

Albion College Piano Festival Information Form

Purpose of the Festival: The Albion College Piano Festival began in the fall of 2008. It was inspired by the memory of Vera Reed, a 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 find this festival to be more about performing, meeting and hearing other students, and taking lessons/master classes from Albion Faculty and guest artists.

We also wanted this festival to be accessible for young students and piano ensembles, so we offer the following categories:

Beginner

Late Intermediate

Early Intermediate

Advanced

Intermediate

New this year: 2 Piano Concerto/Piano Duo/Piano Four-Hands

Each student receives with their entry fee, a professional CD recording of their performance in the competition, a certificate, a sweatshirt, lunch at the college dining hall, and the chance to take a lesson and/or perform in a master class on a first-come, first-serve basis. This makes this festival highly unique compared to 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. **Memorization is NOT REQUIRED** for this competition. We highly encourage memorization, but playing with the music will not affect a judges' decision.

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 CD recording of their performance. We are grateful to James Reeder Pianos, Inc. of Lansing, MI for furnishing us with a concert Bleuthner piano, as well as the recently rebuilt Albion College concert grand Steinway piano.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 18, 2011. Late fees will be assessed after October 18, 2011.

Dates: Thursday, October 27 through Sunday, October 30, 2011

Where: 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

Schedule of Events:

***** Please note: Students wishing to perform in a master class or lesson for their category will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis.

CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR EACH DIVISION OF THE COMPETITION.

Thursday, October 27, 2011

7:30 p.m. Recital by guest artists Barry Snyder and Natalya Antonova of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. Goodrich Chapel—Albion College.

Friday Afternoon, October 28, 2011

4:00-5:30 BEGINNING CATEGORY Competition
5:30-6:00 Winners' Announcement and Concert
6:00-6:30 MASTERCLASS

7:00: NEW THIS YEAR: 2 piano concerto/piano duo/piano four-hand category

***Note: due to the addition of this new category, we anticipate smaller enrollments, so there will be no age divisions UNLESS there are significant entries in this category.

8:00: Winners' Announcement and Concert
8:20: Masterclass

Saturday, October 29, 2011

Registration for Albion College Intermediate Competition: 7:30-8:00 a.m., North Annex of Goodrich Chapel, coffee and light breakfast/snacks provided throughout the day

7:30-8:00 Registration for Early Intermediate Category
8:00-9:30 EARLY INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY
9:30: Winners' Announcement and Concert
10:00: Masterclass
10:30-12:00: INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

12:00 Lunch is provided for contestants at Baldwin Hall, Parents may have a meal at their own expense

1:00-2:30 INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY CONTINUED

2:30: Winners' Announcement and Concert

3:00: Masterclass

3:30-6:00: LATE INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

6:00: Winners' Announcement and Concert

6:30 Masterclass

****NB.** In order to accommodate guests with long drives, we have tried to make the 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 a.m. Please Contact us to schedule.

Sunday, October 30, 2011

8:00 Registration for ADVANCED CATEGORY

8:30-12:00 ADVANCED CATEGORY

12:00-1:00 LUNCH

1:00-5:00 (if needed) ADVANCED COMPETITION CONTINUED

5:00 Winners' Announcement and Concert

5:45 Masterclass

Private lessons with Albion Piano Faculty will occur during the competition (please call or email to schedule a specific slot)

Memory is encouraged for the competition, but not required and will not be held against the performer. Students should bring two selections of contrasting style for the competition. We will do our best to allow each student time to perform all of his/her music, time allowing so they will have a straight through performance on their CD. Should the student wish to bring other pieces for a lesson and/or master class, this piece can be "in progress" and could be a section rather than an entire finished work. Please bring scores of your selections for the judges.

All competitors will receive a CD of their musical performance in the competition.

For students: registration fee is \$45 for the solo competition, and \$90 for any of the 2-piano concerto/piano four-hand, piano duo competition, which includes a light breakfast, a sweatshirt, a certificate, lunch on the day of the competition, and a performance CD 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 potential to participate in a masterclass.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION NOT received by October 18, 2011 will incur a \$10 late fee (\$20 for the piano ensemble category). Late entries WILL be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. DINNER IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE FEES but we can contact local restaurants for group rates if enough individuals are interested.

Teachers, parents, and students wishing to stay in Albion for the entire weekend (WE HOPE YOU DO☺☺☺): there is a very beautiful Bed and Breakfast in town:

- **Albion Heritage Inn Bed and Breakfast:**
www.albionheritage.com
- **Additionally, the College owns Bellmonte Manor, the Albion College guest house—517-629-0318**

There are additional hotels and motels nearby, please contact Lisa Reed in the Music Department at 517-629-0481. For other questions, please contact:

Dr. David Abbott
Albion College
517-629-0483
dabbott@albion.edu

Dr. Lia Jensen-Abbott
Albion College
517-629-0698
ljensen@albion.edu

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

Beginner category: any student still in a beginning method 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.

These are of course approximations, but we suggest you place your student in the appropriate playing level, and not categorize by age or grade.

NEW THIS YEAR: 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.

More questions: See our website at www.albion.edu/music and search piano festival. Or find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/AlbionCollegeMusic> and “Like” it. Information will be updated around August 10.