



Tuning Up!

The Rockland County Music Teachers Guild

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“How to Trick Your Students into Practicing” Musicianship-Building Apps, Games, and More

Alexsei Stevens will discuss a wide range of tools that teachers can use with students, and even more importantly, that students can use to further their skills, and engage with the music.



Alexsei Stevens

May 6th, 2015

Wednesday, 10 A.M.

Valley Cottage Library

Alexsei Stevens is a composer and music educator with years of experience helping students bring their musical imaginations to life through the use of technology. Stevens has worked with both children and adults, in private lessons and class settings, and has taught everything from music notation software to recording and MIDI software to highly complex interactive multimedia platforms. He is also well-versed in the landscape of composition and musicianship-building apps and games available for home computers, phones, and tablets. Stevens holds a master's degree in composition from Manhattan School of Music, where he studied composition with Nils Vigeland and electronic music with Joel Chadabe. Called "hypnotic" by the New York Times, his music has been performed here and abroad, and includes concert music, film and dance scores, and sound installation. Stevens currently teaches composition, music theory, ear training, and music technology at Hoff Barthelson Music School and Queensborough Community College.

President's Message

A friend recently noted my relentless cheeriness in these President's Messages. Nailed. Perhaps I get in the habit of exhorting you all and giving the impression that there are not down sides. We all know there are: teaching when you are having a bad day and all you want to do is go lie down, waiting for students who show up late or not at all, trying to get some energy going in the room when the student has not prepared and shows no interest...I think we all have our own personal litany that rises out of the depths. So don't get me wrong here - there are plenty of days when I would much rather be out turning the compost pile. So what? Make music. Breathe. Your next student might open your mind. Try not to harden your heart. Sorry...there I go again.

- Tedo Wyman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Hudson River Pianofest 2015

Tammy Lum is happy to announce that the 2015 Hudson River Pianofest at Nyack College will be held on May 29 & 30th (Friday & Saturday). This inspiring two-day program of piano master classes, lectures, workshops, piano ensembles and concerts is open to all music lovers: students, adult amateurs, teachers and observers. The program welcomes pianists from intermediate to advanced piano level to be active participants. Participation of the Hudson River Pianofest can be one or two days, and also by single event. The featured guest artists and master teachers are the world-renowned virtuosi pianist, Sergei Babayan, Contemporary music expert, Christopher Oldfather, award winning pianist, Alexandre Moutouzkin and Tammy Lum.

We are happy to partner with the Carnegie Room Concerts at the Nyack Library, which will present Mr. Moutouzkin on the May 30th concert.

Application forms for master classes and observers packages are available on the website:

<http://hudsonriverpianofest.org/>
RCMTG members are welcome to attend one master class for free.

2. Taubman Piano Festival

- a group of RCMTG'ers is mounting an expedition to the Taubman Piano Festival at Montclair State the weekend of June 26-28. \$75 per day or \$225 for all 3 days: masterclasses, lectures and recitals all centered around the work of the late Dorothy Taubman. Two recent lecturers at RCMTG: David Witten and Sondra Tammam will be involved. If you would like to join us, contact Tedo at tedo.wyman@gmail.com. Deadline to sign up for the special rate is June 1 through their website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/Taubmanfestival2015>

NOTICES

1. Dues are due: From now until June 15th the dues for 2015-2016 are being accepted by our treasurer, Rosemary Waltzer send to our P.O. Box 283 New City NY or write a check at the luncheon.

2. At our annual luncheon in June members will have the opportunity to offer ideas to the Guild and vote on the following slate of officers up for election and re-election.

President: Fredrica (Tedo) Wyman

2nd Vice President: Joan Lediger

Recording Secretary: Arlene Linke

Nominations are acceptable from the floor at this occasion.

3. A beautiful ebony baby grand Samick for sale -- it's an SG-140A, 4'7", the serial number is ILJG0065. Bought in 1994. It says scale design by K Fenner. Asking \$2,500.

If anyone is interested contact:
Idenburg@hospiceofrockland.org

4. The RCMTG Board is discontinuing the publishing of our Directory this year and instead printing up an attractive card that will be placed in all libraries and music stores and other venues to advise anyone looking for a music teacher to check our websitewww.rcmtg.org for alphabetical and area listings.

CALENDAR

May 3- Sunday -Auditions all day

May 6th –Wednesday RCMTG meeting at Valley Cottage Library- Speaker: Alexsei Stevens on “Tricking Your Students into Practicing”

May 17-Blue and Gold Recital at More Hall at Nyack College in Nyack NY 1-4

June 3rd -Wednesday at Lynch's Restaurant in Stony Point, NY ...meet at 11:30 a.m. more details in next newsletter.

A letter to our members from John Lampkin

Dear Friends in the Guild,

After 45 years in Rockland, I am closing the lid on my piano here at the end of June and Jane and I are moving permanently to Sun City Center, Florida. The move is for mental health reasons—the winters here are driving us crazy! The Guild has been an important part of my life since I joined in 1971 so it is hard to say goodbye, but the fond memories and knowledge gained from decades of meetings are good for a lifetime.

I have a lot of music, quality artwork, furniture and household belongings to sell. If you would like to beat the rush to the tag sale please give me a call to come over and browse. Our Florida home is already furnished so everything here must go.

Thank you all for the many happy years of professional camaraderie.

John Lampkin