

# NORTHEAST WISCONSIN PIANO TEACHERS FORUM CODE OF ETHICS

(Revised 10/02) - **NEW REVISION DUE 9/30/07**

WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST WISCONSIN PIANO TEACHERS FORUM, have joined this association in order to attain and maintain the highest standards of education possible in our piano teaching profession.

Composed of independent piano teachers, this professional association must serve both its members and the public. We are responsible above all for fair and reasonable dealings with our students. We are responsible to our fellow members for mutual respect and support, and we are responsible to ourselves for our own individual integrity and professionalism.

With these responsibilities in mind, the members of the Northeast Wisconsin Piano Teachers Forum endorse as a statement of our professional attitudes the following:

- I. Students are a precious resource whose development is in our trust. We should demonstrate our responsibility to them by:
  - A. Giving a complete, honest, and fair lesson to each student;
  - B. Providing each student with a clear understanding of what is to be expected of us and what we expect from him or her;
  - C. Treating each student with the respect that he or she deserves as an individual, maintaining confidentiality in such matters that may be personal, and avoiding invidious comparisons between students.
  
- II. Member teachers should demonstrate responsibility towards each other by:
  - A. Accepting the pupil of another teacher only after communication with the former teacher has taken place;
  - B. Refusing to engage in direct or indirect solicitation of other teachers'  $\frac{1}{2}$  students;
  - C. Instructing a transferred student at least six months before taking credit for a public performance by the student;
  - D. Maintaining studios on an ethical business basis and adhering to clearly stated policies which are published for the benefit of all;
  - E. Avoiding discussion which might inure the professional reputation of another teacher and/or competitive behavior that is either unfair or unflattering to the profession. Actions contrary to this will be reason for forfeiture of membership.
  
- III. Member teachers should demonstrate responsibility to the Forum by:
  - A. Cooperating with and abiding by the rules and decisions made by the majority in general meetings, by the Executive Board, and by committees so designated to implement the actions of the general membership;

B. Donating time at Festivals and other events in which their students are participating;

IV. Members should demonstrate responsibility for their own professional development by:

A. Belonging to organizations that work to promote and upgrade the teaching profession;

B. Attending workshops, classes, taking piano lessons, performing, and reading texts on music teaching and teaching-related psychology and practices;

C. Supporting and participating in special projects of the Forum designed to increase the knowledge and expertise of the members;

D. Keeping informed about Forum business and plans by attendance at the general meetings or by paying the fee for regular mailings.

V. Members should demonstrate responsibility to the public by:

Representing the Forum and its members in a professional, positive manner in compliance with the Code of Ethics.