

Gateway Arch East
Music Teachers Association

# Illinois State Music Teachers Association
# Music Teachers National Association
# 2026-2027 Yearbook Web Copy

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## Useful Links:

www.gatewaymusicteachers.org
www.mtna.org
www.ismta.org
www.musicperceptions.com
www.amyjosawyer.com
www.youngmozarts.net

**2026-2027 GAE Executive Board:**

Gill Cerbin, President J
Sharon Voss, Vice President/Program Coordinator
Joan Witte, Secretary
Deborah Meier, Treasurer

**Chairpersons:**

A.I.M.: Gill Cerbin
Membership: Joan Witte
Certification: Gill Cerbin
Newsletter: Dr. Joseph Welch
Directory: Deborah Meier
AIM Theory Scheduler and Aural Exam CD Recorder: LeAnn Halvorson
AIM Performance Scheduler: Joan Witte
AIM Repertoire Checkers: Deborah Meier, Ruth Stith, Mary Anderson, Huei Li Chin
AIM Exam Printing, Collating, and Binder Preparation: LeAnn Halvorson
AIM Site Coordinator for SWIC: Gill Cerbin
AIM Site Coordinator for SIUE: Huei Li Chin
Webmaster: Seth Metcalfe

The 2026-2027 Gateway Arch East Executive Board wishes to welcome you and thank you for your membership. We are looking forward to another year of music making together.

This is your updated directory for upcoming events, membership, and Gateway Arch East Music Teachers Association (GAEMTA) information. Please download it to your computer and save it. We thank Debbie Meier for putting it together. Additional information can be found at: www.gatewaymusicteachers.org. Our webmaster is Seth Metcalfe. Please contact him if you have any information you need to include or update on the website or in our Newsletter.

Each and every member of Gateway Arch East MTA has special skills to share and we learn so much from each member; you are truly appreciated. To be successful as a group, we need all members to contribute, and would like to encourage you to come to our meetings. The more teachers in our group, the more ideas we have to share. Our Membership Chair, Joe Welch, can be reached at: pianowelch@gmail.com

Your MTNA membership is an investment in crucial musical commodities, with continuing educational opportunities, career development, peer recognition, and networking programs. The 2026 Illinois State Conference will be held November 6-7, 2026 at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL. Go to www.ismta.org to access all of the conference information designed specifically for you. You'll be able to share with and learn from knowledgeable experts in your field. MTNA's popular monthly webinars also cover a variety of topics of interest to music teachers.

GAEMTA members are also eligible to apply for the National Certification Program administered by MTNA, which enables teachers to enhance their professional status. For the music teaching professional, certification provides prestige, recognition and the potential for student recruitment and increased earning power. The designation of Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) is given to successful candidates who meet the professional competencies and standards required for MTNA certification. All applied music teachers actively engaged in the profession are eligible for MTNA Professional Certification. If you would like to know more about becoming certified, you can contact Gill Cerbin, Certification Chair, phone/text: (618) 980-5870; e-mail: gillcerbin@yahoo.com or contact MTNA, phone (888) 512-5278 or visit their website at: www.mtna.org.

Gateway Arch East MTA participates in the Illinois State Piano Examinations Achievement in Music (AIM) program. We encourage teachers to enter students at all levels. Upper-level AIM students, levels nine and

higher receive a cash award from Gateway Arch East MTA for passing both the theory and performance exams. We will reimburse members of our organization who haven't previously been involved in AIM Exams for their purchase of the AIM Syllabus from ISMTA. If you have questions regarding the program, you can contact Gill Cerbin, AIM Chair.

We need each and every member to make our organization strong and vital to serve the musical needs of our community. We wish you a rewarding and musical year ahead.

Sincerely,
The Gateway Arch East Executive Board

# CODE OF ETHICS

Adopted by Gateway Arch East Chapter
Illinois State Music Teachers Association
Music Teachers National Association

The Gateway Arch East Chapter has accepted the Code of Ethics of the MTNA and the ISMTA. In accordance with these codes, the GAE has established the following Code of Ethics:

## RESPONSIBILTIES TO OUR PUBLIC

1. Maintaining and improving professional abilities in teaching and performing.
2. Giving no misleading or exaggerated claims concerning teaching qualifications in written or oral presentations.
3. Suggesting the name of two or more teachers when asked for guidance in selecting an independent teacher; final choice shall be made by the parent and the student.

