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GAE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESIDENT: Debbie Meier

VP/PROGRAMS: vacant

SECRETARY: LeAnn Halvorson

TREASURER: Joan Witte

www.gatewaymusicteachers.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday, Sept. 8** **“Now that We’ve Been Forced to Use Technology, What’s Next?” Next?”A Webinar Presented by George F. Litterst - 10 am**

**Friday, Oct. 16 “Ideas for the 21st Century Piano Studio” presented by ISMTA President Chris Goldston – A Zoom Meeting at 10 am**

**Friday, Nov. 20 “Can Recitals Happen in a Pandemic? Yes, they can.” A Zoom**

 **Meeting presented by GAE member LeAnn Halvorson.**

SEPTEMBER MEETING

 George Litterst is a nationally known music educator, clinician, author, performer, and music software developer. A classically-trained pianist, he is co-author of the intelligent music display app, SuperScore, and other software products from TimeWarp Technologies. See the attached flyer to this newsletter and be sure to share it with others who may be interested in this topic. A special thanks to Joe Welch for setting up our Zoom meeting with George.

 Below is the **Zoom link** for our meeting on September 18 at 10am:

Joseph Welch is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: GAE: George Litterst Presentation
Time: Sep 18, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting**
<https://blackburn.zoom.us/j/95166639229?pwd=NnQ2dmw5OFY3R2dycDRVSlRyeTB6dz09>

Meeting ID: 951 6663 9229
Passcode: 193693

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,95166639229#,,,,,,0#,,193693# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,95166639229#,,,,,,0#,,193693# US (New York)
Dial by your location
        +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
        +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
        +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
        +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
        +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
        +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 951 6663 9229
Passcode: 193693
Find your local number: <https://blackburn.zoom.us/u/aercT9V5hy>

MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT MEMBERS

Many of you have renewed your membership for 2020-21. Thank you! If you have NOT already done so, don't forget to renew your MTNA, ISMTA, and local chapter memberships ASAP. All membership renewals and payments are managed through the MTNA website, where you can select your state and local chapters upon joining or renewing.

 While COVID-19 concerns continue into the fall, ISMTA is ahead of the curve in preparing our state conference, programs, and competitions to all be run virtually. Participation in these programs requires membership, so be sure to renew today and take advantage of them for yourself and your students!

 Additionally, members are eligible to post their teaching profile publicly on [ISMTA.ORG](http://ismta.org/). This exciting feature of our website allows students and parents searching for a teacher in your area to find you.

 From **Heidi Shepherd**: I’ve decided to end my membership in MTNA.   I am very grateful to have had the interaction with so many capable, educated, experienced and nice teachers.  I have been aided in so many ways in my teaching because of Gateway. I am indebted to the local chapter in particular. Can I say more? Absolutely! But I hope you feel my sincerity. I hope to see you in the future.

 *And*, **Marshall Gurley**: As many of you know, Marshall was assaulted and robbed in early June. He is currently recuperating and he hopes to move to a Senior Facility in the near future. He doesn't know how much longer he will be able to help with the music at his church. He wanted to let everyone know that he probably won't be too active in our group any longer and that he has loved being a part of it and having the friendships with all of us.  He wishes to express his thanks to all of our GAE members that sent him cards and notes of well wishes. He is doing better and continues to improve.

 **Kathryn Gallagher**: A friendly WELCOME BACK to Kathryn! She is now officially retired (after teaching general music, K-8, two days a week at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Bethalto) and looking forward to being more active in the group. She’s been teaching virtually but currently has one asking for in-person lessons. She is looking for a teacher to recommend as she is not currently able to teach in person.

 **Karen Koch**: Many thanks to Karen for diligently working as our Newsletter Editor for many years. She did a superb job and is a wonderful writer. We miss having her on our side of the river but she now lives near a daughter in St. Louis and is currently busy as President of the PTRT (Piano Teachers Round Table) group in St. Louis. She has arranged for GAE to join with the PTRT group for joint programs in February and March. More information to come.

 **Gill Cerbin**: Congratulations to Gill upon being nominated as our candidate for GAE Member of the Year! She will be honored during our virtual state conference to be held in November. Last year at this time we celebrated her completion upon becoming a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NTCM) and we appreciate all she has done for GAE. She serves as our Certification Chair, A.I.M. Chairman, and she takes care of A.I.M. Exam Printing, Collating, and Binder Preparation while also serving as the Site Coordinator for SWIC. Thank you, Gill! In August, the Executive Board met in Gill’s beautiful outdoor patio for a lovely brunch and discussion about how we are going to handle A.I.M. exams this year during the pandemic. A survey for A.I.M. teachers and students was sent out earlier and if you haven’t already sent your survey back to Gill, she would still like to hear from you (and your students). Contact Gill Cerbin if you need the survey forms.

 **Debbie Meier**: I have retired from my teaching (20 piano students) at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Collinsville. It was a hard decision to make as I loved working with these students. I came to Holy Cross in 1976 as third grade teacher and I have served multiple generations of Holy Cross families. I am still involved with singing in the choir and playing handbells along with playing organ at another Lutheran church located in Caseyville. I currently have 4-5 students which I teach virtually in my home studio. I continue to serve as MusicLink State Coordinator for Illinois and I am on the Board of Directors at Metro East Lutheran High in Edwardsville. Besides these activities, I gained another granddaughter in June so the extra free time will allow me to visit more frequently (in Oklahoma). As for another trip to Okinawa (to visit our son and family), it will depend on the Covid-19 situation.

 **Steve Miller**: The store is fully open and we ask people to wear a mask when entering and sanitize hands right inside the front door.   We are having lessons in the store but we have see-thru panels between the teacher and the student.  We have been doing this since June 1st and it's working great.  Just so you know, in the future please send me a text message instead of emails.  I teach about 50 students now that four of our teachers quit.  That way I can answer you right away, it's just easier.  My cell phone number that I use for the store is **618-315-3531.** Thanks.

TREASURER’S REPORT

 Treasurer **Joan Witte** has asked that everyone look over the budget proposal for this year. Please respond to Joan Witte by September 30.Everyone needs to vote whether they approve this or not. So far, we have 22 members who have paid dues as of September 9. If you have not renewed your membership yet, you may still do so by going to [MTNA.org](http://www.mtna.org) and clicking the JOIN + RENEW tab. (View the budget proposal on the last page of this newsletter.)

**Now that We’ve Been Forced to Use Technology, What’s Next?**

A Webinar Presented by George F. Litterst

Friday, September 18, 2020 • 10 am CDT

Sponsored by Gateway Arch East Music Teachers Association

By necessity, pianos studios have gone virtual, and music instruction now takes place online.

In this new world of video conferencing, webcams, screen-sharing, and MIDI keyboards, how does a piano teacher inspire students, promote efficient learning, and teach at an even higher level than before?

MTNA is excited to present an insightful webinar with George Litterst, a well known music educator, performer, and music technologist. A pioneer with over 20 years of experience in the field of distance learning, George has developed software products and teaching techniques that will help you to take your teaching to the next level.

In this webinar, George will move well beyond the basics of online teaching and focus on:

• using the online medium to teach visually, aurally, conceptually, and kinesthetically

• the high level experience of connecting student and teacher pianos together over the Internet

• interactive materials for students to use between lessons

*Join us on* ***Friday, September 18****, at 10 am CDT and prepare to take your studio where few studios have gone before!*



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