

THE ADAMANTER

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Director Message and Dates for 2023



Greetings, Fellow Adamanters! I hope you are enjoying the beauty of this Fall season wherever you are.

We had such a successful summer this last year, and we are preparing for the same next year. I am pleased to announce that each of our masterclass artist-teachers from 2022 have agreed to return in 2023.

More details will be forthcoming about each of our sessions next summer. Please mark the following dates on your calendars.

June 19-23: John O'Connor Masterclass

June 27-July 1: Christopher Elton Masterclass

July 4-July 8: Angela Cheng and Alvin Chow Masterclass

July 16-August 4: 3-Week Traditional Session
(faculty to be announced later)

August 8-12: Jeffrey Cohen and Lucie Robert Masterclass for solo pianists and violin and piano duos

The Adamant Music School has always been about music and community. Consider being a part of this extraordinary group of music lovers and lifelong learners. Please spread the word to potential participants who can have the opportunity to experience the beauty of art and nature in our unique setting. We look forward to seeing you in 2023!



Barney Hall, October 2022

Matthew Manwarren

Artistic/Executive Director

Message from the President

The Fall colors at Adamant are truly beautiful. I enjoyed a trip there in October as I went to observe the campus end-of-season shutdown. Noah Humphries has winterized the buildings, including removal of all water in the pipes and making each structure secure from weather damage. The 9-foot Steinway and Baldwin concert grands are being stored in the safest and most climate-friendly environment on campus: the Quarry House living room.

I had coffee with Rob Halpert, our new Board member, and shared some social time with Eric and Claudia Oberlin, frequent Adamant concert attenders and supporters of the school. As always, Eric Ryea was there for a chat, advice and practical help.

Annie Finegan closed up the kitchen, while Linda Wheatley supervised the last clean-up of the season. Chelsea van Vliet, our Office Administrator, will be working in the office during the off-season, handling a variety of administration tasks.



Though the campus is shut down until next Spring, Artistic/Executive Director Matt Manwarren is working with our Board to plan another exciting season of first-class teaching in the Traditional and Masterclass sessions. Tuition alone does not cover all our expenses, so we rely on your ongoing donations. Thank you in advance for supporting the Adamant Music School.

*Alexander Last,
President, Behre Piano Associates*

Nick Newcombe, Director of Development

The Adamant Music School is delighted to welcome Nick Newcombe as our Development Director. He comes to us with a varied history in the fundraising profession. Most recently, he was the Director of Advancement, Annual Fund for the San Diego Symphony Orchestra. He relocated to San Diego from Seattle, Washington where he had served for 8 years as Director of Development for the Institute for Systems Biology (ISB).



Prior to ISB, he served as the Director of Development at the Alzheimer Association, Washington State Chapter and before that at Music of Remembrance. From 1982 until 2005, he lived and worked in New York City where he spent 20 years in the field of social work and was a founder of Senior Bridge, a for-profit, full-service elder and chronic care company. He began his work life as a pit-orchestra harpist for musical theatre productions on and off Broadway.

Nick holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Performance from the University of Oregon, a Master's of Music Performance in Harp from the Manhattan School of Music and a Master's of Social Work from Hunter College School of Social Work, also in New York.

Board Welcomes Two New Members

Matthew McIntyre

Matthew McIntyre has built a career in software development and test automation. He is currently a Senior Software Consultant for Counterpoint Consulting, Inc. in the Washington D.C. Metro Area. He has a BA in Political Science from the University of Rochester, with minors in Business Administration and German Language and Literature.



With a very busy career, Matthew is still making time to serve as a BPA Director specializing in web and media outreach. He grew up in Barre, and as a teenager, attended the Traditional Session in 2006-2008, along with masterclasses taught by John O'Connor, Angela Cheng and Alvin Chow. He remembers the excellent teaching and personal support as profoundly inspiring and formative. We are so pleased to have Matthew on board with the BPA Board of Directors.

Send Us Your News

Faculty, students and alumni, send us news of your current piano activities for publication in future newsletters. Pictures are welcome! Send to

barbarakudirka@gmail.com and to stevewasko58@gmail.com

Rob Halpert

We are pleased to welcome Rob Halpert, a resident of East Montpelier, to the Board of Directors of Behre Piano Associates. As a semi-retired attorney, Rob brings a valuable skill set to the Adamant Music School community. His personal music interests, connections with the local community and his work with small non-profits have attracted him to serve on the BPA Board.



As a director on the Board of the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro, VT, Rob is quite familiar with the challenges and rewards of running arts organizations in Vermont. He believes that the Adamant Music School plays a significant role in bringing talented students and master teachers to an area without a classical music infrastructure. We are so happy to have him on our team.

In Memorium



It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden death of our beloved friend, Tzu-Feng Liu, who was performer in the John O'Connor class for several years. At the time of her death, Tzu-Feng was a piano teacher in Albuquerque, NM, as well as active performer. She leaves behind her husband and son. Tzu-Feng brought such a positive and radiant spirit to Adamant. We will miss her.

Oldest Grocery Co-op in the United States

Did you know that Adamant is the home of the oldest grocery co-op in the US? Well-known to all Adamant Music School participants, the Adamant Co-Op is a treasure trove of wine, snacks, baked goods, produce, postcards, artwork, gift items and a lot more. Glenn, the new Co-op Manager sent us this message:



Stick season is once again upon us in Adamant and talk in the store has shifted from what is still growing in gardens to speculation about what kind of a winter this will be. Now that the mornings are frosty at the Co-Op we have a fire going in the stove again and we're busy getting ready for the holiday season. If you are in the village, please stop by to say hi. Maybe pull up a chair by the fire and enjoy our fresh baked goods, hot coffee and tea?



The Co-Op still has a collection of Adamant mugs, hats, black fly tattoos, books, postcards, maple syrup, honey, paintings and much more. In the coming weeks we will be expanding our holiday gift offerings with many more goodies made by local Vermont artisans.

You can also stop by virtually at <https://www.adamantcoop.org/> or give us a call at 802-223-5760. And with a post office in the Co-Op we can quickly process and ship your order. Stay warm wherever you may be and we look forward to seeing you at The Adamant Co-Op again soon!



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