## RESPONSIBILITIES TO OUR STUDENTS

1. Encouraging and developing the musical potential of each student as fully as possible, but avoiding specific promises or guarantees leading to false hopes of a career in music.
2. Encouraging students to participate in community music activities.
3. Maintaining confidentiality concerning student's test scores, conversations, etc.

## RESPONSIBILITIES TO OUR COLLEAGUES

1. Participating as fully as possible in activities of the Music Teachers National Association, the Illinois State Music Teachers Association, and Gateway Arch East Chapter.
2. Providing professional assistance to one another when such assistance is requested.
3. Respecting the rights of colleagues in their careers as teachers of music and withholding criticism.
4. Avoiding interference with a given student-teacher relationship.
5. Avoiding conflict with the instruction of a student's regular teacher when serving as an interim instructor.
6. Claiming credit for the achievement of a student only after the completion of at least six months of study with the respective teacher.
7. Accepting a transfer student only after receiving proof that lessons with the prior teacher have ceased and all financial obligations have been fulfilled.

8. Conforming to copyrighting laws regarding photocopying of published music in order that composers may be fairly compensated for their work.

## MEMBER OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

### Gateway Arch East Chapter

1997-1998 – Marian Chao
1998-1999 – Frances Tonnies
1999-2000 – Karen Rogers
2000-2001 – Amy Jo Sawyer
2001-2002 – LeAnn Halvorson
2002-2003 – Deborah Meier
2003-2004 – Karen Koch
2004-2005 – Marshall Gurley
2005-2006 – Heidi Shepherd
2006-2007 – Darice Palmier
2007-2008 – LeAnn Halvorson
2008-2009 – Donna Guillaume
2009-2010 – Deborah Meier and LeAnn Halvorson
2010-2011 – Linda Perry
2011-2012 – Susan Lipnick
2012-2013 – Mary Anderson
2013-2014 – Joan Witte
2014-2015 – LeAnn Halvorson and Amy Jo Sawyer
2015-2016 – Karen Koch
2016-2017 – Joan Witte
2017-2018 – Joseph Welch
2018-2019 – Huei Li Chin
2019-2020 – Amy Jo Sawyer
2020-2021 – Gill Cerbin
2021-2022 – Marshall Gurley
2022-2023 – Deborah Meier
2023-2024 – Joseph Welch
2024-2025 – No recipient nominated
2025-2026 – Frances Gregg (Posthumously)
and Dr. Stephanie Owen (Posthumously)
2026-2027 – Joseph Welch

# 2026-2027 Calendar of GAE Programs and Events

**Saturday, August 29, 2026 at 12 noon-4:00 p.m.**
**Location:** Joe Glik Park, 710 E. Lake Drive, Edwardsville, IL 62025
**GAE Picnic** Join us at Joe Glik Park in Edwardsville! Bring a dish for a potluck style lunch and an afternoon of fun. Share a teaching tip.

**Friday, September 25, 2026, at 10 a.m.**
**Location:** (Gill's home) 231 W. Water's Edge Dr., Belleville, IL 62221-7811
**Birthday Party Brunch** Join us to celebrate Amy Jo Sawyer's milestone birthday. Bring a dish if possible, or come as you are.

*To Be Determined*
**SLSO Concert**
We will be attending an SLSO concert together this Fall. More details on this will be released soon!

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Nov. 5-7, 2026**
**Location:** Roosevelt University**,** 430 S Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60605
**2026 ISMTA Conference and Competition**
The main conference events this year are November 6th and 7th with the competition on the 7th and 8th. This year, there is also a PianoFest Opening Concert on the 5th. All this will be taking place at Roosevelt University, with Winston Choi as the conference artist/clinician. We also congratulate LeAnn Halvorson as the Illinois Foundation Fellow! For registration information, visit the ISMTA conference web page.

