly piano, a few other instrumentalists**Activities:** The chapter has a student mentorship program in which partners meet on a bi-monthly basis to create community in the department and discuss teaching issues.

Chapter outreach activities include concerts at Chocolaterie Stam in Lafayette, CO and hosting “mock juries” for the entire keyboard department. Hosting “Teacher Talks” as well as guest artist presentations throughout the year.

Members are presenting at the Collegiate Symposium and presenting posters at the MTNA National Conference.

Boulder MTA is organizing collaborative presentations/projects with the chapter. Chapter members also volunteered during the 2022 MTNA Colorado competitions.

**Wichita State University MTA – Wichita, KS****Chapter size:** 8**Membership instrument demographics:** Piano**Activities:** The chapter organized and put on the Elementary Music Festival in the Spring of 2022.

A member presented a poster at KMTA State Conference and will present it at the MTNA National Conference in Reno. Chapter members also attended the KMTA State Conference in Fall of 2022.

Student teachers presented their students in their annual Winter Piano Pedagogy Recital.

**Faith Baptist Bible College Collegiate Chapter – Ankeny, IA****Chapter size:** 5**Membership instrument demographics:** Piano & Violin**Activities:** The chapter met for question and answer time over lunch to discuss the benefits of being part of the MTNA Collegiate Chapter.

A meeting was held with the Iowa Collegiate Chapter Chair, Dr. Andrea Johnson, and West Central Division Chair, Mary Beth Shaffer. The group shared feedback regarding how to include more students in the Collegiate Chapter.

Members organized an evening of music for the community called “Casual Classics.” Students organized, promoted, and participated in the event.

**University of Denver MTNA – Denver, CO****Chapter size:** 3**Membership instrument demographics:** Piano**Activities:** The chapter held mock juries and a Thanksgiving potluck for the Lamont School of Music Piano Department.

Members also attended an ABRSM Presentation and Q+A Spring 2023

*CU Boulder Collegiate Chapter of MTNA – Boulder, CO**Wichita State University Student MTA – Wichita, KS**Faith Baptist Bible Collegiate Chapter, Ankeny, IA*

Session. In June of 2022, the chapter presented at the CSMTA Conference in Boulder.

**Kansas State University – Manhattan, KS****Chapter size:** 5**Membership instrument demographics:** Piano**Activities:** The KSU Collegiate Chapter organized two members' students' concerts.

The chapter also invited a piano pedagogy professor from a neighboring university for a day-long masterclass and lecture for community students.

**Wayne State College MTNA – Wayne, NE****Chapter size:** 10**Membership instrument demographic:** Piano, Low Brass, Voice, Percussion**Activities:** Just established this semester, the collegiate chapter at Wayne State College began some fundraising activities, including compiling a chapter cookbook.



# 2023 STATE AUDITION WINNERS



Level A  
**Elise Cotran**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level A  
**Viviana Zwingelberg**  
(*Nai-Ying Liao*)



Level B  
**Aiden Feldmann**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level B  
**Gabe Neely**  
(*Sarah Robinson*)



Level C  
**Aaron Bunjer**  
(*Amy Linville*)



Level C  
**Isaac Wang**  
(*Paula Forrest*)



Level D  
**Isabelle Ryan**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level D  
**Bella De Haan**  
(*Susan Kuyper*)



Level D  
**Amelia Luo**  
(*Nai-Ying Liao*)



Level D  
**Elijah Dreyer**  
(*Otto Getz*)



Level D  
**Wren Rediger**  
(*Amy Linville*)



Level E  
**Gwenth Franczyk**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level E  
**Helen Peng**  
(*Suzanne Torkelson*)



Level E  
**Amaya Dassanayake**  
(*Larisa Kanevski*)



Level F  
**Anna Lu**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level F  
**Henry Mauser**  
(*Suzanne Torkelson*)



Level F  
**Helen Mao**  
(*Mei-Hsuan Huang*)

# 2023 STATE AUDITION RUNNERS-UP



Level A  
**Louise Gooblar-Perovic**  
(*Ruth Johnson*)



