Albion College

Piano Festival 2014

Festival Information

Purpose of the Festival

The Albion College Piano Festival began in the fall of 2008. It was inspired by the memory of Vera Reed, an Albion resident and piano teacher who taught into her nineties and played even later in her life. While there is a competition element, and students can compete for **cash prizes**, it is our hope that students will discover this festival to be more about performing, meeting and hearing other students. In other words, we designed this festival as first and foremost a supportive experience for pre-college pianists at all levels of experience.

To make this festival to be accessible for young students and piano ensembles, we offer the following categories:

- Early Beginner
- Late Beginner
- Early Intermediate
- Intermediate
- Late Intermediate
- Advanced
- Ensemble (2 Piano Concerto/Piano Duo/Piano Four-Hands)

Each student receives with their entry fee: a professional recording of their competition performance on one of two wonderful German Blüthner concert grand pianos, a certificate, a t-shirt and tote bag, the chance to take a private piano lesson with members of the Albion College piano faculty, and option to perform in a master class on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students may participate in any or all festival offerings, including private lessons, master class, or competition. The multitude of opportunities for young pianists makes our festival highly unique compared to other competitions around the region.

Ultimately, this is a festival celebrating the piano, the study and teaching of the piano, and music as an essential part of education.

Festival Dates and Registration

Festival dates: **Wednesday, October 26** through **Sunday, October 30.**

Opening Festival Guest Recitals:

October 26 & October 27

October 28 – 30: Piano Competition and Masterclasses

Registration deadline: **October 17, 2016**.

Festival location: Albion College Department of Music, Goodrich Chapel
(located at the intersection of Oswego and Michigan Streets).

Eligibility: All elementary, junior-high/middle school, high school aged students.

Fees: Registration fee is $40 for the solo competition, and $80 for any ensemble category. Fee includes a light snack, shirt, certificate, and a professional recording of the competition. It also includes a private lesson with Albion College Piano Faculty on a first-come first-serve basis as well as the opportunity to participate in a masterclass.

Students wishing to perform in a master class or lesson for their category will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. Private lessons with Albion Piano faculty will occur during the competition (lesson sign-up will take place at the registration check-in desk). In order to accommodate guests with long drives, we have tried to make the Saturday schedule roughly a half-day time period. Should any students desire to have lessons, they can happen on Friday afternoon, or Saturday evening if the students are staying, or on Sunday morning.

Winners of each division will also be asked to play in a winners' concert immediately following their division. This gives selected students a chance to receive a second recording of their performance.

Memory is encouraged for the competition, but not required and will not be held against the performer. Students should bring up to two selections of contrasting styles for the competition. We do our best to allow each student time to perform all of his/her music, so they will have a complete performance on their recording. Students are encouraged to bring other pieces for a lesson and/or master class that are "in progress" or not yet in a polished, ready-to-perform state. For longer pieces, they can bring an excerpt rather than an entire finished work. Please bring scores of your selections for the judges.

Cash prizes will be awarded for each division of the competition.

We suggest you place your student in the appropriate playing level, and not categorize solely by age or grade.

If you are not sure what level to register your student, here is a general guide:

Early Beginner category: 1st year of study / 1st or 2nd in method book series

Late Beginner: 3rd book or above in method book series

Early Intermediate: a student perhaps finishing a beginning method or Celebration Series Introductory through levels 2-3 (as an example).

Intermediate: Celebration Series Levels 3-7 (an example).

Late Intermediate: Celebration Series Levels 7-8

Advanced: Celebration Series levels 9-10 approximately, preparing for a senior recital or MTNA or a college audition.

* **New for 2016:** If you have or will be entering the Michigan State MTNA competition, you may **ONLY** register for Late Intermediate or Advanced Categories.

Schedule of Events

Masterclass times are subject to change, and may begin earlier than indicated. All performances take place in Goodrich Chapel and are free and open to the public.

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

7:30 pm Recital by guest artist Barry Snyder

Thursday, October 27, 2016

7:30 pm Recital by guest artist Valerie Tryon

Friday Afternoon, October 28, 2016

4:30 pm Beginning Category check-in

5:00	**Early / Late Beginning and Ensemble Competition**
7:30	Winners announcement and Concert for all above divisions
8:00	Masterclass

Saturday, October 29, 2016

7:00 am	Early Intermediate category Check-in
7:45	**Early Intermediate Competition**
9:30	Winners' Announcement and Concert
10:00	Masterclass
10:30	**Intermediate Competition**
12:00 pm	Lunch break
1:00	**Intermediate Competition** continued
2:45	Winners' Announcement and Concert
3:00	Masterclass
4:00	**Late Intermediate Competition**
7:00	Winners'Announcement and Concert
7:30	Masterclass

Sunday, October 30, 2016

8:00 am	Advanced Check-In
8:30	**Advanced competition**
12:00 pm	Lunch
1:00	**Advanced Competition** continued
5:00	Winners' Announcement and Concert
5:45	Masterclass

Overnight Accommodations

For teachers, parents, and students wishing to stay in Albion for the entire weekend there is a very beautiful Bed and Breakfast in town:

- Albion Heritage Inn Bed and Breakfast:
  www.albionheritage.com
  517-629-3550

- Palmer House Inn Bed & Breakfast
  www.palmerhouseinnbnb.com
  517-629-0001

There are additional hotels and motels nearby; please contact Lisa Reed, Piano Festival Coordinator, in the Music Department at 269-579-2165. For other questions, please contact:

Dr. David Abbott
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dabbott@albion.edu

Dr. Lia Jensen-Abbott
517-629-0698
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Additional Notes

Albion College reserves the right to place a student in a different division if repertoire is extremely out of place for their category. Also, all published times for competition categories are APPROXIMATE. You will be notified by EMAIL about your performance time approximately one week prior to the competition.

We are grateful to James Reeder Pianos, Inc. of Lansing, MI for furnishing us with two concert grand Blüthner pianos, as well as his recent rebuilding of the Albion College concert grand Steinway piano.

* Videotaping/recording of your child/student is allowed. Videotaping/recording of any other participant is prohibited unless written consent is given.

If you have more questions, contact us online:
Web: www.albion.edu/music
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlbionCollegeMusic
Twitter: @AlbionMusic