

Quad State Conference
(Vermont, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire)
Host State: Vermont
October 21, 2023

Location: Brattleboro Music Center, 72 Blanche Moyses Way, Brattleboro VT

9:00-10:30 Who's That? Creating a New Standard Repertoire

Teaching underrepresented composers is experiencing a renaissance. Although a current trend, this is not a new topic. While works of female and Black composers have been discussed for decades, there seems to be a disconnect between individual research and what we see represented in our student auditions, concert halls, and competition programming. In this session we will learn how to pair “new” pieces with standard programming for intermediate through advanced repertoire.

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00 Artina McCain, recital: Intersections

12:00-1:30 Lunch at New England House

1:30-2:30 State Commissioned Composer's Concert

2:30-2:45 Break

2:45-4:00 Claire Black, From Studio to Stage, the Legacy of Clara Schumann

About our presenters:

Artina McCain has built a three-fold career as a performer, educator and speaker.

Dedicated to promoting the works of Black and other underrepresented composers, McCain curates Underrepresented Composers Concerts for multiple arts organizations. She is an American Prize winner for her solo piano recordings of these works and she won a Gold Global Music Award for her recent album project Heritage. In 2021, Hal Leonard published her transcriptions of Twenty-Four Traditional African American Folk Songs. In 2022, she was the Mistress of Ceremony for the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

McCain was a featured inspirational leader in the award-winning PBS documentary series *Roadtrip Nation: Degree of Impact* in an episode exploring the real-world impact of professionals with doctoral degrees in and outside of academia

After not performing for 6 years while battling a performance injury, she now enjoys a prolific concert career with more than 10 years of full injury recovery. She uses her recovery to serve as an advocate of musicians' wellness—curating articles, lectures, and forums to educate teachers and students. Her article on performance injury and Muscle Activation Techniques was published in the Piano Magazine. McCain has done presentations on wellness and other topics at Universities and the Music Teachers National Association Conference and the National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy.

Vermont pianist **Claire Black** is an active performer of classical music as both a collaborator and soloist. Her passion for chamber music synergizes with abundant experience, including many seasons of performance tours with the Stellaria Trio, Vermont Virtuosi, Cialde Quintet, and the Elegua Duo. Ms. Black's latest solo projects spotlight works by Clara Schumann. She won second prize in the 2022 International Clara Schumann Competition.