**Friday, December 11, 2026, 10:00 a.m.**
**Location**: (Gill's home) 231 W. Water's Edge Dr., Belleville, IL 62221-7811
Contact information 618-239-0122 (Gill)
**Christmas Party – Music-making at Gill's**
Gill Cerbin generously welcomes us back for a Christmas party of treats and reading festive duets. This laid-back event gives us an opportunity to casually make music with friends. We will gather around the piano, take turns playing, and sing festive tunes!

## 2027

**Saturday and Sunday, February 6-7, 2027**
**AIM Theory Exams**

| | |
|---|---|
| **February 20, 2027** | AIM Level 3-12 Theory Examinations held at **SIUE** |
| **February 6-7, 2027** | AIM Level 3-12 Theory Examinations held at **SWIC** |

**Saturday, March 20, 2027 at 2:00 p.m.**
**Location: SIUE Choir Room**
**Masterclass with Dr. Angela Kim**
Put the polishing touches on pieces for AIM exams in a masterclass with Dr. Angela Kim from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville University!

**Friday - Tuesday, April 2 – 6**
**Location:** St. Louis, MO
**MTNA 2027 National Conference**
This conference will be in St. Louis! Find out more here.

**Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25, 2027**
**AIM Performance Exams**

| | |
|---|---|
| **April 24, 2027** | AIM Performance Examinations (all levels) at **SIUE** |
| **April 24/25, 2027** | AIM Performance Examinations (all levels) at **SWIC** |

**Saturday, May 8, 2027 at 4:30 p.m.** [tentative date - pending confirmation]
**Location:** Bothwell Chapel at McKendree University, 298 N. Alton St., Lebanon, IL
**GAEMTA Student Recital**
Bothwell Chapel at McKendree University is again hosting a concert of great music from our students! Quickly becoming a favorite event, get this on your calendar now for both you and your students!

**Friday, May 14, 2027 at 11:00 a.m.**
**Location: Bandana's Bar-B-Q,** 4608 N. Illinois, Fairview Heights, IL 62208
**End of Year Business Meeting**
We love to eat together at Bandana's in Fairview Heights! The conversation is so good, sometimes business ends up on the back burner. Join us at this important meeting as we make decisions for the GAE's future!

# Membership of Gateway Arch East Music Teachers Association

(16 members)

Mary Anderson
Piano
342 N 43rd St
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(618) 233-4584
manders@siue.edu

Natalie Braun
www.youngmozarts.net
(618) 972-5318

Catherine Burge NCTM
Piano, Accompanying, Clarinet, Voice, Group Piano
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caburge@gmail.com

Gillian Cerbin NCTM
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Keyboard Development
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Ruth Stith
Piano, Accompanying, Elementary Music

Sharon Voss
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Joan Witte
Piano, Harp
Aviston IL
JCW-GAE@proton.me

# GAE POLICIES
## General Policies

**EXPENSES**

- Program presenters are paid a minimum of $150.00.
- The GAE President will be reimbursed $100.00 for conference expenses.
- The GAE Member of the Year will be awarded $100.00 to go towards conference expenses.
- A teacher's assistance fund is available to help pay part of new member fees (50% of the total MTNA dues) to first-time members.
- Executive Board approval is needed for any unbudgeted expenses or for any expense more than $25.00 over the budgeted amount.

- A minimum balance of $500 shall be kept in the GAE checking account to cover any unexpected expenses.

**MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

Member of the Year is to be selected annually based either upon service within GAE for that year or upon general musical accomplishments.

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**

A $25.00 donation will be made to the MusicLink Foundation in honor of a current or former member's death; a card will be sent to the respective family.

