



GAE NEWSLETTER April/May 2022

PRESIDENT: [Debbie Meier](#)
VP/PROGRAMS: [Gill Cerbin](#)
SECRETARY: [LeAnn Halvorson](#)
TREASURER: [Joan Witte](#)
NEWSLETTER: [Debbie Meier](#)
WEBMASTER: [Tara Wright](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 13 End-of-Year Luncheon and Annual Business Meeting
11:00-1:00 Elections, Member-of-the-Year selection, etc., Venue: Bandana's Bar-B-
Que Restaurant, in the upper level banquet room at the Fairview Heights location—4608 N.
Illinois Street, Fairview Heights, IL 62208 (618-222-2060)

MAY MEETING



WHAT: GAE May Meeting

WHEN: Friday, May 13th, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

WHERE: Bandana's Bar-Be-Que, 4608 N. Illinois Street, Fairview Hts., IL 62208; Phone: (618) 222-2060

Smell that smoke! Bandana's Bar-B-Que is the location for our final meeting of the year. Please come to enjoy in-person fellowship with one another as we also elect new officers. Ideas and comments on past and future programs will be welcomed. Outgoing President **Debbie Meier** welcomes your feedback and she will be happy to accept comments and ideas. If there is anybody in our organization who wishes to be on the Gateway Arch East MTA board who has never served, please contact her before the meeting. Do take a moment to email ideas/willingness/comments to her now. This is how we can strengthen our chapter. We are also accepting nominations for our GAE Member-of-the-Year.

GAE Executive Board Slate of Officers:

President: Gill Cerbin

Vlce President/Program Coordinator: Dr. Joseph Welch

Secretary: Dr. Catherine Burge

Treasurer: Heather Netemeyer

MARCH IN REVIEW

In case you missed it, here is the link and passcode to view **Charlie's presentation**:

<https://blackburn.zoom.us/rec/share/YLAYtapkvcmBb4CxZY-vHokKt-kC72PqbJe6uJ5RfrCVFRxVJxO6igfrsqh5WuSN.W31fbrED5eGidLsT?startTime=1647615801000> (Passcode: x0^c5R?u)

St. Louis – The Center of Ragtime Music 1895-1910

From the early days of Ragtime, St. Louis attracted many of the great players and composers of the era. This was especially true of the years just prior to and after the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 (The St. Louis World's Fair). We will take a closer look at the role St. Louis played during this period and the piano styles that followed this popular music genre.



Charles Kuhn is a retired businessman/educator who has always been fascinated with the music and history of ragtime and early jazz. An amateur pianist, Charles recently facilitated classes at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Washington University in the history of ragtime music and the music of the 1904 World's Fair. Originally from Trenton, Illinois, he now lives in St. Louis with his wife, Evelyn. His three daughters also play piano (all former students of Karen Koch). His oldest daughter, Emily, currently teaches instrumental music in the Webster School District.

AIM UPDATE



AIM Chair, Gill Cerbin reports that there were 54 students originally scheduled to participate in the AIM Performance examinations.

Fourteen students were at the SIUE location and the remainder at SWIC location or remote.

All 14 SIUE students completed successfully, including one level 9 (Davin Rich/Teacher Huei Li Chin) and one level 10 (Emma Curtright/Teacher Melissa Ray). Both received plaques and checks.

Of the 40 students scheduled at SWIC or remotely, three students withdrew at the last moment, and one received an incomplete due to failure to memorize and complete a second memorized piece. Sadly, this was a level 11 examination. There was

clarification sought from the State AIM Chair that the student was NOT allowed to retest and play the unmemorized piece at a later date. So SWIC totals were 36 completed successfully, including one level 9 (Callie Ferguson/Teacher Karen Koch) and one level 10 (Aidan Sawyer/Teacher Amy Jo Sawyer). Both received plaques and checks.

Congratulations to all of these students and teachers for their dedication and hard work! A big thank you, also, to those that worked behind the scenes with prep work, scheduling, judging, and helping things run smoothly.

