

# OhioMTA Central East District

*Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association and Ohio Music Teachers Association*

Newsletter  
October 5, 2022

## **President's Message**

Welcome to the new and returning members of the Central East District! We have a lot of exciting events coming up this fall for both teachers and students to get involved.

Now that the district calendar has moved online, it will continue to be updated throughout the year. The calendar can be found from the homepage or at: <https://www.ceomta.org/2022-23-calendar-overview>. The district Facebook page (Central East District - Ohio Music Teachers Association) is another great way to stay connected and up to date on all the wonderful opportunities our district offers!

--Andrea Keil, President

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Scale Olympics**

Scale Olympics is a fun educational and motivational event which gives piano students the opportunity to set and accomplish goals in the areas of technique, theory, and musicality.

Scale Olympics 2022 will take place in-person on Saturday, October 15 th at Otterbein University. We are excited that 210 students from 25 teachers, and 25 judges will be participating. Many of the students will be competing in all 9 events!

Students in Scale Olympics participate in up to nine events, including: Scales, Cadences, Arpeggios, Triads and Inversions, Sightreading, Harmonization, Transposition, Ear Training, and Theory. Students earn individual ribbons for each event in which they participate. Students participating in all nine events may earn either a blue or a yellow rosette, depending on their scores in each event.

More information about Scale Olympics 2022 is available on the CEOMTA website.

--Katherine Bede and Laura Wynia, Scale Olympics Co-Chairmen

### **Out & About**

Out and About deadline change for October 21st event at Aladdin Shrine Event Center: Please email Miriam Brown by end of day, Monday, Oct. 17 to register for the Friday, Oct. 21st event.

Make sure to include Name, Age, Piece, Composer/Arranger, Timing, and Level. This event is a Fundraiser for the Grove City Foundation and will have a "dress-up" protocol. One parent per student can wait inside the door. Playing times approximately 6:20-7 PM. Arrival 6:10 PM.

--Miriam Brown, Out & About Chairman

## **Student Solo and Ensemble Recital**

The next Student Solo and Ensemble Recital is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 2022, at Graves Piano & Organ Co., 5798 Karl Rd. (at Rt. 161), starting at 2:00 p.m. Be sure to get your registrations and participation fees in by Thursday, November 3, 2022 (postmarked). The recitals are open to students of all members who have studied for at least one year. They are a great performance opportunity in a non-competitive setting for any well-prepared student, and the perfect chance for them to hear other fine students from our district.

Detailed information can be found on our website: <http://www.ceomta.org/student-events/student-solo-ensemble-recitals> . Please contact Dr. Caroline B. Salido-Barta, chair, at 614-440-3555 or [thepianoartsstudio@yahoo.com](mailto:thepianoartsstudio@yahoo.com), for additional questions.

--Caroline Salido-Barta, Solo and Ensemble Chairman

## **Pianorama**

The Pianorama Chairmen met several times this summer to play through duet literature at Graves. We have nearly finalized all levels! Remaining tasks are to complete music selection, play through music to set suggested tempos and finalize the Literature List. Look for the Duet Literature List to be posted on the Pianorama page of the CEOMTA website no later than January of 2023.

Some preliminary dates have been set aside:

Registration (Online): mid-August thru September

Video Auditions: will be due late September

Rehearsals: Saturdays, October 21 and 28, 2023 (Dates tentatively scheduled at Graves)

Dress Rehearsal and Concerts: November 4, 2023 (concerts at 5:30pm and 7:00pm)

Concert location to be confirmed!

In the New Year, our major task will be to recruit conductors. We hope that we can count on many of you to prepare your students for this event and are happy to accept offers from any teachers who would like to conduct.

--Amy Cain, Amy Girvin, & Kathy Savinell, Pianorama Co-Chairmen

## **TEACHER ACTIVITIES AND NEWS**

### **Certification**

There will be an National Certification meeting on Monday, October 10 at 9:45 a.m. at Graves Piano and Organ. We will prepare for Project 2 by analyzing two pieces of intermediate literature . We will regard the musical time period and compositional style. What elements of music theory would you teach through this piece? What are three specific skills needed to play this piece successfully? How would you teach a stylistically appropriate interpretation of this piece? Discuss four potential reading or technical difficulties. What practice strategies will you suggest?

