

# The 2019 Clara Wells Fellowships

Fellows to be in residence at the 2019 Matthay Piano  
Festival at the

University of Alabama  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
June 19-22, 2019

In 1971, Clara Wells, a devoted student of Tobias Matthay in the 1930s, was memorialized by her husband, the late Samuel Masland, who dedicated funds to the American Matthay Association (after 2002, the American Matthay Association became the American Matthay Association for Piano, or AMAP) in her name to offer scholarships promoting knowledge of Matthay principles. For many years the Matthay Association felt the best use of this bequest lay in providing funds for young pianists to study with teachers trained in Matthay principles via a performance competition. But in 2015, the AMAP Board of Governors decided to offer two Fellowships underwriting residencies at future festivals, and the first two were awarded at the 2016 Matthay Festival at Pennsylvania State University, followed by four additional awards conferred at Arizona State University and, last year, at Union University. The purpose of these fellowships is to enable a more intensive exposure to Tobias Matthay and to our organization.

This year's Fellows will receive:

1. Full tuition to the 2019 AMA Festival at the University of Alabama from June 19-22, 2019;
2. Financial support for expenses up to \$1000 per student;
3. Mentorship by distinguished AMA members;
4. Two performance opportunities during the Festival:
  - A. Clara Wells Scholars' Recital
  - B. Performance in the master class conducted this year by a Matthay master teacher.
5. A complimentary copy of the recently published [\*England's Piano Sage: The Life and Teachings of Tobias Matthay\*](#) (Scarecrow, 2012);
6. A complimentary copy of all volumes currently available of the seven-volume APR Record CD series devoted to ["The Matthay Pupils."](#)

### Competition Description:

1. Candidates must be between 15 to 30 years of age, as of March 15, 2019.
2. Two awards of \$1000.00 are available for full-time students in two divisions: one High School, and one College (Bachelor through Doctoral levels).
3. All applicants must submit unedited video recordings via YouTube links containing two (2) works of contrasting period, style, and tempo. The combined music on the links must comprise a *minimum* of 10 minutes.
4. Applicants will answer three questions related to the reading. (see Reading Requirements at the bottom of this page)
5. Award winners will be chosen by the Clara Wells Fellowship Committee, a panel of members of the American Matthey Association.
6. If there are no qualified candidates in one division, two awards may be made in the remaining division at the discretion of the Clara Wells Fellowship Committee.

### Application Requirements:

- A. The Application must contain a cover letter containing:
  1. Your name, age, school grade, address, phone and email contacts.
  2. Your length of piano study and names of your teachers.
  3. Your experience: performances, awards and scholarships, etc.
  4. Briefly state why you want to be a Clara Wells Scholar.
  5. The name and contact information for your current teacher.
- B. Performance video (unedited) submitted via YouTube links.
- C. Written answers to the Reading Requirement.
- D. Evidence of age: .pdf file of birth certificate or passport.
- E. Application fee:
  - **\$20 (non-refundable) for students of active members of the American Matthey Association.** Please make checks payable to the American Matthey Association.
  - **\$60 (non-refundable) for students of non-members of the American Matthey Association.** Please make checks payable to the American Matthey Association.
- F. A teacher's letter of recommendation. Additional supporting letters may be sent as well, but all must be sent under separate cover by email or USPS.

**Deadline for all application materials: March 15, 2019.**

1. Emailed materials must be received by March 15, 2019. Materials sent by USPS must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2019.
2. Winners will be notified no later than April 1, 2019.

All materials should be addressed to:

Dr. Kevin Chance  
1924 Fox Ridge Rd  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406  
Attn: Clara Wells  
[k.t.chance@gmail.com](mailto:k.t.chance@gmail.com)

(Please address all questions to the email address above, and use the subject line "Clara Wells")

The Reading Requirement is from the "Fifty-five Daily Maxims" included in the back of *The Visible and Invisible in Pianoforte Technique* by Tobias Matthay.

In the print edition, these are pages E -53-58, found in the section titled "Epitome and Summary."

A downloadable PDF version may be reached [here](#).

Please answer these questions, and include your answers with your application:

1. What does it mean to "intend" each note?
2. Why does Matthay say "Arm off!"?
3. What is your favorite *Daily Maxim*, and how do you apply it to your piano playing or teaching?

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