**COLLEGIATE MEMBERS**

In order to incentivize college music majors to join our chapter, GAE will reimburse the total amount of 2026-27 MTNA, ISMTA, and GAE dues for any new collegiate members. We will also offer a scholarship for one collegiate member of GAE to attend the 2027 MTNA national conference in St. Louis, Missouri. Interested students must submit an application by November 15, stating why they want to attend the conference, and a winner will be chosen by the Executive Committee by December 1. The awardee will be reimbursed the cost of the early bird collegiate registration fee.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE GATEWAY ARCH EAST CHAPTER OF THE ISMTA

Adopted: 1981 Revised: 2023

### PREAMBLE

In compliance with its status as an affiliate, the Gateway Arch East Chapter shall be subject to the rules of the Music Teachers National Association and the Illinois State Music Teachers Association.

### ARTICLE I- NAME

The name shall be Gateway Arch East Chapter, Illinois State Music Teachers Association.

### ARTICLE II- OBJECT

The object of the Association is the advancement of musical knowledge and education; the promotion of the general welfare and standards of music teachers; the recognition and encouragement of musical ability and instruction of the general public in matters pertaining to music instruction.

### ARTICLE III- OFFICERS

The officers of this association shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

### ARTICLE IV- EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall consist of the officers named in Article III, and members appointed for specific responsibilities.

### ARTICLE V- BYLAWS

The Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the group by a two-thirds vote of the members present. These amendments shall be presented in writing and mailed to each member in good standing at least two weeks before the meeting at which the vote will be taken.

# BYLAWS OF THE GATEWAY ARCH EAST CHAPTER OF THE ISMTA

### BYLAW I – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I – ACTIVE MEMBER = Any person having reached the age of 21, who is actively engaged in any branch of the music profession, and is committed to the objectives of this association as stated in the constitution, shall be eligible for active membership.

SECTION II – COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP = Open to any undergraduate or graduate college music student who is not over the age of 26. Such membership does not include the right to vote or hold office.

SECTION III – SENIOR MEMBER = Any active member who is 70 years of age or older.

### BYLAW II – FINANCES

SECTION I – PAYMENT OF DUES: Annual local dues shall be $10.00 for active membership and $5.00 for collegiate and senior membership. All members pay local dues along with state and national dues by submitting payment to MTNA for the coming year no later than July.

SECTION I.1 – Transfer members who have already paid state and national dues pay local dues only, made payable to Gateway Arch East M.T.A. New member applications for the current year submitted between January 1 and June 30 are half price for state and national dues.

SECTION II – DUES POLICIES: Local dues shall be determined by the Executive Board with the approval of the general membership.

SECTION III – FISCAL YEAR: The fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30.

## BYLAW III – MEETINGS

SECTION I – Executive Board meetings shall be held at the discretion of the president or any two other officers. Members present shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION II – A minimum of six general meetings shall be held each year from September through May, subject to the decision of the Executive Board of the Association.

SECTION III – A quorum at general meetings shall consist of five members.

## BYLAW IV – OFFICERS

SECTION I – OFFICERS AND DUTIES

PRESIDENT: to preside at meetings; to appoint chairmen of standing committees; and to perform such other duties compatible with the office.

VICE PRESIDENT: to assume duties in the absence of the President; to be responsible for organizing and coordinating the programs for the year.

SECRETARY: to maintain records of the minutes of all Executive Board and general meetings; to notify the members of monthly meetings and special events, unless already listed in the newsletter.

TREASURER: to maintain records and custody of funds and dues; to discharge expenses; to present a financial statement at each meeting of the Executive Board and at general meetings; to be responsible for the preparation of the annual report to members and for filing the E-postcard for tax exempt status; to prepare an annual budget, to be approved by the Executive Board and general membership.

SECTION II – ELECTIONS: Officers of this Association shall be elected for a two-year term. The President and Vice President may serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office, unless a suitable replacement cannot be found. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. All officers shall be nominated by a nominating committee of three members appointed by the President. Additional nominations may be made from the meeting floor. The retiring President will serve as Parliamentarian. All active members shall be notified of the slate one month in advance. Vacancies shall be filled by the nominating committee upon the approval of the membership.

## BYLAW V– PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all matters not covered by special provisions by Bylaws.

Approval date: July 6, 2023

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https://www.sheetmusicplus.com/search?Ntt=LeAnn+Halvorson

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