



# Tennessee Music Teachers Association

[www.tnmta.org](http://www.tnmta.org)

An affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association

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## 69th Annual TMTA Conference, June 6 & 7, 2022

### Hosted by Greater Memphis & West Tennessee MTA

*We hope you will join us for our first in-person conference since 2019! The conference registration is available online. Please read about the Guest Clinician and Artist and view the schedule below. Visit the website [www.tnmta.org/conference](http://www.tnmta.org/conference) to register by May 10th, 2022.*

#### Leah Claiborne, Guest Clinician



Dr. Leah Claiborne took the competitive stage at an early age as a top prize winner in the National Association of Negro Musicians Piano Competition (2015) and winner of the IBEX scholarship at the University of Michigan.

Pianist, scholar, and educator, Dr. Claiborne promotes diversity in the arts by championing piano music by black composers in her performances, research, and teaching. In 2017, Dr. Claiborne was the first pianist to be awarded the Rackham Predoc Fellowship at the University of Michigan, which allowed her to further her research in compiling, editing, and recording piano music by black composers.

Dr. Claiborne has performed across the United States, as well as in Germany, Italy, and the Czech Republic. Most recently, she performed at Hiroshima University in Japan with the Asia/American New Music Institute. Dr. Claiborne received her undergraduate degree from the Manhattan School of Music, where she received the Josephine C. Whitford graduation award.

Dr. Claiborne was a scholarship student at the Manhattan School of Music where she earned her Bachelor of Music degree. She received her Master's of Music and Doctorate of Musical Arts degrees from the University of Michigan.

Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Music in the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of the District of Columbia.

## Igor Lipinski, Guest Artist



Polish-born pianist Igor Lipinski made his orchestra debut with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra on NPR's Performance Today and performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra, Butler County Symphony Orchestra, Woodstock Mozart Festival Orchestra, Lakes Area Music Festival Orchestra, and Paderewski Symphony Orchestra at Chicago's Symphony Center.

At age 12, Lipinski won the Grand Prix and the First Prize at the Paderewski Competition for Young Pianists in Tuchów, Poland. At 17, he played the role of a pianist in Kazimierz Braun's theatre play "Paderewski's Children" at the University at Buffalo. A year later, he graduated from the Paderewski Music High School in Tarnów, Poland where he studied piano with Jaroslaw Iwaneczko.

Lipinski earned his Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Musical Arts and Master of Music in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester where he studied piano under the tutelage of Douglas Humpherys. As a teaching assistant of Vincent Lenti and Tony Caramia, he received Eastman's Teaching Assistant Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Lipinski continued his graduate studies at Northwestern University Bienen School of Music earning his Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance under the tutelage of Alan Chow. Upon graduation from Northwestern, Lipinski joined the piano faculty at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville as the Lecturer of Piano where he received the KMTA Teacher of the Year award. In Fall 2017, Lipinski joined the piano faculty at the University of Oklahoma.

Lipinski's research interests focus on the history of recital programming. Recognized for his own creative programming, he unified two of his lifetime passions, classical music and magic, in a unique recital program "Piano Illusions." Lipinski collaborated on the program with Teller of Las Vegas duo Penn & Teller and won the WQXR Classical Comedy Contest at Caroline's on Broadway. In light of his success in New York, Lipinski presented "Piano Illusions" at renowned concert series and festivals including Gina Bachauer International Piano Foundation in Salt Lake City and Musica del Cuore Concert Series in Hong Kong.

His upcoming 2022 release features an album of piano music by Czech composer Leoš Janáček.

# Conference Schedule

## Sunday, June 5

6:30 pm TMTA Board Meeting/Dinner  
University of Memphis Holiday Inn, 3700 Central Ave, Memphis, TN

## Monday, June 6

8:30 am Welcome (University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music)

8:40 – 9:40 Piano Music by Black Composers for all Skill Levels  
Dr. Leah Claiborne, conference clinician

10:00 – 11:30 Masterclass – Dr. Claiborne

12:00 – 1:30 IMTF Luncheon/Program, Rachel Acuff  
Amro Music Store, 2918 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN

1:30 – 4:00 Amro Open House

2:00 – 2:45 Scheidt Family Music Center Tour

3:00 – 3:45 Q & A Session: Diversifying Your Piano Studio – Dr. Claiborne (Harris)

4:00 Business Meeting (MU G008)

5:30 College Faculty/Local Presidents dinner (Ciao Bella, 565 Erin Dr, Memphis, TN)

7:30 – 10:00 Conference Artist Recital/Reception – Dr. Igor Lipinski, conference artist  
Harris/Holiday Inn

## Tuesday, June 7

7:00 – 8:00 Past Presidents breakfast (Holiday Inn)

8:15 – 9:00 Presentation (TBA) – U of M Collegiate Chapter (Harris)

9:15 – 10:15 Leoš Janáček Presentation – Dr. Lipinski (Harris)

10:30 – 12:00 Masterclass – Dr. Lipinski (Harris)

12:30–2:00 Awards Luncheon (Ridgeway Country Club, 9800 Poplar Ave, Germantown, TN)

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# 2022 TMTA Spring Competitions

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TMTA is renaming the state competition officials to align with MTNA. The state competitions will be headed by the competition chair and the various categories will be headed by competition coordinators. Note that Jama Ragan has accepted the position of senior piano coordinator for the fall auditions.

