

HOW TO FIND A PIANIST-PARTNER for Lessons, Juries and/or Recitals

(Effective August 2015)

IF YOU ARE A CONTINUING STUDENT:

- **and wish to have the same pianist next year**, be sure to speak with him/her before the end of this current school year.
- **who would prefer another pianist next year**, please do your current pianist the courtesy of telling him or her that you will be looking for a change so as to save considerable embarrassment for everyone next year, as well as to allow the pianist to make timely arrangements with other potential partners. It normally is assumed that current partnerships will continue unless you notify your pianist otherwise.
- **whose pianist is graduating and you need to find another partner**, it is recommended that you first consider asking someone whose work you have heard at your studio classes or in recitals, and with whom you think you would enjoy making music. Alternatively, ask your teacher for suggestions of a pianist whom they believe would be a good choice. Contact him/her by leaving a note in the regular student mail folders in the basement of the Main Building.
- **who needs a pianist for your recital**, be sure that you find one **at least** 6 weeks before the scheduled recital date **and give them copies of the music**. Waiting longer will probably assure that you won't be able to find one! Pianists want (and need) to be professionally prepared, and won't realistically be able to do so if you don't plan ahead.

IF YOU ARE A NEW STUDENT:

- **your teacher may already have a specific pianist in mind**, and will ask you to contact him/her by the method described in bullet #3 above, **or...**
- **your teacher soon will be receiving a list of Eastman pianists who are available and eligible to accompany**, and you may contact any of them by the method described in bullet #3 above. Since it is likely that you will not know any of them, it is recommended that you ask other students in your studio or your classes which pianists they would suggest. Keep in mind that some pianists might already be too busy to assist you, and you may need to contact several people in order to find a partner.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FIND A PIANIST AS DESCRIBED ABOVE:

- It is suggested that you print out copies of the *Staff Pianists*, the *Doctoral Pianists*, and also the *Rochester Area Freelance Pianists* lists (available online at <http://www.esm.rochester.edu/accompanying/services/>). Call or email them to see if they might be available to work with you.

Eastman pianists are happy to make music with their colleagues, and many of them also have a curricular or contractual obligation to do so. However, it is impossible for the relatively small number of pianists to cover all of the collaborative needs of the school. By being considerate and respectful of your pianist, you will better be able to develop a professional, cordial and long-lasting association with him/her.