



November 2025 Newsletter



President's Message

Kim Farrell, President

Dear Members,

During this special season of gratitude, I find myself continually thankful for the support, wisdom and flexibility of our board members, chairs and committee members, who work so hard to make fun, meaningful and rewarding events for our students and members. I'd like to personally thank our Tech. Specialist, Joanne Mroczek for all her hard work in making our website, social media, newsletters and continuous emails all looking fantastic and up to date.

We have had a very busy fall, full of recitals and events!

A huge **thank you** goes out to Barb Irwin and Robbie Padilla for organizing the annual Halloween Recital - Scary Scores - on Sunday, October 26th at The Piano and Organ Center. Teachers and their students enjoyed participating by dressing up in costumes and performing "spooky" music. Congratulations to all on a spooktacular afternoon!

Congratulations to the CNYAMT members who performed in our new Teacher Concert Series Recitals on October 11th and on November 8th – Nick Abalgore, Dr. Scott Cuellar, Laura Enslin, Sam Herbert, Sabine Krantz, Dr. Elena Nezdhanova, Dr. Roman Placzek, Robbie Padilla, Lana Stafford, and Mary Whittington. I'm acknowledging our chairs for planning this new event: Lana Stafford, Mary Whittington and Robbie Padilla.

Thank you to Scott Schroeter at Artist Pianos who led a very informative student workshop demonstration on the sound production and construction of the piano. Thanks to Mary Whittington for planning this event.

Much gratitude to Phil Eisenman for planning a high-level student performance at Maple Downs on November 15th . Congratulations to all of the students on a fabulous performance!

Plans for our next **Holiday Recital Fundraiser** are well under way, thanks to Bernadette Kessler and Mary Ellen DiPietra. We are having the recital again this year at the Barnes & Noble on Route 31 in Clay on Saturday, December 6th AND 7th. Stop by and support CNYAMT!

Mark your calendar for the next Community Outreach Recital on Saturday, February 7th AND Sunday February 8th, to celebrate Valentine's Day. It will be held at Camillus Ridge Terrace Retirement Community. Keep an eye out for more information in the New Year.

I wish you all a very healthy and blessed holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

All members are welcome to join us at the next Zoom board meeting on Wednesday, February 11th, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. Email Kim for an invitation at farrellka4@gmail.com.

Kim

CNYAMT 2025-2026 Calendar

Visit us at cnyamt.org

Email us at cnyamt@gmail.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#)

We Have a New SPONSOR!

Thank you ARCOART VIOLIN SHOP, owner Matt Vacanti!

ArcoArt is a new violin shop in Liverpool. They sell all kinds of string instruments, along with useful accessories for orchestra musicians.

Check out their website!



Find a Music Teacher and Member Directory - Pictures

Don't forget about our "[Find a Music Teacher](#)" option on our website. Membership in CNYAMT includes your biography being listed here, along with your information for students and parents to find music teachers. Take a moment and check the link in your biography to make sure it is accurate. Are you currently accepting students? Make sure you let us know if you aren't so we can change your status. Changes to your information can be made by simply emailing your changes to cnyamt@gmail.com.



If you would like a picture in our "Find a Music Teacher" spreadsheet, email a current picture to cnyamt@gmail.com.

Our Member Directory page is also the place to sign out our sign and vase for events!

If you need help logging in to this MEMBERS ONLY LOGIN PAGE to check your bio or other information, please email cnyamt@gmail.com for log in credentials.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH LEVEL STUDENTS

Next opportunity: 12-20-25 Nottingham Christmas program; immediate response requested.

Students who are ready to perform a competition-level piece might be programmed as part of an evening or afternoon classical music concert at The Nottingham. CNYAMT is beginning discussions to possibly upgrade the Nottingham piano and establish more regular classical music programs as per requests of many residents.

CNYAMT hopes to equitably match resources and needs of both organizations via this endeavor.

Resources: Appreciative audiences, talented performers, a good collaborative instrument in a space with a decent acoustic, financial resources to support collaborative pianist services.

Needs: Motivation to practice and prepare, a good collaborative instrument on which to perform, an appreciative audience, financial support for collaborative pianists as needed, excellent and interesting classical music programs, good performance opportunities.

If and when you have a student whom you would recommend to take part in a concert, let Phil Eisenman (phil.eisenman@gmail.com) know the following information: student name and instrument, pertinent information about the given piece(s) to be performed, collaborative needs, and the expected performance length.

Teachers are also welcome to perform on these programs.

Money received from The Nottingham for these concerts will be used to pay collaborative pianists on an as needed basis. Excess funds will be allocated to the general fund.

