

**AKTA Board Members
2009-2010**

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Visit the AKTA website at
www.pianoakta.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Deadlines:

March 26 - Registration Deadline for AMTA Spring Adjudications
(see page 3)

April 1 - Application Deadline for Alaska Piano Competition
(see page 2)

Special Events:

February 27 - Duet Ribbon Festival

March 20-24 - MTNA National Conference, Albuquerque, NM

April 23 at 7 p.m. - AKTA end-of-the-year potluck and election of
2010-2012 board (tentative date, location TBA)

April 22, 23, 24, 26, and 27 - **New dates** for AMTA Spring Adjudications
(see page 3)

May 1-2, 2010 - Alaska Piano Competition (see page 2)

August 13-14, 2010 - AMTA Conference in Sitka

Board Meetings: **New dates are** March 5, 9-11 a.m., April 2, 9-11 a.m., and April
23 at 7 p.m. (tentative date, location TBA). All members are welcome to attend.

Meetings are held at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, 10955 Elmore Road.

Duet Ribbon Festival

Saturday, February 27th, 2010 at St. Mary's Episcopal Church
(corner of Lake Otis and Tudor)

8:30 AM to 12:00 noon

For more information, please contact Dean Epperson at 346-4468
or epperson@gci.net

Congratulations to our MTNA Northwest Division Contestants

January 15-17, 2010 in Portland, Oregon

Thank you to the students and their teachers for representing Alaska!

The following students received awards at the Division Competition. Winners will compete in the National Competition on March 20-24, 2010 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Junior Piano: Honorable Mention, Wesley Voley, student of Dr. Timothy Smith

Junior String: Honorable Mention, Madeline Endres, student of Linda Ottum

Senior Piano: Honorable Mention, Annie Kil, student of Rumi Smith

Senior String: Honorable Mention, Brett Lindsay, student of Linda Ottum

Senior Piano Duet: Alternate, Micah McKinnis and Jasper Jackson, students of Svetlana Velitchko

Young Artist Piano: Honorable Mention, Ga-In Choi, student of Dr. Timothy Smith

Young Artist String: Winner, Maureen Heflinger, student of Dr. Kathleen Butler-Hopkins

Timothy Smith Piano Recital

**Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
University of Alaska Fine Arts Building
Recital Hall**

Dr. Timothy Smith, chair of the UAA Music Department, will give a solo recital in February. The program includes:

Mozart Fantasy in C minor, K. 396

Three Chinese Folk Songs

Skryabin Sonatas: No. 9 ("Black Mass") and No. 5

Selections from "Années de Pèlerinage, Italie" (Liszt) to include:

Sposalizio, Sonetto 47 del Petrarca, Sonetto 104 del Petrarca, and the "Dante Sonata"

Tickets are available at www.centertix.net and at the UAA Fine Arts Building Box Office: 786-4849

General Admission \$18

Students, Seniors, Military \$15

Alaska Piano Competition

The Alaska Piano Competition information – dates, rules, and application form – has been posted on the new UAA Department of Music website. Information and application can be accessed by clicking on the "Alaska Piano Competition" link at the Music Department homepage (located at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/music/>)

The adjudicator for the upcoming competition will be Michael Gurt, from Louisiana State University. Mr. Gurt has studied with Martin Canin at the Juilliard School, and also with Dorothy Taubman. Mr. Gurt will also be performing a recital at UAA on Friday, April 30. More information on the concert will be posted soon.

The competition is May 1 and 2, 2010 at the UAA Arts Building Recital Hall. Application deadline is April 1. All pertinent info is on the application. Any questions may be referred to Dr. Timothy Smith at 786-1524.



Alaska Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association, Inc.

AMTA Spring Adjudications

Dear Anchorage Area AMTA members:

This correspondence is an announcement of the AMTA Adjudications to be held April 22, 23, 24, and April 26-27 at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in Anchorage. Our adjudicator is Jamila Hla Shwe who is on the faculty at UAF and a member of AMTA and IAKT. Jamila is a terrific person: energetic, kind, and a great musician. Although she teaches at the college level, she is also experienced with younger students and is excited to come to Anchorage to hear our students perform.

You may either email me at epperson@gci.net or call (346-4565) to request your registration packet. Due to the slightly earlier dates for our adjudications, the deadline for submission of forms and checks is Friday, **March 26th**. Schedules and other information will be **emailed** Monday, **April 5th**, and ribbons will be given to the teacher by the adjudicator at the time of their adjudications. Please contact me if you would prefer these items to be mailed.

This event is for students who play at the Elementary 3 level or higher. Teachers purchase blocks of time (15 minutes/\$15, 25 minutes/\$25, or 35 minutes/\$35) during which their students perform 2 pieces of contrasting style for an adjudicator to hear and write comments about. One piece should be “recital-ready” and memorized, while the other piece should have all the notes and rhythms learned, but can be “in progress” and needing additional refinement. The adjudicator works with the student at the piano during this mini-lesson and parents and interested parties are welcome to attend. All students receive a ribbon for participation. Adjudicators are chosen for their teaching skills, their musical and pianistic knowledge, and their ability to work with students in a positive and constructive manner.

For teachers who are unfamiliar with the adjudication process, you are welcome to attend and observe free of charge. Please contact me first if you would like to observe. This is a great educational experience for both students and teachers and I hope to see many of you participate.

Cindy Epperson, NCTM
State and Local Adjudication Chair

Jamila Hla Shwe was born and raised in Prague, Czechoslovakia. She studied under Dr. Jaromir Kriz at the Prague Conservatory of Music from which she graduated in 1991. During her studies there, she performed as a soloist and a chamber player in Czechoslovakia, Germany and Sri Lanka. She was also an assistant conductor and an accompanist of a prominent Czech children’s choir, Radost, and a boys choir, Pueri Gaudentes. After graduating, Hla Shwe held positions as a vocal coach and accompanist for the Prague National Theatre Opera, the Prague State Opera and the Anchorage Opera in the USA. In 1994, Hla Shwe was a recipient of the Pearl Boyd Fellowship under which she completed graduate studies in Piano Performance at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Hla Shwe currently serves on the UAF faculty as a lecturer and an accompanist in the Music Department and was a member of the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra. In addition to her positions at UAF, she participated in the local Suzuki Institute and the Fairbanks Summer Fine Arts Camp. Hla Shwe performs as a soloist and a chamber player both in the U.S. and back in her home country, where she played a solo recital as part of the Subscribers Concert Series under the auspices of the Prague Spring Festival and has also recorded works by S. Prokofiev and A. Scriabin for The Czech Radio. Currently she teaches piano both at UAF and privately and is also the pianist and vocal coach for Opera Fairbanks.

Join the AKTA Board

The current AKTA Board will turn over their positions to a new board in May 2010. Five of the current board members are willing to continue for another 2-year term. Two or more additional AKTA members are needed to complete the group. Contact a board member (listed on page 1) or attend a meeting to learn more about how you can help the Anchorage piano community thrive, create opportunities for students, and have fun with your colleagues! Board meetings are held once a month (see page 1) and are always open to the general membership.

**Anchorage Keyboard
Teachers Association**
Freya Wardlaw-Bailey
3314 Woodland Park Drive
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