

# THE ADAMANTER

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## New Season Begins with John O’Conor – June 27

It’s a fresh new start for the Adamant Music School, reopening after a two-year closure. Artistic/Executive Director Dr. Matthew Manwarren has assembled a world-class piano faculty for the Traditional Session and the Master Classes, running from June 27 through Aug. 22. Assisted by Office Administrator Chelsea van Vliet, applications are being processed from students of all ages, with most classes either nearly or completely full.

**John O’Conor**, renowned pianist and pedagogue, returns for a master class beginning June 27 at 1:30 pm in the Adamant Community Club. His Irish wit and dynamic teaching style have made him an Adamant favorite. Daytime auditors are welcome at the afternoon classes from 1:30 - 5:30 pm, and tickets are available for evening recitals on June 30 and July 1 at 7:30 pm.



This year also marks the 80th anniversary of the School’s founding by Edwine Behre, Alice Mary Kimball and Harry Godfrey in 1942. Edwine had studied piano in Europe with the legendary pianist/teacher Theodor Leschetizky, bringing his holistic approach towards piano performance to her own teaching studio. Her method was characterized by freedom of

movement, tonal production, fidelity to the score and the eternal quest for beauty. As one of her students recalled, “The insights and perceptions in her teaching were unparalleled.” Edwine’s friends, Alice Mary Kimball and Harry Godfrey were writers rather than musicians, but they supported Edwine in her desire to create a special place in beautiful Vermont for piano study and personal growth. Read more about the founding of the School and these three colorful characters under “About Us” on the Adamant School website, [www.adamant.org](http://www.adamant.org).



In the photo above, courtesy of Andrew Christiansen, we see Edwine addressing the audience before a School recital at the Adamant Community Club.

Thanks to the hospitality of the current ACC and its president, Rick Winston, all classes and recitals will again be at the Community Club. The Steinway concert grands are already in residence, and a mini-split AC/heating unit has been installed for the comfort of the participants.

Join us for another season of beautiful music at the Adamant Music School.

## Jose Ramos Santana, Traditional Session Teacher, July 16 – August 6

*A native of Puerto Rico, Jose Ramos Santana is one of the most acclaimed pianists of his generation and an acknowledged master of Spanish music. He is recipient of the 2020 Issac Albeniz Medal awarded by the Fundación Issac Albeniz in Camprodon, Spain. His recital work has taken him to major venues throughout the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Central America, and the Far East. He has been featured in documentaries on the PBS network, A&E channel and CBS Sunday Morning.*

*The Adamanter (TA): Since you are new to Adamant this year, tell us a little about your background.*

Jose Ramos Santana (JRS): I am from San Juan Puerto Rico, where I received my early training. When I was 17, I went to the Juilliard School to study with Adele Marcus and Sylvia Rabinof. I stayed to complete my undergraduate and graduate studies there. I was the recipient of the Martha Baird Rockefeller Grant to continue studies with Leon Fleischer, and I also worked with Alicia de Larrocha in Barcelona.



I was prize winner in several competitions, including the World International Piano Competition and the Gina Bachauer International Artists Competition. Then, fortunate to be part of the Affiliate Artist Xerox Piano Program, I debuted with the New York Philharmonic, the Detroit, Saint Louis, Baltimore, and San Antonio Symphony Orchestras, and the Casals Festival Orchestra. My concert career as a recitalist, chamber music player and soloist has taken me all over the world.

*TA: You are also an established recording artist. Tell us about the works in your discography.*

JRS: I recorded the world premiere of “Glosas” by Roberto Sierra on the Fleur de Son Label, and I have done the complete works for piano and violin by the Spanish Catalanian composer Xavier Montsalvage with violinist Eva Leon on the Naxos Label. My collaboration with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra includes recordings of Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G and the Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto in G Minor, Op. 22.

*TA: And to top it off, you have a very busy teaching schedule!*

JRS: During the academic year I hold faculty positions at the Hartt School and New York University, while also giving masterclasses abroad. Dear to my heart is the Puerto Piano Festival in San Juan Puerto Rico. I founded this festival in 2016 to motivate the local talent and also bring international talent—both faculty and students—to the island. We have been slowly expanding, and this year we are including strings, violin and cello.

*TA: We are so pleased to have you on the Traditional Session Faculty. Thank you for sharing your time with us.*

## In Memoriam Willard Schultz

We were saddened to learn that our beloved colleague, teacher, and friend, Willard Schultz, passed away in Seattle on April 23. Willard enjoyed a career of teaching, performing, accompanying, lecturing and giving master classes in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Asia, and Australia. He spent many years on the piano faculty at the University of Calgary, where he was responsible for developing the master's degree program in Piano Performance and the parallel program in Performance/Pedagogy for piano. He was Visiting Professor and Artist Teacher at Washington State University for one academic year, and was Head of Piano in Wuhan Conservatory of Music, PR of China, for three semesters.