NEEDED: Grand Piano in Excellent Condition for The Nottingham

The Nottingham is committed to providing a concert space and a fine piano for the use of guest musicians, residents, and resident audiences. They understand the need for a fine grand piano and are willing to undertake the care and maintenance required to keep it in top concert condition. If you become aware of such an instrument in need of a good home, please keep CNYAMT and The Nottingham in mind. Both of our communities will greatly benefit from such a donation!!!



A Note from our Instrumental Competition Chairs

CNYAMT is committed to the longevity of the Instrumental Competition. We are humbly asking for your assistance in order for us to sustain the financial health of this competition. We believe the opportunity for our students to perform and receive valuable comments from professional musicians, as well as the opportunity for them to perform in our Winners Recital, is pivotal for the growth of our young musicians. If you believe in our mission, please consider making a donation to the organization. Every dollar counts.

Your support will ensure that the CNYAMT Instrumental Competition remains on our calendar moving forward. Please accept our deepest gratitude for those of you willing to join us in keeping the Instrumental Competition thriving. Thank you!

Donate to our Instrumental Competition:

[PayPal – click here](#)

VENMO – Send your donation to @MaryEllen-DiPietra

Check – Send to Mary Ellen DiPietra at 4312 Lazybrook Cir. Liverpool, NY 13088

What's Coming Up



Barnes & Noble Bookfair Fundraiser

3956 NY-31, Liverpool, NY 13090

Saturday, Dec. 6th and Sunday, Dec. 7th

Join us for our annual event!

Barnes & Noble will donate to CNYAMT a percentage of our total sales purchased in the Liverpool store at NO cost to you! This fundraiser is vital in funding our Senior Scholarship, Senior Merit Scholarship, and Tuition Assistance Programs.

Plan now to spread the word to your friends and family and use the voucher for in-store purchases at the Liverpool location on both days of our bookfair. Click the link to download the [vouchers](#) to share with friends and family and post on your social media accounts. If you are unable to attend, consider [making a donation online by clicking this link](#).

This event is great for CNYAMT community awareness and as you know, our students love this event! Thanks to all our teachers for participating:

Bernadette Kessler and Mary Ellen DiPietra, Co-Chairs

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BARNES NOBLE Holiday Recital
December 6, 2025
3956 NY-31, Liverpool, NY 13090

9:30-10:15 The Music School of CNY Classic Guitar Ensemble

10:15-11:15 Dana DiGennaro Flute Studio

11:15-12:30 Ya-Wei Tseng Piano Studio

12:30-1:30 Melissa Sieling Music Studio

1:30-2:00 Kim Farrell Piano Studio

2:00-2:45 Mary Whittington Piano Studio

3:00-3:30 Bernadette Kessler Piano Studio

4:15-5:00 Jane Wolfe Piano Studio

5:00-6:15 Robbie Padilla Music Studio
Michelle Wilcox Music Studio

6:15-6:45 CNY Singing Garden Voice Studio

6:45-7:45 Craig Music Studio



BARNES NOBLE Holiday Recital
December 7, 2025
3956 NY-31, Liverpool, NY 13090

12:15-12:45 Joe Davoli Fiddle & Mandolin Studio

12:45-1:15 Gayle Ross Voice Studio

1:15-2:00 Lynn Moroz Piano Studio

2:00-2:30 Barbara Irwin Piano Studio

2:30-2:45 Janice Carr Violin Studio

2:45-3:15 Bernadette Kessler Piano Studio

3:15-4:30 Bumble Bee Notes Music Academy

4:30-5:30 Lana Stafford Flute Studio



SETNOR SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Syracuse University Flute Day!

Featuring

Kelly Covert, flute / Xue Su, flute / Dan Sato, piano





Sunday, Jan 25, 2026
Crouse College, Syracuse University

9 am registration
 9:30-10 am Flute Day warm ups
 10 am-12:30 pm Masterclass with guest artists
 1:30-2:45 pm Flute recital with guest artists
 3-3:50 pm Orchestral excerpt class with Xue Su
 4-4:50 pm Enoughness for Flutists workshop with Kelly Covert
 5-6 pm Flute Choir reading session

Free and open to the public
 RSVP by January 21 to Dana DiGennaro at didigenn@syr.edu

For most events, free and accessible parking is available on campus in the Quad lot behind Crouse College

S Syracuse University
 College of Visual & Performing Arts
vpa.syr.edu/setnor

Instrumental Competition

This season's Instrumental Competition will take place May 2nd at Park Central Church, 504 E. Fayette St., Syracuse, NY. The judges for the CNYAMT piano competitions will be Dmitri Novgorodsky from Ithaca College and Jun Cho from Syracuse University.