Gill Cerbin
AIM Chair

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION FEE REIMBURSEMENT

 Ilia Radoslavov - VP Local Associations would like to remind everyone that ISMTA will financially support the first **twenty** colleagues, MTNA/ISMTA members, who successfully complete the Professional Certification process and become Nationally Certified Teachers of Music (NCTM). He states there are already six colleagues who have completed the process or are in the middle of it. The reimbursement will be in the amount of **\$200** which covers the first Area of Performance fee. Please don't hesitate to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! If you want to know more, contact [Gill Cerbin](#), State Certification Chair, and she will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

MTNA FOUNDATION FELLOWS



Each year, the ISMTA board nominates one fellow and raises funds to fund that fellow. I am excited to announce that this year's Foundation Fellow nomination has been selected from our local association! **Drum roll, please!!!** Debi Inch recently notified **Amy Jo Sawyer** that she has been nominated by the ISMTA executive board to become our **2022 Illinois Foundation Fellow!** Debi will don her magical hat and wave her magic wand at our November conference while adding her personal touch as she does an in-person campaign for Amy Jo. The MTNA Fellow program offers a meaningful method for honoring deserving individuals while supporting the efforts of the MTNA Foundation Fund through a donation to the fund in an individual's name. We agree with Debi's own words to Amy Jo, "We all know the extensive musical contributions you have spent years engaging in for your own piano studio, for your community and beyond so it is my pleasure to send you this nomination." Let us congratulate Amy Jo as she accepts this great honor! How exciting it is for this year's nomination to be selected from GAE!

MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

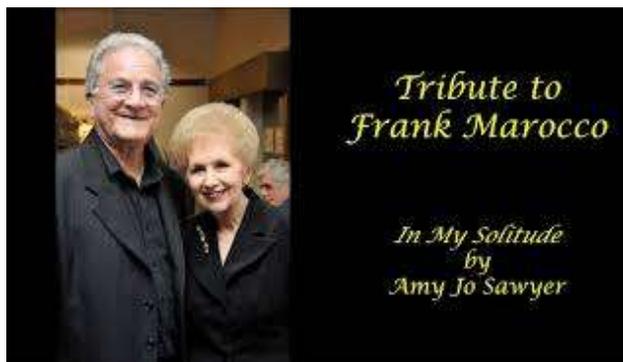
In March, **Amy Jo Sawyer** participated in a memoriam to a fabulous accordionist and dear friend of hers that passed away 10 years ago. There was a Zoom memorial service and one of her original accordion pieces was used on the program. Amy writes:

Frank Marocco was his name. I wrote many orchestra pieces for him and we attended (for 7 years) an event in Arizona that he sponsored. He was also the original accordionist on the movie "Ratatouille" that I played with the St. Louis symphony a few years ago.

Here is the video/music - "In My Solitude" for Frank Marocco.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXeV7V6QS5I>.

Preview YouTube video Amy Jo Sawyer's tribute to Frank Marocco



Congratulations to Bella Crank, voice student of **Gill Cerbin**, who recently received the top Musicianship Award for treble choir at Belleville East HS.



We are pleased to welcome back former member, **Lisa Cripe**, who is renewing her membership. She currently has a day job in the O'Fallon Jr. High Schools, but she is now doing more teaching in her home studio and is interested in getting back into our AIM program.

Lisa is excited to be offering some Musikgarten classes this summer through the O'Fallon Parks and Recreation Department and would like to share links to her class offerings. Feel free to share them with your colleagues and beyond! Each class is offered at various times/days. See below:

My Musical World (Family Music for Infants/Toddlers and their Caregiver) <https://ofallonparksandrec.com/product/parent-n-tot-music-my-musical-world-2/>

Nature's Music (Family Music for Toddlers and Preschoolers their Caregiver) <https://ofallonparksandrec.com/product/parent-n-tot-music-my-musical-world/> (unfortunately, the URL does not reflect the title of the class)

My Neighborhood Community (4-7 year olds) <https://ofallonparksandrec.com/product/childhood-music-and-movement-my-neighborhood-community/>

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MTNA MEMBERSHIP



In most cases, renewal notices for the 2022–2023 membership year have been mailed to all current MTNA members. You may renew by mail with that statement, or you may renew online right now by signing in to your member account.

Renewing is easy! Simply go to mtna.org and sign in to your account, click the “**Renew MTNA Membership**” button in your member profile and follow the prompts. If you received an email notification, it's easy!

Active Membership is available to any individual professionally engaged in a music activity who is also a member of an affiliated state association. Active members enjoy all [benefits of membership](#) and are entitled to participate in all MTNA activities, vote and hold office. **Individuals over age 70 qualify for Senior Membership rates.** The active membership year runs July 1 through June 30. If at all possible, help us update next year's membership by renewing early or by the **deadline of June 30.**

And, FYI, the next MTNA National Conference will take place in Reno, Nevada!

