

# WVMTA newsletter

OCTOBER 2020

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

President Nancy Sen called the meeting to order at 9:33 am. The meeting was held on Zoom.

**Members present:** Marilyn Parolini, Sharla Fritz, Bill Koehler, Eva Woo, Hope Grote, Viktoriya Livanov, Christy Nielsen, Nancy Sen, Margaret Nickerson

**Minutes:** Secretary Sharla Fritz read the minutes from the March meeting and from the August board meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Hope Grote reported the opening balance was \$2762.85. Receipts were \$320.00. Expenses were \$562.47. Closing balance was \$2520.38.

**President's Report:** Nancy reported that the board had decided to schedule two speakers to speak to us on Zoom during this school year, but that on further thought she proposed that we use online videos until we can meet in person. Bill Koehler moved that we not engage a speaker until we meet in person. Margaret Nickerson seconded. Motion passed.

**AIM:** Diann Livingston reported that the AIM Theory date is November 21, 2020 and

the Performance date is March 13 2021. But the tests will all be done by the student's teacher. Because of this, we discussed whether it would be better to give teachers a window of time to complete the test (e.g. November 15 – 21) to complete the tests. Diann will meet with the rest of the AIM committee to hammer out details like how we will do written tests and who will grade the written tests. Holly Schmidt can no longer help out with AIM Performance exams. Eva Woo has agreed to serve on the AIM team. Also, Diann has the pins for the students who completed their 2019-2020 AIM exams. Teachers should pick them up from her. Text her (331-262-8571) to make an appointment to pick them up.

**Membership:** Marilyn Parolini has sent emails to members who have not renewed their membership. Two members, Larry Dieffenbach and Patricia Arzaga, have decided not to continue with our group.

We have one new member who has transferred from another group. Add her information to your directory.

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Marilyn will send contact information corrections to Nancy, Sharla, and Matt.

**Recitals:** Nancy Sen talked about the possibility of doing a Zoom recital (perhaps in October?).

**Berkley-Pendell Competition:** The competition has been cancelled for this year.

**American Grands:** This event is uncertain at this time.

**Programs:** Until we can meet in person, we will watch an online video and discuss it together at our meetings. If you have suggestions for excellent videos on teaching, tell Nancy Sen and Kristin Young.

We watched a video on teaching a Handel Gavotte in G Major from the Piano Magazine website. We also shared our experiences and teaching tips for teaching during a pandemic.

# AIM Theory Exam

Dear Aim Teachers,

This year we will be giving the Aim Exam to our own students either online or in person in your own studio. You will also have the option to coordinate with another teacher to test each other's students online. There is a concern about testing another teacher's student in your home.

We have a potential of 60-70 Theory exams to provide this year.

Here are our proposals about how Aim will run this year:

- **The Exam date will be November 16-21.**  
This will allow flexibility for you to schedule your students Keyboard Skills and Aural exams if you have too many students to schedule in one day.
  - ⇒ A new registration form will be sent out and put on our website.
  - ⇒ **Registration Deadline will be October 10**
- Gwyn and Diann will assemble teacher packets, with printed written exams, judges sheets, and student sheets. Teachers will pick these packets up from Diann or Christy the week before the exam.
  - ⇒ Teachers will deliver or mail the students papers to their students and schedule exams.
- Use whatever online platform that you normally use with your students, or schedule in person if that is how you are teaching right now.
- **Aural Exam:**
  - ⇒ We have an option to purchase pre-recorded audio files. Or you can give the aural exam yourself. The registration form will allow you to indicate your preference. We will determine if there is enough interest to purchase the pre-recorded audio files.
  - ⇒ Aural and keyboard skill sheets will be sent to the student prior to the exam.
- **Keyboard Exam:**
  - ⇒ This will be given along with the Aural

## AIM Registration Link

<https://forms.gle/yLUKjakTo4jpge7i8>

exam.

⇒ It is preferable that the transposition piece is from the workbook so that both the student and the judge have access to the music

- **Written Exam:** This will be a self-monitored or family monitored exam.

⇒ Teachers will email or send the exam sheets to the students. Indicate that they need to take this exam on November 21 and return on November 21.

⇒ We decided to print these out for you so that you do not need to worry about the student's ability to print or using your own time and ink to print.

⇒ If you also need a digital copy, you can select that option at registration.

⇒ November 21: The student will complete their written exam and scan back to you or deliver it to you by a certain time that day. (they will also have Aural exam sheets to return as well)

- **Scoring**

⇒ Students will either scan or hand deliver their exams to their teachers after the Aural/Keyboard exam and the written exam on November 21.

⇒ Teachers will score their students exams and scan the score sheet to the Aim Coordinators to double check and enter onto the Aim Cards we have.

# WVMTA Board Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2020

President Nancy Sen called the meeting to order at 9:04.

**WVMTA Meetings:** Nancy Sen opened up the meeting with a discussion of how our group will meet this year. Kristin said that we will not be able to meet at St. Mark's during the pandemic and so we agreed that most of our meetings will be held on Zoom. Nancy will get a paid Zoom account so we can have meetings longer than 40 minutes.

We will have an in-person meeting in September at a park in the Cherry Hill subdivision. This meeting will help us reconnect with each other and discuss how we will move ahead. One idea would be for each teacher to share his or her best practices for teaching during the pandemic.

For our other meetings, we will use a combination of watching videos for piano teachers and paying a speaker who would speak to us on Zoom. There are many excellent videos on the MTNA website and the Francis Clark website. Kristen will look for two speakers who would be willing to speak to our group virtually, one for each semester.

There was discussion about which day of the week to meet. Diann Livingston will survey members to see if meeting on a day other than the second Wednesday of the month could work.

**AIM:** Diann informed us that ISMTA has said that 2020-2021 AIM exams will happen either online or be given by the student's teacher. Written exams for the theory exams will be sent to the student and monitored by the family. Diann will be sending out a survey to determine members' preference about these options.

Nancy reported that Holly Schmidt will not be able to do the AIM Performance Exam scheduling this year. Diann said AIM responsibilities need to be addressed as she ended up doing tasks not previously assigned to her.

**Membership:** Marilyn reported that 19 members have renewed their membership. She will send out a reminder to members.

**Recitals:** Sharla told about her virtual recital which was a hybrid of video recital and a Zoom recital. She got the idea from Nicola Cantan. Here is the link to the video where she talked about online recital ideas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJSgC2gHcd0&t=1336s> Nancy suggested we do an online recital for a student WVMTA recital.

For other great piano teaching ideas check out Nicola Cantan's website: <https://colourfulkeys.ie/blog/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 14, 2020

Monthly Meeting (Zoom??)

November 21, 2020

AIM Theory Exam

March 13, 2021

AIM Performance Exam

