

PREVIOUS MYSTERY COMPOSERS

This year will be the 42nd year the Studio has worked on a Mystery Composer contest . The first year I did two M.C.s— J.S. Bach for the Fall Semester and Handel for the Spring Semester. The second year I changed the contest to study one composer all year long. As the years went by, the contest became a fixed part of the studio life and the prizes settled into the current three levels of gift certificates. While we did not do the M.C. contest 2020-2021 due to Covid, I did emphasize the life and music of Beethoven. This contest has been a wonderful journey learning about the lives of various composers. Now, the hunt for the identity of the 2025-2026 Mystery Composer has started!

| | | | |
|-----------|--|---------|--------------------------|
| 1983-84 | Johann Sebastian Bach and Georg Frideric Handel | 2004-05 | Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel |
| 1984-85 | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart | 2005-06 | Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky |
| 1985-86 | Leonard Bernstein | 2006-07 | Aaron Copland |
| 1986-87 | Ludwig van Beethoven | 2007-08 | Franz Joseph Haydn |
| 1987-88 | Franz Liszt | 2008-09 | Georg Frideric Handel |
| 1988-89 | Johann Sebastian Bach | 2009-10 | Frederic Chopin |
| 1989-90 | Franz Joseph Haydn | 2010-11 | Clara Schumann |
| 1990-91 | Henry Purcell | 2011-12 | Richard M. Sherman |
| 1991-92 | Serge Prokofiev | 2012-13 | Johann Sebastian Bach |
| 1992-93 | Aaron Copland | 2013-14 | Ludwig van Beethoven |
| 1993-94 | Franz Schubert | 2014-15 | Aaron Copland |
| 1994-95 | Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach | 2015-16 | Igor Stravinsky |
| 1995-96 | Frederic Chopin | 2016-17 | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart |
| 1996-97 | Felix Mendelssohn | 2017-18 | Robert Schumann |
| 1997-98 | Ludwig van Beethoven | 2018-19 | François Couperin |
| 1998-99 | Dmitri Kabalevsky | 2019-20 | Dmitri Kabalevsky |
| 1999-2000 | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart | 2020-21 | Covid-19* No. M.C. |
| 2000-01 | Robert Schumann | 2021-22 | Franz Joseph Haydn |
| 2001-02 | George Gershwin | 2022-23 | Franz Schubert |
| 2002-03 | Johann Sebastian Bach | 2023-24 | John Williams |
| 2003-04 | Bela Bartok | 2024-25 | Henry Purcell |
| | | 2025-26 | ??????? |