In other news, the competition syllabus is being revised to reflect recent changes. If you have suggestions, please send them to one of the syllabus revision committee members, Elaine Harriss, Ryan Fogg, or Lynn Worcester Jones.

Congratulations to all of Tennessee's Southern Division entrants and their teachers as listed below:

## Tennessee Winners in Southern Division 2022

<u>Performance</u>		<u>Student</u>	<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Junior Woodwind	Winner	Ella Liu	Flute	Myung Kim
Senior Brass	Winner	Geoffrey Sims	Horn	Robert Fant
Senior Piano	Alternate	Kevin Cho	Piano	Craig Nies
Senior String	Winner	Vivian Kung	Violin	Cornelia Heard
Senior Voice	Winner	Kelly Patrick	Voice-Soprano	Yvonne Blair
Young Artist Brass	Winner	Grace O'Connell	Trumpet	Michael Arndt
Young Artist Piano	Winner	Sean Yang	Piano	Amy Dorfman
 <u>Composition</u>				
Elementary	HM	Isaiah Westlund		Valerie Gregg

*News from Elaine Harriss, TMTA State Competition Chair*

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## 2023 TMTA Conference Call for Proposals

The Chattanooga Music Teachers Association Conference Steering Committee invites proposals from TMTA educators, researchers, and leaders in the field, and encourages proposals on early childhood education, chamber music, advocacy, approaches to teaching and learning, business and independent music teaching, technology, wellness, and advocacy for the 2023 TMTA Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The submission deadline is June 1, 2022 and the submission form can be found through the link below.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1M854TYhHQfo4s9vBylJUKGIDwjd-agZQLQ5XTG46sw/edit>

Best regards,

2023 TMTA Conference Co-Chairs  
Lynn Worcester  
ChoEun Lee  
Deanne Irvine

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## 2022 MTNA Foundation Fellow

We are happy that Emily Ross of GMMTA is our MTNA Foundation Fellow for 2022. Thanks very much to all who contributed. It is time for us to nominate a new Fellow for 2023. Please submit nominations to me as soon as possible at [jfnctm@gmail.com](mailto:jfnctm@gmail.com).

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## Carson-Newman University's Summer Camp

Carson-Newman University is pleased to present its 24<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Music Camp on June 20-25, 2022. This year's camp will feature three camps in one: band, piano, and strings. For more information, visit [www.cn.edu/smc](http://www.cn.edu/smc) or email [rfogg@cn.edu](mailto:rfogg@cn.edu).

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# Tennessee Tech Summer Music Institute

The Tennessee Tech Summer Music Institute is back! The 4 day festival will feature Duo piano and piano duets, coached by TTU Professor of Piano Dr. Catherine Godes. Open to students ages 14-18, Dr. Godes will assign selected repertoire from the Duo repertoire and work with students in preparation for the final concert. The Institute will take place May 31-June 4, 2022. In addition, students will work on solo repertoire in private lessons with Dr. Godes. The brochure is included with this announcement.



## The Tennessee Tech University Summer Music Institute is back for 2022!

**May 31 – June 4, 2022**

The Tennessee Tech Summer Music Institute is an immersive four-day summer festival focused on large ensemble and chamber music experiences for band, orchestra, choir and piano students ages 14-18.

Registration opens **Feb. 1, 2022**.

Receive an early bird discount of \$25 if you register before **March 15, 2022**.

Registration deadline is Friday, **May 6, 2022**.

Full tuition rate (room & board included): \$450

Commuter tuition: \$350  
(must live within 30 minutes of Tennessee Tech)



[tntech.edu/summermusicinstitute](http://tntech.edu/summermusicinstitute)





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**Friday, March 18th, 11:45am**  
**Friday, April 8th, 11:45am**

**2022**

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# Membership News

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On February 27th, organist Craig Campbell (BMus) The Juilliard School, played works of Fela Sowanda and Florence Price at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church in Johnson City, TN to celebrate Black History Month. He also serves on the faculty of Northeast State Community College, headquartered in Blountville, TN.

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# Planning Ahead

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## Upcoming TMTA Conferences

- 2022 Memphis (West Tennessee & Greater Memphis): June 6-7
- 2023 Chattanooga: June 3-6
- 2024 Nashville
- 2025 Martin
- 2026 Johnson City

## Upcoming MTNA Conferences

- 2022 Minneapolis, Minnesota: March 26–30
- 2023 Reno, Nevada: March 25–29