

**NYSMTA**

**VIRTUAL  
SYMPOSIUM**

October 14, 2023

Featuring Guest Presenter:  
Dr. Scott Price

Dear NYSMTA Members and Friends,

Thank you for joining us today for the NYSMTA 2023 Virtual Symposium. We are very excited to offer a guest presentation about learning needs which will be applicable to all music teachers, and a wide array of subjects represented in the Lightning Talk segment. We hope that this Virtual Symposium provides you with many compelling ideas which we hope to continue exploring at the upcoming State Conference in October 2024!

We are deeply indebted to those who have planned and executed the previous In-Person and Virtual Symposiums, including the 2019 NYSMTA Mini Pedagogy Symposium, the 2020 Virtual Symposium, and the 2021 Virtual Symposium, as much of today's structure mimics those successful events.

We are ever so pleased to have Dr. Scott Price with us today as our Guest Presenter and look forward to learning from his expertise in an area that is of profound importance to all teachers.

We extend a special thanks to the Lightning Talk Sub-Committee, led by Asami Hagiwara, for her tremendous work designing this segment and her organizational expertise. We also express our gratitude to the other members of the Conference Planning Committee, especially President Jacob Ertl, President-Elect Tomoko Uchino, Immediate Past-President Hendry Wijaya, past Vice-Presidents for Conferences Kathryn Sherman and Laura Amoriello, Vice-Presidents for Professional Activities Maura Hall, and Pej Reitz and Treasurer Gary Palmer. We are extremely grateful to Webmaster Bonnie Choi and Newsletter Editor Gary Fisher for promoting the event via our website and social media.

We look forward to engaging together during this day of varied and interesting topics and invite you to consider continued involvement with NYSMTA. As we continue to forge ahead in our ever-changing world, we hope that the connections and community we foster through this organization fill us all with inspiration and camaraderie.

Sincerely,

Mary Holzhauer  
*Vice-President for Conferences (2023-2024)*

Jacob Ertl  
*President*

## SCHEDULE

3:00pm	Welcome and Introductions
3:10pm	Lightning Talks: Presentations
3:45pm	Lightning Talks: Question & Answer Session
4:00pm	Teacher of the Year Award / General Meeting
4:15pm	<i>Break</i>
4:25pm	Guest Presentation: Dr. Scott Price <b><i>Special Needs and Music Study: Inside the Piano Lesson</i></b>
5:10pm	Guest Presentation: Question & Answer Session
5:25pm	Closing Remarks

## SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

### Vice-Presidents for Conferences

Mary Holzhauer (2023-2024)  
Deborah Martin (2024)

### Past Vice-Presidents for Conferences

Kathryn Sherman  
Laura Amoriello

### Lightning Talks & Poster Sessions

Asami Hagiwara  
Mary Holzhauer

### President

Jacob Ertl

### President-Elect

Tomoko Uchino

### Immediate Past-President

Hendry Wijaya

### Treasurer

Gary Palmer

### Vice-Presidents for Professional Activities

Maura Hall  
Pej Reitz

### Publications

Bonnie Choi  
Gary Fisher

## GUEST PRESENTATION

### *Special Needs and Music Study: Inside the Piano Lesson*

Join Dr. Scott Price as he shares the work of his students who are special learners and the creative music-making they are able to achieve through adaptive pedagogy. This workshop will include video demonstrations of students at work in the studio lesson, and in recital performances. Techniques in adaptive pedagogy will be discussed and questions are welcomed.