Event Highlights

Ghosts, Witches, Princesses, a Gypsy, a Flapper, a Queen and an Octopus, Oh My!

2025 CNYAMT Scary Scores had them all and so much more! On October 26th, we had a spirited afternoon of "spooktacular" music presented by the students of twelve CNYAMT members. Students and teachers wore costumes or colors of the season.

Special thanks to the Piano and Organ Center and their staff for providing the "boo-tifully" decorated venue, as well as 15% discount coupons to be used on any items in the store.

Performances included selections for flute, voice, violin, piano, ukulele, as well as, a rousing finale of fiddle tunes! Snacks and local apples were available to bring the event to a close. It was a "howling" good time!

Click this link to see more pictures from this fun day!



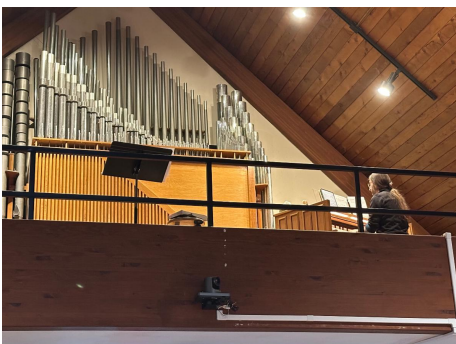
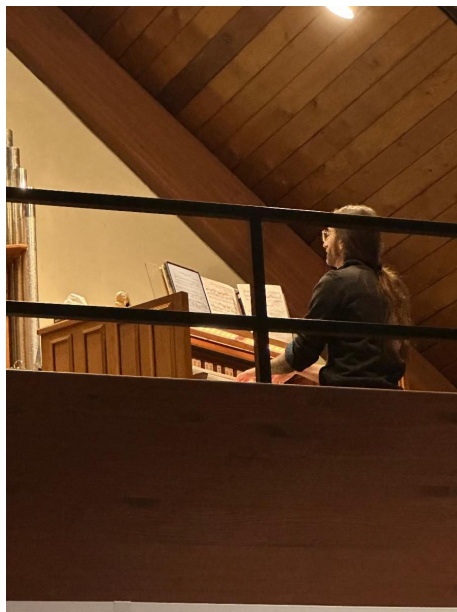
Teacher Concert Series

Our first season of the CNYAMT Teacher Concert Series continued on November 8th with the third concert, "An Autumnal Gathering" at St. David's in Dewitt. Members Sam Herbert, Mary Whittington, Scott Cuellar, and Nick Abelgore performed a fun and eclectic program ranging from Bach to showtunes.

Reach out to us if you are interested in performing at upcoming concerts on 2/15 and 3/15. We would love to welcome any and all members to play!

Robbie Padilla, Lana Stafford, and Mary Whittington (TCS Committee)

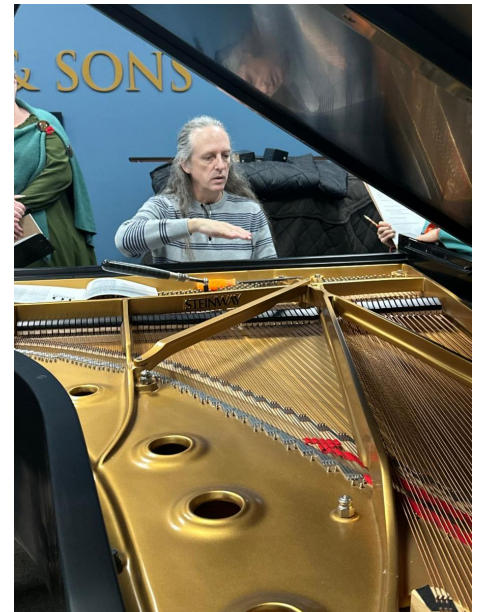
teacherconcertscnyamt@gmail.com





Sound Pathways on the Grand Piano, a Special Event at Artist Pianos

As a special opportunity for students in CNYAMT member studios, on Wednesday, November 12th, Scott Schroeter from Artist Pianos offered an in-depth demonstration of how sound is produced at the piano. Scott taught students about the history and construction of the grand piano and the pathways through which sound is created. They learned about the science and construction of grand and upright pianos. This has become an annual event for CNYAMT students!





