

# Institute of Western Music & Speech – Sri Lanka

(Incorporated by Act of Parliament No. 44 of 1988)

**60<sup>th</sup>**  
**Diamond**  
**Anniversary**

## NEWSLETTER



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear fellow members,  
During these challenging times, trust you all are keeping safe and well.

This year unfolds a landmark in the history of our Institute, as we celebrate 60 years of dedicated service to the children of our nation. **Our success would not be possible without the contribution of our loyal teachers, dedicated Examiners and members of the staff who have been part and parcel of our incredible journey thus far. It gives me great pride and joy to be part of an excellent**

**team that strives on reaching this success and greatness.**

We were very fortunate to commence our celebrations with the religious observances on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2020, followed with an evening of fellowship of all Examiners, Staff members and Receptionists along with their spouses. Most of our events planned to coincide with our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary had to be cancelled due to the prevailing Covid -19 pandemic situation. However, with the objective of promoting and nurturing the talents of our children the "Beethoven Piano Competition 2020" will take place with the semifinals on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 and the finals on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2020 at the Russian Cultural Center, Colombo.

We deeply regret that we were reluctantly compelled to cancel the highlight in our annual calendar, the prize givings which were to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 and thereafter due to the situation that prevailed in the country. We appreciate your understanding and are pleased to inform that we have already handed over almost seventy five percent of the cups and certificates to the respective teachers to be in turn handed over to their prize winners.

I'm pleased to inform you that the practical examinations for the year 2020 commenced on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2020 adhering to all health and safety measures stipulated by the health authorities and the government. The theory examinations too will be held in the near future.

I take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt thanks to the council, examinations board, Mr. D.L.V.Jayarathne, Director Administration and the staff for their unstinted co-operation during these challenging times.

I'm confident that we can and will get through these difficult times and appreciate your understanding.

Whilst thanking you for your loyalty we look forward to your continued support. Wishing you all the very best, stay safe.

*Mrs. Priyanthika Wickramasinghe*

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# 60<sup>th</sup> Diamond Anniversary



To mark this event we had a thanksgiving service at the IWMS auditorium graced by all the religious dignitaries. The participants were hosted to a scrumptious breakfast including the traditional Milk Rice and Sweet Meats.



In view of the above celebrations, a grand reception was organized at Elevate for the examiners and their spouses, members of the staff and their spouses and the receptionists.

Although a similar event was planned for the teachers to be held in May 2020, we couldn't go ahead with it because of the Covid 19 pandemic.

**One of the main highlights of the event was recognising the services of the Examiners who have contributed 25 years and more.**



**Mrs. Bernadette de Soyza, Mrs. Sheryl Perera,  
Mrs. Shiranee Dabare, Mrs. Sneha Appathurai,  
Mrs. Sharmalene Mendis, Mrs. Regina Sathasivam,  
and Mrs. Maureen Silva  
together with the President and the Chairperson**





## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER – 2019

The year-end Christmas lunch and fellowship was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2019 at the IWMS auditorium. It was attended by the Examiners, Staff members and the Receptionists.



## SHRAMADANA

The Shramadana was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, and we thank all the



Staff members  
for their support  
given to  
IWMS  
at all times.

## BEETHOVEN COMPETITION



The competition was postponed due to the Corona Virus pandemic. The new dates :

Semi Finals – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Finals – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

## PRIZE-GIVING – 2019

We are sad to say that out of 13 prize-givings that were scheduled to be held, we managed to hold only 4 prize-givings, due to the Covid 19 pandemic.





## STAFF NEWS

### • *Congratulations...!*



**Prashani & Chandima**



**We Congratulate two of our valuable staff members Mrs. Chandima Sajeewani and Mrs. Prashani Gamage on completing 25 years of dedicated service.**



- We are happy to announce that our staff member, Nilantha Dinesh and his wife were blessed with a baby girl. We wish his family peace and joy.



The new **Music syllabus for Pianoforte Pre Preparatory – Grade VIII** will come into effect in May 2021. However please note that the old syllabus will be valid until 2021 along with the new syllabus.

Copies of the new syllabus will be available for sale from January 2021.





## NEWS FROM THE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

### *Chairperson's Message*



It gives me great pleasure to send this message to all our teachers as we progress with our activities in the 'new normal' after the lockdown period. The IWMS has been able to start examinations with all the safety measures in place and I'm happy to note that teachers are co-operating with us in making sure that exams progress

without any hindrance. It is heartening to note that pupils are keen to complete their exams and progress with their chosen fields of study be it Spoken English, Written English, Speech & Drama or Pianoforte. We urge the teachers to enter their pupils for the second session of exams and assure you that exams will be completed in a successful manner.

I wish you all the best!

Stay safe!

