



2018 State Conference Schedule*

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018

8:30-9:00 Registration

Session 1: 9:00-10:00am: "The Secret Ingredient for Piano Teaching Success: The Powerful Role of Parents"

Piano teachers commonly report an alarming trend of low student motivation and engagement, poor lesson preparation, slow student progress, and increasing student attrition. Worse yet, teachers often lament declining interest in piano study in general. While these trends can certainly be attributed to many factors, the clinicians contend that one factor in particular is usually at play: a lack of positive parental involvement.

This workshop will explore robust strategies piano teachers can employ to engage, educate, and encourage the parents of their students. The clinicians, who are piano parents themselves, will introduce and discuss the concept of parent practice retreats and their powerful impact. Additionally, participants will experience practical, time-tested practice techniques and resources that can be used to create a positive home practice environment while successfully inspiring effective, efficient, and joyful student practice.

10:00-10:15am: Break

Session 2: 10:15-11:15am: "The Art of the Piano Duet: Teaching Artistry Through Ensemble Experience."

The experience of making music with other musicians can be one of life's greatest joys! The art of collaborative music entails specialized skills that are valuable to all pianists. Thus, the clinicians contend that collaborative music making should be an integral part of all young pianists' early training.

This workshop will present a discussion of the merits of collaborative training for the intermediate pianist, benefits of the studying piano duets, a brief history of the medium, an exploration of ideas for the implementation of such a program in the independent studio, practical teaching and rehearsal strategies for both teachers and students, as well as demonstration of important works, both hot-off-the-press as well as time-tested gems, from the early and intermediate piano duet repertoire.

11:30-12:15pm: LUNCH

12:30-1:00 pm: Recital

Session 3: 1:15-2:15 pm: “Piano Safari Showcase”

Piano Safari Method: Building a Foundation for Music Literacy

In this workshop, the defining pedagogical characteristics of Piano Safari will be presented. Learn how this series integrates technique, reading, improvisation, and rote teaching to develop comprehensive musicianship skills in the young pianist.

2:15-2:30 Break

Session 4: 2:30-3:30 pm: "Making the Most out of Practice: A Practical Guide to Student Practice."

Designed for students, parents, teachers or a combination of the three, this workshop provides the audience with a variety of exceptional practice strategies that are expressly designed to maximize practice efficiency and overall effectiveness. A list of published resources will be detailed as to how they can be used to guide student practice. This workshop can be adapted specifically for parents in order to provide helpful tips to facilitate quality at-home practice for their child.

3:45 – 4:45 pm Master Class

Featuring a range of students from beginner, intermediate, through advanced.

5:00 pm: Adjourn

***Session descriptions by Christopher & Katherine Fisher**

Acknowledgments

I'd like to thank all those who helped make this conference possible: the NHMTA Board, Kathy Southworth, Immediate Past President, Hsiang Tu, President Elect, Marie Mendelow, VP for Programs, Gregg Pauley, VP for Competitions, Lynne Wilby, VP for Membership, Becky Ryder Riley, Treasurer and Rebecca Herst, Hospitality chair who provided refreshments

A special thank you goes to the Concord Community Music School and its staff for hosting this event, and to the Plymouth State University Collegiate Chapter for their assistance today.

Thanks to all of you for supporting the mission of MTNA through your participation, and of course to our wonderful presenters and colleagues, Christopher & Katherine Fisher.

Cheryl Laughlin, President NHMTA