Willard taught in the Traditional Session at Adamant for over three decades. He embodied everything good about Adamant through his gracious personality, his wit and charm, and his tireless dedication to students at the School. He was proud of all the students he taught, many of whom attended Adamant and many who now hold university positions.

Faculty member, Elaine Greenfield, states, "Willard Schultz joined the Adamant faculty decades ago. We struck up an immediate friendship and corresponded at a distance for years, up to the day before his death. As a master teacher he sent many of his prize-winning students to Adamant, and taught with us, adding his expertise to the quality of our sessions. He was loved, admired, and is greatly missed by all who came to know him."

Frank Huang, Associate Professor of Piano at Miami University in Ohio, was a pre-college student of Willard's in Seattle and an Adamant alum. He wrote, "Willard Schultz had a profound influence on me as a musician, teacher, and person. At an early age, I was exposed to his infectious passion and dedication towards teaching. Our lessons would often go well beyond the allotted time because we would have so much fun! His instruction was always honest, but encouraging and supportive--traits that would mold me to become the teacher that I am today."



I remember him accompanying me to Adamant Music School, making sure that I didn't get into any mischief when I was a student there! Willard was a generous and giving person who was not only passionate about his art but who valued the joy of living life. I will miss my teacher and friend dearly."

Indeed, we will miss Willard, as we recognize the legacy he left in his students.

*Matthew Manwarren, Artistic Executive Director*

# Campus Updates

## Anne Finegan—Head Chef

The Adamant Music School is delighted to present our new Head Chef, Anne Finegan. She earned an Associate of Applied Science in Culinary Arts at the New England Culinary Institute and has been successfully employed as kitchen manager and chef in several Vermont school systems.



After the two-year closure at Adamant, the Board of Directors was seeking someone with proven skills in food preparation management, who, as the Head Chef, is responsible for cleaning and upgrading the kitchen before school opens on June 27. Annie's skill set fit the bill, and her upbeat personality will make the work flow smoothly.

Once class is in session, Adamant students can expect the same high quality of food as in the past, with plenty of fresh, healthy and delicious offerings. Oh—and homemade bread, cookies and desserts throughout the week! Welcome, Annie.

## A New Basement for Barney



**Before:** Water seepage had compromised the foundation of Barney Hall allowing flooding of the unfinished basement and weakening of major support columns and beams.



**After:** Twin States Basements poured a new water-tight foundation and built a brand-new basement area, ready for storage and building equipment.

### Adamant Staff Contacts

- Matthew Manwarren, Artistic/Executive Director - [director@adamant.org](mailto:director@adamant.org)
- Chelsea van Vliet, Office Administrator - [office@adamant.org](mailto:office@adamant.org)
- Alexander Last, Pres. Behre Piano Assoc. - [admin@adamant.org](mailto:admin@adamant.org)
- Barbara Kudirka, Vice Pres. BPA
- Janet Yanuklis, Secretary, BPA
- Steven Boyce, Treasurer, BPA

### The Adamanter

- Barbara Kudirka, Managing Editor
- Steve Wasko, Layout Editor & Photos

### Adamant COVID Policy

In order to maintain a healthy community, all participants are required to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination and booster at the time they register on campus. All participants accepted into programs must acknowledge their understanding of this policy prior to enrolling in our summer sessions. Participants must wear face coverings in public settings, including masterclasses and concerts. For additional information, [click here to read our school's COVID-19 Protocols.](#)



# SUMMER 2022 SESSIONS

*Matthew Manwarren, Artistic/Executive Director*

**June 27 - July 1**

**John O'Connor**

*Piano*

*Masterclass*

**July 6 - 10**

**Christopher Elton**

*Piano*

*Masterclass*

**July 16 - August 6**

*3-week*

*Traditional Session*

*with*

**Elaine Greenfield**

**Franklin Larey**

**Deirdre O'Donohue**

**Roberta Rust**

**Jose Ramos Santana**

**Victor Rosenbaum,**

*Artist-in-Residence*

**August 9 - 13**

**Jeffrey Cohen**

**& Lucie Robert**

*Piano Solo*

*Piano/Violin Duo*

**August 18 - 22**

**Angela Cheng**

**& Alvin Chow**

*Piano*

*Masterclass*

**visit [www.adamant.org](http://www.adamant.org) for application and tuition information**

*The Adamant Music School was founded in 1942 in the unincorporated village of Adamant, Vermont and promotes non-competitive piano study in an atmosphere of cooperative living.*



*We are a wonderful, small, unpretentious, cooperative, supportive school for pianists.*

*This is all we want to be.*

*Edwine Behre, Founding Teacher*

