

The Lyra Summer Music Workshop

New to the Randolph area this summer is the **Lyra Summer Music Workshop**, hosted jointly by Chandler Center for the Arts and Vermont Technical College. This new endeavor is the brainstorm of two New York-based pianists, Mary **Prescott** and **Akiko Sasaki**, who have long wanted to expand their yen for music instruction to the beautiful hills of Vermont.

The Lyra Summer Music Workshop is for music students of all ages and levels to immerse themselves in a supportive musical culture where they can further develop their passion for music, polish old and learn new repertoire, and gain solo and chamber performance experience. The workshop runs from **July 25 – August 7, 2010**, and will be **located at Vermont Technical College** in Randolph Center. Students and amateurs of all ages and levels who play piano, violin, viola, cello or double bass are invited to participate. Curriculum will include private lessons, chamber ensembles and coachings, master classes, group classes, (i.e music theory, instrumental literature, ear-training, etc.), and supervised practice time. Lyra Summer Music Workshop will hold faculty and guest artist performances and student concerts at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph. Students interested in enrolling in the Music Workshop this summer can find all the necessary information on their website: www.lyrasummermusic.com.

Mary Prescott is an ambitious pianist and an accomplished educator. She holds a BM in piano performance from the University of Minnesota and an MM in piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music. Mary Prescott has run a successful private studio for over 10 years. In addition, she has held faculty positions at the Larchmont Music Academy, Great Neck Music Conservatory, Goppisberger Music Festival in Switzerland, and the Louisiana Chamber Music Institute. Pianistically, her skills are considered to be on the vanguard of the New York scene. Prescott's repertoire ranges from works by Beethoven and Schubert to Rzewski and Cowell.

Akiko Sasaki is considered one of the premier music educators and performers in New York City. Having attained a BM in piano performance from the University of Denver and a MM in piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music, she went on to establish the successful Forte>piano Studio in Brooklyn, NY. In addition, Akiko Sasaki founded Musical Explorers and Performing Pianists of New York, two organizations dedicated to furthering musical education and fostering performance opportunities for young piano students. Sasaki has performed at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Hall, and has been awarded the New York City International Award and the New York Distinguished Artist Award.

Presenters at Chandler couldn't be more enthusiastic and find this two week session of chamber music education a perfect fit. Chandler is one of the few venues in the region that continues to present classical music, with distinguished artists performing during

their annual season, and the Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival now in its 18th year this August. In addition, the second annual concert of The Next Generation, a showcase of outstanding area teenagers performing classical music, will take place at Chandler in May. Mary Jeanne Taylor, conference and events coordinator at VTC, says that the entire Vermont Tech community is delighted that the campus will be home to this intensive arts instruction this summer.