
Keynote Independent Theory Service

Dateline January 2024:

Exciting news for the future of The Keynote Independent Theory Service

After nearly forty years as KITS Director, Christine Murow, founder of the music theory testing service, will relinquish the helm this coming examination season to Sonja Mihelcic, founder and CEO of the Naperville Music Academy in Aurora, Illinois. Dr. Mihelcic, who began her career as an opera singer, has thirty years experience teaching piano and voice. Her profile appears on the website of the Academy that she founded in 2009, which now has thirteen teachers and 330 students. Displaying an admirable commitment to music theory education, the Academy became a KITS subscriber three years ago.

We anticipate a gradual transition in the months to come, bringing more user friendly processes to the KITS program, including revised forms offering digital means for ordering exams and for honor roll participation. For example, on the revised order form enclosed, you may leave an email address for future contacts. Registration for the honor roll will be simplified, requiring only the teacher's signature, and allowing for submission via email. The fifteen exam editions, which we began reissuing sequentially in 2018, will continue to be available annually in the same manner. Exam orders and honor roll registrations will go to the Aurora address given here: 4260 Westbrook Drive, Suite 102, Aurora, IL, 60504. Or if you prefer the digital route, the email address will be: KITS.HR.EXAMS@gmail.com.

A message from the new Director, Dr. Sonja Mihelcic

I am delighted to have the opportunity to help continue the exceptional program that Christine Murow developed for the benefit of us and our students. The program will continue as before, with only a few additions. We will have three modes of payment for your convenience: personal checks (made out to NMA), Venmo or PayPal. For those using Venmo or PayPal, please add a 5% processing charge to the total amount. This year, the checks with your order forms should be mailed to Naperville Music Academy, 4260 Westbrook Dr, Suite 102-103, Aurora, IL 60504. You will also be able to email the same forms to KITS.HR.EXAMS@gmail.com, and you can reach me by calling or texting to 630-730-0148.

Please rest assured that Christine will be involved in this process and guide me through what we trust will be a smooth transition. I am excited for the opportunity to serve our wonderful KITS community!

Changes to the NATIONAL MUSIC THEORY HONOR ROLL

As above mentioned, the honor roll registration may be submitted by post or emailed in digital format (PDF). A score of 90 or better on the KITS exam is still the requirement to be listed, and administration of the test must be supervised. Attesting to the latter, the teacher's signature is required on the registration. There will be one annual list with a deadline for registration of September 30 each year, and teachers may receive this honor roll also in the mail or digitally. While requiring the same information, the registration form has been revised, and a copy is included in your Test Kit as always. Honor roll registrations will now be mailed to the Aurora address or sent in digital format (PDF) to the new email address.

Requirements for the special awards remain essentially the same with one change for the 5-year medal. As before, the student must have made the list on at least two different levels, but the requirement will no longer specify "five different *exam* years." Different *calendar* years will do!

Student Workbooks: While they last!

All seven levels and four supplementals of the student workbooks, published in 2017, remain available online. Recently added is *The KITS Music Theory Curriculum: Step by Step*, now with a slick new cover. Mrs. Murow has a quantity of the workbooks on hand, which you may continue to purchase directly while supplies last. Send your request to the old address: 9732 The Corral Drive, Potomac MD 20854, or email musictheory@verizon.net. We will bill you for as many as we can provide, at the current prices.