Level A  
**Suan Jo**  
(*Mavis Chen*)



Level B  
**Vitalina Zwingelberg**  
(*Nai-Ying Liao*)



Level B  
**Sapphire Gibbins**  
(*Amy Linville*)



Level C  
**Lisa Lu**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level C  
**Carter Luszczyk**  
(*Roberta Quist*)



Level D  
**Aaron Adkins**  
(*Julie Bond*)



Level D  
**Anushka Dervesh**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level D  
**Alice Gooblar-Perovic**  
(*Ruth Johnson*)



Level D  
**Thomas Aguilar**  
(*Ann Barry*)



Level D  
**Aakansha Ganesh**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level E  
**Adam Zhu**  
(*Larisa Kanevski*)



Level E  
**Vrishank Vennapusa**  
(*Galina Jarrell*)



Level E  
**Emma Zheng**  
(*Larisa Kanevski*)



Level F  
**Duy Xuan Duc Duong**  
(*Cyndie Caruth*)



Level F  
**Devon Tsia-Olson**  
(*Larisa Kanevski*)



Level F  
**Dino Vallem**  
(*Ted Reuter*)

# 2023 STATE AUDITION HONORABLE MENTIONS



Level A  
**Jocelyn Wells**  
(Lois Selby)



Level A  
**Keegan Meyer**  
(Dianne Lawson)



Level A  
**Anna Du**  
(Suzanne Torkelson)



Level A  
**Thomas Haile**  
(Patricia Reuter Riddle)



Level A  
**Marie Feddersen**  
(Mavis Chen)



Level A  
**Colette Lam**  
(Catherine Bryan)



Level A  
**Stella Luo**  
(Melinda Westphalen)



Level A  
**Jaina Moser**  
(Sharon Jensen)



Level A  
**Jocelyn Jiang**  
(Roberta Quist)



Level A  
**Emily Welter**  
(Luke Tyler)



Level B  
**Jovin Binto**  
(Roberta Quist)



Level B  
**Emma Isaacson**  
(Roberta Quist)



Level B  
**David Rediger**  
(Amy Linville)



Level C  
**Asher Palagummi**  
(Timothy LaFleur)



Level C  
**Khloe Zhao**  
(Lauree Christman)



Level D  
**Claire Lu**  
(Nai-Ying Liao)



Level D  
**Emily Liu**  
(Ted Reuter)



Level D  
**Jackson Havercamp**  
(Roberta Quist)



Level D  
**Kevin Du**  
(Suzanne Torkelson)



Level D  
**Jonathan Rice**  
(Marian Lee)



Level E  
**Jayce Hingtgen**  
(Melinda Westphalen)



Level E  
**Jessica Treinen**  
(Ted Reuter)



Level F  
**Chloe Liang**  
(Cyndie Caruth)



Level F  
**Joslynn Ovel**  
(Amber Rigenbach)



Level F  
**Zoe Podlich**  
(Patricia Schroeder)



Level F  
**Jacob Noonan**  
(Sharon Jensen)



Level F  
**Bennett Lambelet**  
(Bryan Stanley)

# 2023 State Audition Adjudicators

**Level A:** Mr. Timothy LaFleur

**Level B:** Dr. Jason Sifford, NCTM

**Level C:** Dr. Perry Mears

**Level D:** Dr. Janci Bronson, NCTM

**Level E:** Mary Beth Shaffer, NCTM

**Level F:** Dr. Melinda Westphalen



*Wow! What a tremendous crew of young musicians in Level A this year in Ames! Full of life, promise, expectation—they embody the next generation of music makers with their bright staccatos, dreamy phrases and powerful attacks! It was truly an honor to come along side each one with words of encouragement, hope, and musical direction. Our future, IMTA, is in strong, young hands, sharp minds, and beautiful artists.*

– Level A Adjudicator, Timothy LaFleur



*These young artists are always such a joy to hear. Their hard work and dedication always leaves me confident that our future is in good hands!*