Then we will look at Project 5, which asks how you would handle challenging situations that

might arise with students, parents and/or colleagues. Project 5 also asks for your Studio Policy, a hypothetical budget, and written information on how you interview new and transfer students.

All members are welcome to attend. An RSVP is appreciated but not required, to Janice Cook [jbakercook@gmail.com](mailto:jbakercook@gmail.com).

--Janice Cook, NCTM, Certification Chairman

## **Workshop with Jeremy Siskind**

Pianist-composer **Jeremy Siskind** is “a genuine visionary” (Indianapolis Star) who “seems to defy all boundaries” (JazzInk) with music “rich in texture and nuance” (Downbeat). A top finisher in several national and international jazz piano competitions, Siskind is a two-time laureate of the American Pianists Association and the winner of the Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition. Since making his professional debut juxtaposing Debussy’s Etudes with jazz standards at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall, Siskind has established himself as one of the nation’s most innovative and virtuosic modern pianists.

Siskind’s multifaceted career often finds him combining musical styles and breaking aesthetic norms. As the leader of “The Housewarming Project,” Siskind has not only created “a shining example of chamber jazz” (Downbeat) whose albums often land on critics’ “best of the year” lists. He’s also established himself as a pioneer of the in-home concert movement by presenting well over 100 in-home concerts in 26 states. In 2020, the Housewarming Project was a winner of a \$30,000 grant from Chamber Music America’s New Jazz Works program (supported by the Doris Duke Foundation).

On a recent duo album, Impressions of Debussy, Siskind explores Debussy’s Preludes through improvisation with saxophonist Andrew Rathbun. Similarly, his 2019 book-CD project, Perpetual Motion Etudes for Piano, blurs the line between classical, through-composed, piano etudes and jazz-based improvisations and invites other pianists to do the same through a beautifully self-published work that includes “Optional Improvisation Instructions” for each piece. Siskind has been experimenting with performing the pieces in collaboration with classical pianists, including Grammy-winner Angelin Chang, and through university residencies. Other projects include writing concert arrangements for rising star soprano Julia Bullock, composing the theme song for the 2017 Obie Awards, and serving as musical director for noted comedienne Lea DeLaria and Sandra Bernhard.

A highly-respected educator, Siskind has written 13 publications with Hal Leonard, including the landmark instructional books Jazz Band Pianist and First Lessons in Piano Improv. His self-published instructional book, Playing Solo Jazz Piano, which includes an introduction from jazz piano legend Fred Hersch, is generally one of the top 50 best-selling jazz books on Amazon.com. He currently teaches at California’s Fullerton College, chairs the National Conference for Keyboard Pedagogy’s “Creativity Track,” and spreads peace through music in places like Lebanon, Tunisia, and Thailand with the non-profit organization, Jazz Education Abroad. Jeremy Siskind is a Yamaha artist.

Date: Friday, October 21, 2022

Workshop: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Recital: 5:30 pm – Perpetual Motion Etudes and Jazz Standards

NOW IN PERSON!

Location: Graves Piano & Organ Company – 5798 Karl Road – Columbus 43229

*About the Workshop*

5 Things Every Piano Teacher Needs to Know About Jazz  
(But is too afraid to ask)

Almost every “traditional” piano teacher will be asked to teach jazz at some point in their career, yet few receive any real jazz training. Noted pedagogue and real-life jazz pianist Jeremy Siskind offers five essential jazz tips to give you creative confidence in any teaching scenario and help you enliven all your teaching. From the details of swing feel, to decoding the nuances of chord symbols, learn how you can guide your students towards expressive improvisation.

Fees: free for OMTA members; \$10.00 for Non-members; auditors attend free.