FROM THE ROYAL CONSERVATORY

You may have received a sponsored Ad in an email from MTNA. If you click on the RSVP button below, you will get a peek at the livestream concert, “Music Lights the Way.”

“**Music Lights the Way**”, live from Koerner Hall. Don’t miss your opportunity to be a part of this momentous occasion.

The **free, livestream event** will feature world premiere performances of newly composed works from The Royal Conservatory’s acclaimed *Celebration Series®*, *Sixth Edition*.

The event will include special performances and guest appearances from:

- Stewart Goodyear
- Angela Hewitt
- Marvin Blickenstaff
- Randall Faber
- Tony Yike Yang
- Jan Lisiecki
- Lang Lang
- Any many more

During the event there will be an announcement about two exciting new RCM initiatives, an upcoming student piano festival, and a special offer unprecedented in the history of The RCM directed at supporting our music teachers. We look forward to sharing details with you at the event.

Please RSVP to receive the livestream link that you can share with your fellow music teachers.

[**RSVP Now**](#)

Sincerely,
The RCM Certificate Program

MUSICLINK

30th Year Celebration!
Goal = 200 Students in 2022



MusicLink would like to thank all donors who continue to support their mission to bring long term lessons to students in need with **30 years of success!** Their goal is to reach a total of 8,000 students by the end of 2022 and they are edging close to their goal with fewer than 200 students to go. I would like to encourage any teacher who is offering discount lessons to a student or students (50% or less of their normal fee) to register these students on the MusicLink website and join MusicLink to benefit from teacher reimbursements, grass roots grants, summer camp scholarships, and business discounts. Link here to help MusicLink reach their goal or contact [Deb Meier](#) if you would like to know more about MusicLink or how to become a MusicLink teacher:

<https://www.musiclinkfoundation.org/tchinfo.php>

You may also enjoy the two links shown below. The first one tells how MusicLink started in 1992 and gives an overview of the program. The second link features Justin Kauflin. He is an alumnus of the MusicLink Foundation, and has an interesting story to tell. When he was just 11-years-old, he lost his sight. Years later, he is one of the world's most talented jazz musicians and signed to jazz legend Quincy Jones' label.

MusicLink's 30th Anniv



The MusicLink Foundation is enjoying its 30th anniversary in 2022. To celebrate this milestone, we share video spotlights from teachers, students and alumni who explain the importance of music in their lives and what MusicLink means to them.

Joanne Haroutounian, founder and executive director of the MusicLink Foundation explains how MusicLink started in 1992 and an overview of the program.



Justin Kauflin - On Danish Shore

Justin Kauflin is an award-winning American jazz pianist, composer, producer, educator and Quincy Jones & Yamaha Artist who performs worldwide. He is also an alumnus of the MusicLink Foundation. He shares an at-home session performing the music of Oscar Peterson (<https://www.justinkauflin.com>).

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2022 GAE Treasurer's Report

Account balance 5/4/22	\$7,830.65		
	2021-22 Budget	Mar/Apr 2022	YTD
INCOME			
Memberships	\$205.00	\$0.00	\$210.00
AIM Entry Fees	\$1,580.00	\$420.00	\$1,270.00
Yearbook Ads	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,860.00	\$420.00	\$1,555.00
EXPENSES			
AIM Expenses Total	\$949.00	\$634.39	\$634.39
AIM Medals	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
AIM Misc. Supplies	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
AIM Pins	\$137.00	\$58.00	\$58.00
AIM Printing & Mailing	\$120.00	\$87.05	\$87.05
ISMTA Student Foundation	\$212.00	\$239.34	\$239.34
Student Award Checks	\$350.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
SWIC Foundation Arts Fund (donation for use of facilities)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
AIM Syllabus for New Members	\$28.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Member of the Year Conference Expense	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
President's Conference Expense	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing/Mailing (yearbook, newsletter, other besides AIM)	\$85.00	\$11.60	\$41.90
Programs	\$900.00	\$100.00	\$750.00
Teacher's Assistance Fund (partial dues scholarship for new members and partial reimbursement of first time certification fee)	\$128.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Website Expenses	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,375.00	\$745.99	\$1,486.29