## GUEST PRESENTER

Dr. Scott Price, University of South Carolina School of Music



Scott Price currently serves as Carolina Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of South Carolina School of Music. He is internationally recognized for his work with students with autism and other special needs and has presented solo recitals and workshops for piano teachers throughout the United States and for organizations in Australia, Brazil, Canada, South Korea, Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia. Dr. Price served for 23 years as creator and editor-in-chief of the on-line piano pedagogy journal *Piano Pedagogy Forum*, has recorded 39 full length recordings of educational piano music for Alfred Publishing Company, and has published educational compositions with Alfred Publishing Company and TomGerouMusic including his book "Autism and Piano Study: A Basic Teaching Vocabulary." Awards include the Best of BGSU Outstanding Graduate alumnus award from Bowling Green State University in 2002, the 2008 MTNA Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award, being named a 2009 Music Teachers National Association Foundation Fellow, the 2012 Southeastern Conference Faculty Achievement Award for the University of South Carolina, and the 2019 Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy Outstanding Service Recognition Award, the 2023 Distinguished Alumnus Award from The Cleveland Institute of Music, and the 2023 Teacher of the Year Award from the South Carolina Music Teachers Association. Dr. Price is the founder and director of the Carolina LifeSong Initiative dedicated to providing piano lesson and music experiences for students with special needs, and in fostering best practices in teaching and teacher training.

# LIGHTNING TALKS

## ***Unlocking the Musical Mind: Exploring the Foundations of Creativity***

Dr. Antonella Di Giulio (Ph.D.), Woom Talent Center

The intricate dance between creativity and cognition spans diverse realms of human endeavor. This presentation unveils the cognitive architecture underpinning the creative process. Focusing on musical composition, we will explore the cognitive stages, illuminated by neuroscience insights. We will explore practical composition exercises, including storytelling and constraint-based exercises, and how to inspire creative confidence. The synergy of cognitive prowess and artistic expression emerges as a transformative force shaping our world.

## ***Brazilian Piano Music***

Anna Dunbar, University of Oklahoma

After studying abroad in Brazil, I became interested in Brazil's musical background and history. I have researched many different aspects of Brazilian music and today I have shared briefly about the origins of Brazilian music (Portuguese, Native, African, Jesuit, and Mulatto), the four main Brazilian grooves (Samba, Baiao, Marcha/Frevo, and Maracatu), and a few pedagogical insights and thoughts about how to successfully teach Brazilian music.

## ***Understanding Piano Sight Reading Research in the Past Decade***

Jenny Jieun Park, Teacher College, Columbia University/ SUNY Dutchess

No articles published in the MTNA journals in the last ten years have presented a comprehensive review of research on piano sight-reading. The purpose of this presentation is to address the gap in the piano sight reading literature and offer an overview of research from the last decade. One article of interest (Mishra 2014) presents a set of 17 constructs that might prove useful for explaining a theory of how pianists develop sight-reading ability. Using Mishra's constructs as a lens, the authors explored 19 research-based articles published since 2010 that address sight-reading for pianists. A finding from this analysis shows that improvisation and ear training, the two constructs from Mishra's study with the highest correlations to sight-reading ability, were not included in any of the studies that were examined. Findings also support that multiple teachable activities contribute to the development of sight-reading ability among pianists.

## ***The Benefits of Standardized Studio Practices***

Tasha George-Hinnant, Private Studio

We all use standards in our teaching whether or not we're aware of it. By becoming aware of what standards we're using, we can consistently practice benchmarks of excellence in our studios. This talk will give a brief overview of teaching and business standards that can help create systems that allow us to teach more effectively, raise and establish expectations in our studios, and make our lives easier as business owners.

***Making Music Mindfully: What It Means, How to Do It, and Why Our Students Need It***

Laura Amoriello, Opus Ithaca School of Music/Private Studio

Mindfulness is an ancient practice popularized over the last 30 years. It is a means of being present and kind to ourselves. Mindfulness practices can help musicians calm their minds and bodies, tame the inner critic, and move through fear to perform with confidence and joy. Exploring the inner life is key for musicians to fulfill their expressive potential.