*Mrs. Faria Salie*

## TIRZAH PONRAJAH MEMORIAL PRIZE



We are pleased to inform that Dr. R. Ponrajah has offered an Annual Scholarship for the Prize-Winner of Grade I Music Practical (Pianoforte) Examination Commencing this year.

## TENTATIVE DATES FOR THEORY EXAMINATIONS - 2020

Theory Examination (Colombo) - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Theory Examination (Outstation) - 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020

Senior Certificate Examination - 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

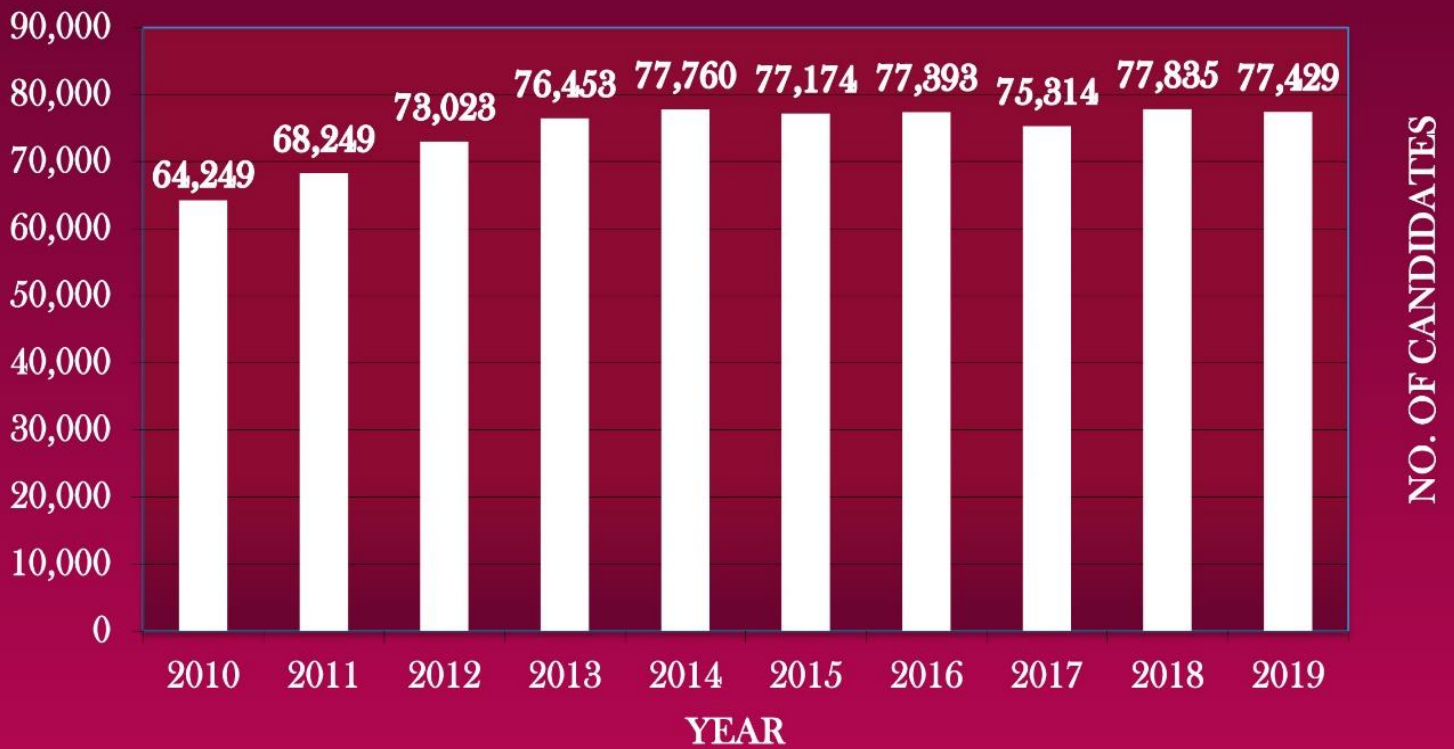
Practical examinations for the year 2020 commenced on the **21<sup>st</sup> of August** with prayers at the IWMS premises.



Outstation practical examinations commenced on the **15<sup>th</sup> of August 2020** and we look forward to serving you with commitment.

Exams are being conducted with all health & safety measures in place. Teachers can inform the office as to when they wish to have their candidates examined. They will be scheduled for exams on those days.

## PROGRESS AT A GLANCE SINCE 2010



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[www.iwms.lk](http://www.iwms.lk)

60 years

60 years

60 years

60 years

60 years

60 years

60 years

## OBITUARIES

It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of



**Mrs. Irangani Devapura**  
(Former Music Examiner)



**Mr. Milroy Perera**  
(beloved husband of our  
dear Music Examiner  
Mrs. Sheryl Perera)



**Mr. Royston Peiris**  
(beloved husband of our dear  
staff member  
Mrs. Srimali Sooriyabandara.)