



TEMPO PRESTISSIMO

90th Annual Meeting, DoubleTree Hotel Chicago Magnificent Mile, Chicago, Illinois

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2009

Today's Events

8:00 a.m.

Registration (St. Clair)

8:30 a.m.

Business Session (La Salle)

10:30 a.m.

Winds Master Class
Imani Winds (La Salle)

12:00 Noon

Sakinah Davis, Research
Presentation (La Salle)

1:00 p.m.

Convention Chorus Rehearsal
D'Walla Simmons Burke
(Superior)

1:00 p.m.

Piano Master Class
Karen Walwyn (La Salle)

2:30 p.m.

"The Jubilee Song"
Delano O'Banion (Superior)

2:30 p.m.

Conducting Master Class
Robert A. Harris (La Salle)

4:15 p.m.

Vesper Concert
Chicago Community Chorus
Keith T. Hampton, Director
(La Salle)

7:30 p.m.

Gala Concert—IMANI WINDS
(La Salle)

NANM Launches 90th Anniversary Celebration in Chicago, the City of its Founding

First Vice President Byron Smith declared in session the 90th Annual Meeting of NANM (The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.) during the Opening Session on Sunday afternoon at the First Baptist Congregational Church.

Arthur D. Griffin, Jr., organist and 1993 NANM first place scholarship

winner, performed the prelude, "Summerland," by William Grant Still. This was in memory of organist and music educator George M. Williams, and Dr. Arthur D. Griffin, Sr., the organist's father, former pastor of the host church. Dr. Griffin (Please see "90th" on Page 2)

Ryan Bancroft Named First Place Winner of 2009 Scholarship Competition

Trumpeter Ryan Bancroft, representing the Western Region, won first place in the 2009 NANM Scholarship Competition. His repertoire included "Legende" by Georges Enescu and "Trumpet Piece" by Marvin Curtis. The first place prize is \$2,500.00.

Terran Taylor, percussionist, representing the Southern Region, was named second place winner. His repertoire included "Two Movements for Marimba" by Tashimitsu Tanaka and "You'll Never Walk Alone," arranged by Don Dilland. The second place prize is \$1,250.00.

Nisreen Nor of the Eastern

Region took the third place prize. Her repertoire included "Andante and Hungarian Rondo" by Carl Maria von Weber and "For Bassoon" by Ed Bland. The third place prize is \$1,000.00.

Timothy Miles of the Central Region was named fourth place prize recipient. His repertoire included the first movement of *Sonata, Opus 19* by Paul Creston and "Romance" by William Grant Still. The fourth place prize is \$500.00.

Judges included Ms. Roxanne Stevenson, Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Chicago State University; Mr.

William B. McClellan, Music Curriculum Supervisor for the Office of Arts Education of the Chicago Public Schools; and Robert Everson, percussionist with the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Elgin Symphony, and the Joffrey Ballet Orchestra, among others. Mr. Elgin also plays regularly with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Grant Park Symphony.

Dr. Marvin V. Curtis, NANM Scholarship Chair, presided over the evening's proceedings.

Agenda for Today's General Session

Call to Order
Invocation
Special Music
Roll Call
Presentation of New Charter
Nominating Committee Report
President's Address
Banner Presentations

Mission Statement

NANM promotes, preserves, and supports all genres of music created or performed by African Americans.

Tempo Prestissimo

Editor: Marilyn Thompson

90th Anniversary Celebration of NANM Begins at Chicago Mass Meeting on Sunday Afternoon

was also a prominent musician.

The Chicago Community Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Keith Hampton, premiered "Psalm Sayings" by NANM board member Dr. Robert Morris." This ensemble represented the Central Region.

Other regional performances followed, beginning with coloratura soprano Marlissa Hudson, of the Rocky Mountain Region, accompanied by Joseph Joubert, who sang "Sempre libera" from Verdi's *La Traviata* and Moses Hogan's setting of "Give Me Jesus."

Samuel Walker of the Western Region sang two traditional spirituals: "Go Down, Moses" and "I Couldn't Hear

Nobody Pray." He was accompanied by Byron Smith.

Dynasty Battles, pianist, of the Eastern Region, played Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat minor by Chopin.

The Southern Region was represented by soprano Laura English Robinson, who sang "Love, Let the Wind Cry. . .How I Adore Thee" by Undine Smith Moore and "Lord, I Just Can't Keep From Crying" by Margaret Bonds.

Special offertory music was performed by pianist Judith Baity, of the Western Region, who played her own arrangement of "What A Friend We Have in Jesus."

The afternoon's finale was a perform-

NANM (The National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc.)

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President: David Morrow

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ance of "And then shall your light break forth" from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

The opening session was well paced, proceeding in a timely manner. Afterwards, a reception was held in the church fellowship hall. NANM was graciously welcomed to Chicago.

Pre-Conference Benefit Concert on Saturday Proves to be "A Grand Night for Singing"

Even though the 90th Anniversary celebration of NANM began officially at yesterday's opening session, festivities were underway on Saturday evening with the special benefit concert, "A Grand Night for Singing," at Greater Bethesda Baptist Church. Baritone Donnie Ray Albert and soprano Marquita Lister assembled friends and colleagues, six world-class singers, two collaborating pianists, and a virtuosa violinist, for a most memorable evening of operatic arias, scenes, and duets, excerpts from musical theater, spirituals, and violin music of African American composers.

The other featured artists included Evan Bowers, tenor; Angela M. Brown, soprano; Alfreda Burke, soprano; Rodrick Dixon, tenor; Joseph Joubert, piano; Rachel Barton Pine, violin; Mark Rucker,

baritone; Sadie Rucker, piano; and Louise Toppin, soprano.

The first half of the program consisted of excerpts from 19th Italian operas, with the exception of a duet from Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta*. Represented composers were Leoncavallo, Mascagni, Verdi, Puccini, and Bellini.

The second half of the program offered violin music by Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, Florence B. Price, and Clarence Cameron White. The singers performed music by George Gershwin, Frederick Loewe, Leonard Bernstein, Jacqueline Hairston, Margaret Bonds, Undine Smith Moore, John Stoddard, and Lena

McLin.

We are extremely grateful to each artist, who so graciously and generously shared their time, talent, and resources for the cause of NANM.

Joseph Joubert Plays Hymn Favorites on New Recording

Joseph Joubert, NANM's resident pianist, is featured on *Total Praise: Classic Hymns for Piano*, a new compact disc recording released by GIA Music. The CD contains 15 special arrangements of such hymn favorites as "Blessed Assurance," "I Need Thee Every Hour," "It is Well With My Soul," "Great is Thy Faithfulness," "His Eye is on the Sparrow," and others.

The recording will be available all week at the GIA vendor's table and may also be purchased from www.giamusic.com.

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From the Editor

If you have information that you wish to include in the next day's issue of *Reverberations*, please submit it to the editor by 6:00 p.m. on the preceding day.