***The 21st Century Musician: A Pianist's Perspective  
(Part 1: Collaboration through Dance Accompaniment)***

Rowan Morgan, Nazareth University

This lightning talk addresses the importance of versatility as a 21st century musician, with an emphasis on why collaboration is important for musicians, as well as how collaborative experiences may inform musicianship. The main focus of this talk is collaboration through dance accompaniment, specifically improvising for dance class. Topics covered include a description of ballet class, dance movements, concluding with a specific musical example used for ballet classes.

***Improvisation for Classical Pianists***

Robin Holloway, Private Studio

This is a brief intro to my strategy for teaching improvisation to classical pianists. I talk about some common misconceptions about improvised music, and give some examples of how classically trained musicians can capitalize on what they already know to get started with improvisation quickly and efficiently. If interested, musicians can follow up with me for a thorough course on learning to improvise at the piano.

## LIGHTING TALK PRESENTERS



**Antonella Di Giulio, Ph.D.**

*Woom Talent Center*

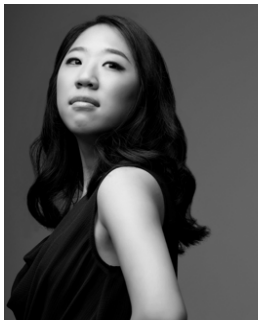
Antonella Di Giulio is an accomplished pianist, music theorist, and pedagogue. She holds a Doctoral degree in Music Theory and Musicology from the University at Buffalo, a Master's Degree in piano performance from the same university, and a diploma in piano from the Conservatory Santa Cecilia in Rome. Antonella's unique approach to research and teaching, inspired by semiotics, analyzes the connection between form and meaning in schemas.



**Anna Dunbar**

*University of Oklahoma*

Anna Dunbar (Ahlquist) has recently graduated from Nazareth College with her masters in Piano Performance and Pedagogy and will attend the University of Oklahoma in the fall to obtain her PhD in Piano Pedagogy and Music Education. She has recently received her NCTM and actively teaches piano lessons. She is an active MTNA member and has presented at multiple conferences, including MTNA state and national conferences, and the NCKP conference.



**Jenny Jieun Park**

*Teacher College, Columbia University/ SUNY Dutchess*

Jenny Jieun Park, Ed. D, is a pianist, educator, and scholar. Flow, motivation theory, and community music are her scholarly interests. She is a recent graduate of Teachers College, Columbia University, and currently works at SUNY Dutchess.



**Tasha George-Hinnant**

*Private Studio*

Tasha George-Hinnant maintains a studio in Rochester, NY, and has been teaching for over a decade. She is a member of MTNA and serves in leadership roles on both the NYSMTA board and the Rochester Piano Teachers Guild. Past faculty positions have included the Hochstein School in Rochester and the Community School of Music and Art in Ithaca, NY. When not at the piano, Tasha can be found at the circus performing aerial acrobatics.



**Laura Amoriello**

*Opus Ithaca School of Music/Private Studio*

Laura Amoriello is a pianist, teacher, and certified meditation instructor. A college professor for 18 years, she now teaches privately and at Opus Ithaca School of Music. Laura holds a Doctor of Education degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, chairs the Wellness Committee for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and is a Certified Teacher in The Art of Practicing®. Laura lives in Ithaca, NY with her husband Pete and their spirited first-grader, Olivia.



**Rowan Morgan**

*Nazareth University*

Rowan Morgan is currently pursuing the BM in Piano Performance degree at the Nazareth University School of Music where she studies with Dr. Jacob Ertl. She holds a Music A.S. from SUNY - Onondaga Community College, where she studied with Dr. Asami Hagiwara. After completing her bachelor's degree Rowan plans to pursue a graduate degree in Piano Pedagogy.



**Robin Holloway**

*Private Studio*

As someone who was born and raised in a classical music family, and then went to college and grad school for jazz, I have experience straddling the worlds of classical music and improvised music. As such, I have an affinity for translating between the two worlds, and hopefully offering classical musicians a simple and accessible approach to getting started with improvisation.