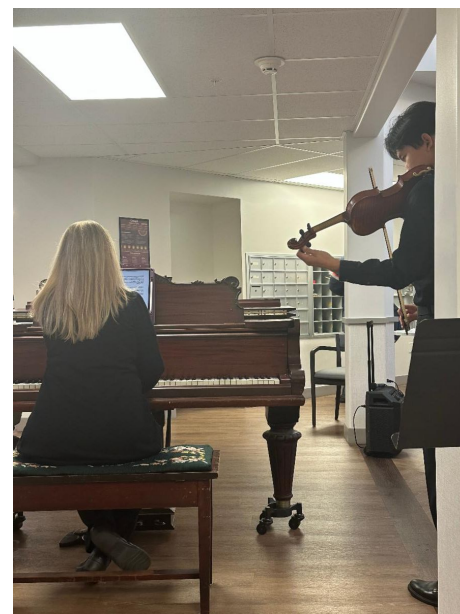
OUTREACH AT MAPLE DOWNS IN FAYETTEVILLE

On Saturday afternoon, November 14th, 2025 seven students representing five of our teachers, presented an eclectic hour-long program for the residents of Holiday Maple Downs Senior Living on Genesee St. in Fayetteville. The program included music of Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Chopin, Ravel, Broadway composers, and a movement of the Wieniawski Violin Concerto No 2. Many of the audience members were eloquent in their appreciation of the program and of all our young artists:

- Lauren Hutton & Rayna Reed, flutes (Lana Stafford)
- Julia Tjaden and Enzo Simiele, piano (Paul Burgay)
- Mayah Pettiford, soprano (Sabine Krantz)
- Olivia Yang, clarinet (Kathleen Freer)
- Eric Lee, violin (Peter Rovit).

The audience recognized the high level of performance our young artists often attained and were highly appreciative of our collaborative pianist of the day, Sabine Krantz. All performances received enthusiastic applause which for performances by Enzo Simiele, Mayah Pettiford, Olivia Yang and Eric Lee were increasingly prolonged. Eric received a standing ovation for his performance of the Allegro Moderato movement of the Wienawski work. CNYAMT was strongly encouraged to return with another program in the near future.





2025-2026 Board and Chairs

Executive Board

Terms are 3 years with 3-term limit (Numbers listed indicate the year of the present term)

President – Kim Farrell (4)

Vice President – Phil Eisenman (2)

Treasurer – Mary Ellen DiPietra

Recording Secretary – Gayle Ross (9)

Board of Directors

Terms are 3 years with 3-term limit (Numbers listed indicate the year of the present term)

Michelle Wilcox (8)
Mary Whittington (6)
Joanne Mroczek (4)
Bernadette Kessler (3)
Lynn Moroz (2)
Barb Irwin (2)

Committee Chairs

Banquet/Scores for Scholars – Barb Irwin
Membership – Phil Eisenman
Newsletter- Joanne Mroczek
Publicity – Joanne Mroczek
Senior Merit Scholarship – Barb Irwin
Senior Scholarship – Dana DiGennaro
Scholarship/Tuition Assistance – Bernadette Kessler
Sponsorship – Barb Irwin
Sunshine – Kathy Montcrieff
Teacher Forum – Mary Whittington
Website & Social Media – Joanne Mroczek
Scores for Scholars – Bernadette Kessler

Event Chairs (listed by calendar dates)

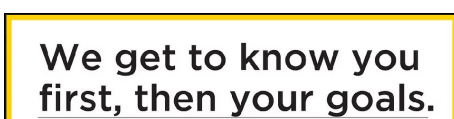
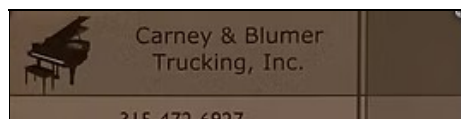
Halloween Recital – Barb Irwin/Robbie Padilla
Barnes & Noble Holiday Recital – Bernadette Kessler/Mary Ellen DiPietra
Community Outreach –Kim Farrell
String Community Workshop – OPEN POSITION
Baroque, Classical, & Sonatina Piano Festival – Lynn Moroz
Artist Piano Advanced Piano Competitions – Amy Heyman/Ya-Wei Tseng/
Bernadette Kessler/Kim Farrell
Instrumental Competition – James Krehbiel/Dana DiGennaro
Vocal Competition – Gayle Ross/Laura Enslin/Kathy Montcrieff
Teacher Concert Series – Mary Whittington/Lana Stafford/Robbie Padilla

Photo Release Form For A Minor

CNYAMT will now be using a **PHOTO RELEASE FORM** for ALL performance events. If the performer is a minor, the parents/guardians must sign our form to give consent for their child's photo or video recording to be used on our website, Facebook page or in other media.

Members can find this form on our **CNYAMT website** under "**Forms and Logos**" in the *Get Involved* section.

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