

**SCMEA Piano Division Meeting**  
**Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center**  
**February 10, 2024, Lincoln at 3:30 PM**

Members Present: Bill Gesin, Gwendolyn Smith, Krissy Peters, Lorraine White, Andrea Quinn, Hunter Cox

1. Welcome and Updated Spring 2024 Events

- a. Updated Calendar to go out to members in attendance.
- b. Lower State Spring Piano Festival- Held at Peace Presbyterian Church in Goose Creek.
- c. Spring Honors Piano Recital will be held in the Lowcountry this year hosted by James Island Charter HS in Charleston, SC.
- d. Go over registration deadlines for the upcoming Spring 2024 festival. Materials are online at <https://www.scmea.net/divisions/piano-division/festival-registration/>

2. Treasurer Report:

- a. Reports will be handed out.
  - Beginning Balance: \$2,325.41
  - Ending Balance:\$1,844.12
- b. Recommendations- Maybe it's not time for the Winter Workshop if the interest is not there.

3. 2024 Conference Feedback:

- a. Improvement of attendance at sessions
  - Jenna Braaksma's session would have been very well attended if it had been at the initially scheduled time. We should think about reaching out to more "non-pianist" teachers.
- b. Sessions and Presenters, \*new Performing Group
  - The JICHS Performance went very well. There was positive response from piano division members and SCMEA members across other divisions.
- c. Fall Master Class
  - Robert Kelley gave a masterclass that was very informative. It modeled meeting students at their level and offered a historical perspective.
- d. Fall Honors Recital

4. Online Improvements (check-in):

- a. SCMEA Piano Division Website-
  - Online Piano Festival Registration- pros/cons?
- b. Piano Division Newsletters/emails and general communication. The last newsletter had 241 views
  - The newsletter and website are the primary communication for our teachers. Teachers get their information from both of these outlets, so they will be kept updated as often as needed.
- c. Facebook Page-36 Followers. Is it worth it to continue to maintain this?
  - It was suggested that many people do not check the Facebook page. It will most likely be discontinued.

5. Piano Division Events- Minor growing pains and lessons

- a. Piano festival- Quality of site instruments, judges, communication, etc.
  - A motion was made by Hunter Cox to move the Fall festival to Dec. 13 and allow for virtual/in-person(Lower State Only) opportunities as well as allow for large ensemble virtual submissions. It was seconded by Krissy Peters.
- b. Winter Workshop- time of year, low attendance
- c. Honors Recital- Quality of site instrument
  - Honors recital will be held at JICHS
  - Clinician is TBD

6.2024-25 Calendar

- a. Draft 1- If we keep the same dates into 2024-25.

Date	Event	Location
Sept. 7, 2024	Piano Division Business Meeting	9 AM on Zoom
Oct. 19, 2024	Fall Piano Festival Registration Deadline	Electronic or Mail
Nov. 28, 2024 OR Dec. 5, 2024	Upper State Fall Piano Festival	TBA
Nov. 29, 2024 OR Dec. 6, 2024	Lower State Fall Piano Festival	TBA
Jan. 23-24, 2025	SCMEA & SCMTA Winter Workshop (Alfred)	Fox Music House, N. Chas.
Feb. 6-8, 2025	SCMEA Professional Development Conf.	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
Feb. 8, 2025	SCMEA Piano Division Masterclass Honors Piano Recital	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
March 7, 2025	Spring Piano Festival Registration Deadline	Electronic or Mail
April 17, 2025 OR April 22, 2025	Upper State Fall Piano Festival	TBA
April 18, 2025 OR April 23, 2025	Lower State Fall Piano Festival	TBA
May 17, 2025	SCMEA Piano Masterclass & Honors Recital	TBA (Columbia)

7. Festival Chair:

- a. [Update Bylaws-](#) Please look over with suggestions.
  - i. President Elect has taken over Festival Chair duties.
  - ii. Secretary take on Membership duties
  - iii. Piano Festival Rules, Policies, and Recommendations

6. Future Goals:

- a. Piano All-State (similar to Guitar)
- b. Music Performance Assessment for Piano Ensembles (or some kind of adjudicated event for group piano)