Send checks (payable to OMTA) to:

Lizbeth Atkinson, 2118 Farleigh Road, Columbus, OH 43221

614-485-9448

--Lizbeth Atkinson, Piano Workshops Chairman

## **Capital University - Collegiate Chapter**

Dr. Arthur Greene from the University of Michigan will visit Capital University on the first weekend of November. All are welcome to this wonderful opportunity to listen to his masterful and insightful crafted interpretations on various composers. He will play a solo recital on Saturday, November 5th at 7pm in Huntington Recital Hall featuring works of Schubert, Chopin and Ukrainian composer Mykola Lysenko. On the following day at 2pm, he will give master classes to Capital undergraduate students in Mees Auditorium. Arthur Greene’s Website: [www.arthurgreene.com](http://www.arthurgreene.com)

--Fan Zhang, Faculty Advisor - Capital University Collegiate Chapter

## **Independent Music Teachers Forum**

Fall IMTF

Wednesday November 9, 2022

10:00 am -12:00 noon

Grandview Heights Library

1685 W. First Avenue

Columbus, OH 43212

Conference Room A

Note: the library opens at 10:00, so Amy’s talk will begin as soon as we get settled

Amy Chaplin, independent piano teacher and presenter for the first hour. Here’s Amy’s bio on her website: [Amy Chaplin](#)

She is a fun and dynamic speaker! Listen to some of her podcasts before we meet!

Amy will present on the topic:

Evolutionary Entrepreneurialism: Grow Your Studio One “Yes” At a Time

As independent teachers, it can be easy to get caught up in the comfort zone of how we teach and run our businesses for years on end. Building and sustaining a thriving independent music studio in today’s quickly changing world sometimes requires more

forward-thinking. It's easy to feel hesitant or afraid of trying new things but sometimes small changes can produce significant results.

The interesting thing is, that ideas don't always have to come from us. It's about paying attention to what you see happening around you – how families and society are evolving. Potential clients and demand can be the clue to unlocking a studio that not only grows but thrives.

Follow the evolution of one studio that altered focus more than five times to meet demand over the first ten years in business. Through various small (and sometimes significant) changes, potential clients were met where they were, and the studio continued to develop in new ways. Attendees will gain new insights into how to diversify their business, tap into the community and maintain a thriving business by evolving and saying “yes.”

In our second hour we will follow up on Amy's presentation, as well as continue any leftover discussions from last year about online continuing education opportunities, organization, or whatever topics come up! These meetings are all about getting together and exchanging ideas! Coffee and refreshments will be provided.

Questions? Email Suzanne Newcomb, NCTM, IMTF chair, at [snewcomb@columbus.rr.com](mailto:snewcomb@columbus.rr.com)  
--Suzanne Newcomb, Independent Music Teachers Forum Chairman

## **District Conferences**

The Central East Ohio Music Teachers Association kicked off the 2022-2023 season with the fall district conference! The conference theme was entitled The Teacher's Toolkit Series: Equipping Teachers To Teach Every Child Effectively, and it was very well received. Registration and a survey was prepared allowing conference co-chairs an additional opportunity to learn more about what members are wanting in the conferences. The conference was held hybrid and had 29 in attendance.

Thank you to all of the in-person and online attendees, our district president, Andrea Keil and event chairs for introducing themselves and briefly sharing about the events they help coordinate. We want to sincerely thank our guest speakers, Janice Cook and Kamilah Morgan for their fantastic and engaging presentations. Both speakers filled our teacher toolboxes with important information and ideas that we can easily implement into our lessons and daily lives!

Many thanks to our membership chair, Bernice Tamkin for greeting all of the guests and our conference co-chairs, Theresa Murphy and Ashley Wise for collaborating and coordinating this learning opportunity. Congratulations to our door prize winners as well! Be sure to mark your calendars for the spring conference scheduled for Friday, April 14, 2023 with our guest speaker Rhonda Berlin. More details about the spring conference available on the website.

--Theresa Murphy and Ashley Wise, District Conferences Co-Chairmen

## **Save the Date!**

### **MTNA National Conference 2022**

March 25-29, 2023

Reno, Nevada

### **OhioMTA State Conference 2023**

October 12-14, 2023

Columbus, Ohio