



GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



F A L L N E W S L E T T E R 2 0 2 0

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, AN AFFILIATE OF MTNA

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GMTA VIRTUAL STATE CONFERENCE November 6-7, 2020

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Executive Board voted to move our state conference to an online conference. The conference will be offered at no charge to our members. Georgia's Own presenters who submitted proposals will be invited to present their sessions in the online capacity. We welcome Dr. Kevin Chance of the University of Alabama as our Artistry Headliner and Dr. Peter Van Zandt Lane, from the University of Georgia, who was selected as the 2020 GMTA Commissioned Composer. The recitals and presentation of the commissioned work will also be presented virtually. Plans are being made to present awards, grants and other recognitions in a live format. We hope that you will take advantage of the many sessions that will be available to you. Watch for details in the monthly *Constant Contact* email.



Artistry Track Headliner Dr. Kevin T. Chance serves as Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Alabama where he also coordinates the Gloria Narramore Moody Piano Area. He has performed throughout the United States, Mexico, Europe, and Asia as both soloist and chamber musician, and he is frequently in demand as a clinician and adjudicator. Recent presentations include lectures for the Music Teachers National Association Conference, the American Matthay Association, and the College Music Society. A dedicated teacher, he was the recipient of the 2015-2016 AMTA Teacher of the Year Award, and he was awarded the 2019 Music Educator of the Year Award by the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa. Most recently, he was inducted into the inaugural class of the Steinway & Sons Music Teacher Hall of Fame in New York City. His pre-college and college students consistently receive top awards in state, regional, and national competitions. Dr. Chance holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music, Louisiana State University, and Birmingham-Southern College, and his primary teachers include Barry Snyder, Constance Knox Carroll, and William DeVan. He is also an alumnus of the Aspen Music Festival where he studied with Ann Schein and Herbert Stessin. Kevin currently serves as the President of the American Matthay Association, and he was recently elected Vice President of the Music Teachers National Association.



Dr. Peter Van Zandt Lane, from the University of Georgia, was selected as the **2020 GMTA Commissioned Composer**. Dr. Lane's music has been praised by critics for its "depth, character, and pleasing complexity" (Boston Musical Intelligencer), described as "propulsive, incisive work...beautifully and confidently made...Lane's music is as inviting as it is sophisticated." (American Academy of Arts and Letters). He composes for chamber ensembles, wind ensembles, orchestra, and for dance, often integrating electronics into his concert music. Peter holds composition degrees from Brandeis University and the University of Miami Frost School of Music, and he studied composition with Melinda Wagner, Eric Chasalow,

David Rakowski, and Lansing McLoskey. He is currently Assistant Professor of Composition and Director of the Roger and Phyllis Dancz Center for New Music at the University of Georgia Hugh Hodgson School of Music, and previously he held teaching positions at Brandeis University, Wellesley College, MIT, and Harvard.





FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOY POOLE, GMTA PRESIDENT

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After an interesting Spring and Summer, Fall semesters are now here. The pandemic of 2020 certainly has taught many of us new ways of teaching. I have heard so many inspiring stories of how your teaching moved to online platforms. Summer camps were virtual along with music conferences and competitions. During the pandemic, the GMTA Auditions moved online as well as our board meetings and local meetings across the state. GMTA members proved to be very resilient and determined to keep teaching and the arts alive.

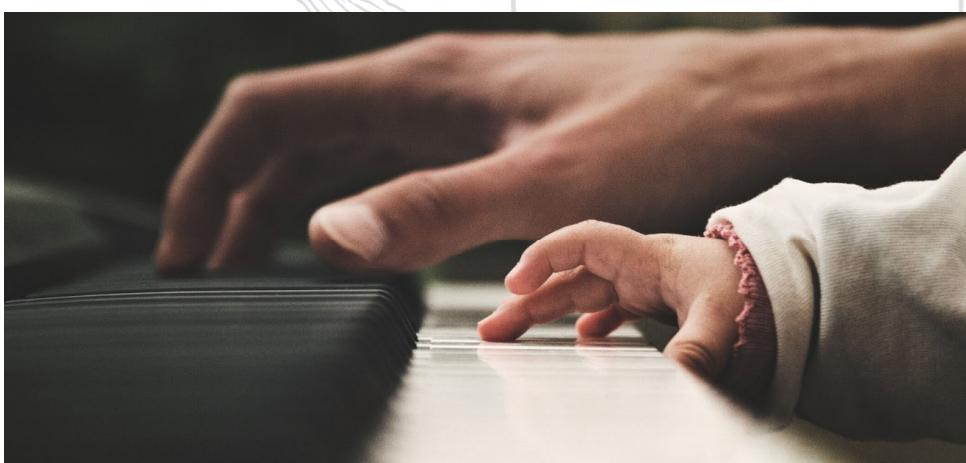
Meetings for the GMTA Executive Board looked different this year as they were held as a video conference call. I appreciate all the members who attended and continued to plan for GMTA during this time. At the August board meeting, the board voted to move MTNA Competitions to a video submission, and the state conference will be virtual. We will be sending out complete details as they are finalized. This year many of our neighboring states will also offer virtual conferences. These conferences will be free to all GMTA members. Information for the GMTA conference and other state conferences will be sent out in our monthly *Constant Contact* email communications.