– Level B Adjudicator, Dr. Jason Sifford



*You know when you're listening to a student and they make 'THE SOUND'? And then your heart melts and you remember why you teach? Well, I was honored to hear that kind of beautiful artistry during our state auditions. What a delight.*

– Level C Adjudicator, Dr. Perry Mears, II, DMA



**Level D Adjudicator, Dr. Janci Bronson, NCTM**



*It was a joy and honor to adjudicate Level E's IMTA State Auditions. The level of musicianship and performance preparation was truly outstanding! Congratulations to all of the young pianists and their teachers!*

– Level E Adjudicator, Mary Beth Barteau Shaffer, NCTM  
MTNA West Central Division Director



*The level of musicianship and technical facility at level F today was absolutely impressive. There is some fantastic teaching and practicing going on in the state of Iowa! It was truly a joy to hear all of the students' programs. Congratulations to all of you, and to your teachers!*

– Level F Adjudicator, Dr. Melinda Westphalen



# STATE AUDITIONS 2023: MANY MADE IT A SUCCESS!

**H**ello Everyone!  
I would like to take a moment and thank EVERYONE who attended State Auditions on March 12 at Iowa State University! It was a smooth, flawless day, which would not have happened without everyone's willingness to participate while cheering on their own students!

I'd like to thank these people in particular:

**Our adjudicators – Melinda Westphalen, Mary Beth Shaffer, Janci Bronson, Perry Mears, Jason Sifford, and Tim LaFleur.** Thank you for taking the time to listen to the best of the best! I'm glad to hear that you all had a difficult time making decisions on placements!

**Janci Bronson and Larry Curry from ISU** - Thank you for helping coordinate the event at ISU and providing the proper pianos, tables, and chairs for our adjudicators.

**Cyndie and Carroll Caruth** - Thank you for helping set up Friday night to help Saturday morning start smoothly.

**Roberta Quist** - Thank you for helping both myself and our adjudicators with the final tallies of winners, alternates, and honorable mentions for each level. Your second set of eyes was beyond helpful and important!

**Cyndie Caruth** - Thank you for photographing these students and making them look their very best for the magazine.

**Sarah Reeves** - Thank you for spending the day with me and assisting and things popped up, between the door monitor needs, registration table needs, and shutting down centers - your help is greatly appreciated!

**Tina Chapman, Nicole Messerschmitt, Dianne Lawson, and Rebecca Nickles Mick** - Thank you for providing the warm, comforting first impressions of State Auditions to students and their families and for directing everyone to photography, practice rooms, and centers.

**Luke Tyler** - Thank you for taking the time to pick up the lunches for our adjudicators. You were the unsung hero of the day!

**Eric and Suzanne Torkelson, Susan Kuyper, Linda Benson, Luke Tyler, Lise Marcell, Galina Jarrell, Sarah Hostetler, Nai-Ying Liao, Sarah Bunjer, Talita Pizarro, Carroll Caruth, Anne Johnson, Pat Schroeder, Roberta Quist, Sharon Jensen** - Thank you for being door monitors and helping students stay calm as they prepared to walk into their auditions.

**Sarah Reeves, Mavis Chen, Lois Selby, Nancy Blair, Robin Henriksen, Marilee Kleespies, Irina Kaplan, Ann Barry, Chiaki Kubota, Sharon Jensen** - Thank you for assisting the judges and keeping them on time and keeping both students and repertoire in order during your sessions.

Lastly, I'm pleased to report that we had an uptick in numbers from last year's State Auditions, from 91 in 2022 to 103. Here is the breakdown of that number in levels:

Level A – 20  
Level B – 17  
Level C – 19  
Level D – 21  
Level E – 15  
Level F – 11

It has been a sincere pleasure serving at your State Auditions Chair these past two years. I very much look forward to the final event, the State Honors Recital at Sinclair Auditorium, Coe College on Sunday, June 4 at 4:15pm. We will be sending more information to the state winner's teachers soon. Mark your calendars!

Cheers to successful auditions season! Cate



IMTA State Auditions Chair

**Cate Bryan, NCTM**  
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