It's time to renew your MTNA/GMTA membership. MTNA offers several different types of membership: Active Member, Senior Discount, Collegiate, International, Patron, Corporate and Institution. Recently retired? They even have a membership option for you. Click [HERE](#) for more info and to renew your membership. Let's keep our membership strong!

The online registration deadline for MTNA Competitions is September 16th at 3:00 PM. Video recording will be submitted to GMTA. The deadline to submit video recording is October 23, 2020. Complete guidelines for competitions can be found at [MTNA website](#). Information for submitting video recording will be sent out through *Constant Contact* email by September 15th.

It's time to apply for grants and nominate the GMTA teacher of the year. The deadlines are September 14th to submit nominations for Teacher of the Year, and September 30th to apply for grants. Information and the complete calendar can be found on the [GMTA website](#).

As I am ending my term of President, I want to thank each of you that served alongside me on the Executive Board. Your support and dedication to GMTA makes this an outstanding organization in which to serve. Thank you for giving your time and expertise so we could offer quality events for our members and students. I consider it an honor to serve alongside each of you.




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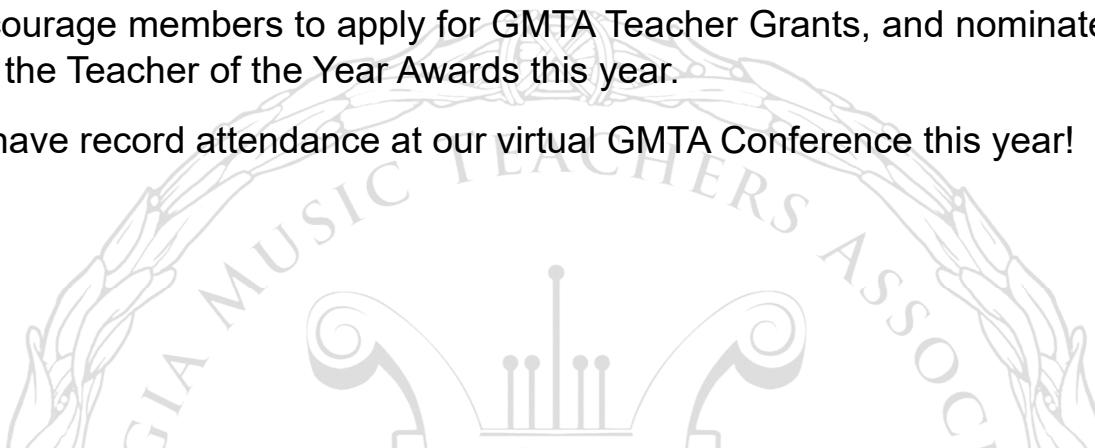
BY JAN ADAMS, NCTM, GMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT

At our August meeting, we had 16 of 20 presidents attend our brief LAP meeting via Zoom. We welcomed three new presidents: Fernando Ramos of Coweta-Fayette, Tracy Threlkeld of South Metro, and Debra Dickensheets from North Fulton.

We discussed how each of us had coped during the Covid Pandemic with virtual lessons – what safeguards we are taking and how we are returning to lessons this fall.

Please encourage members to apply for GMTA Teacher Grants, and nominate a deserving teacher for the Teacher of the Year Awards this year.

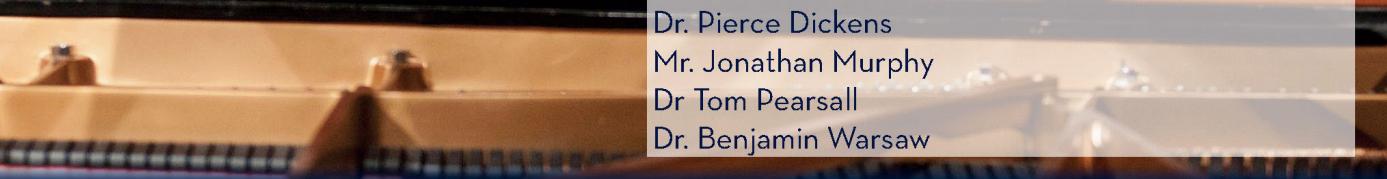
I hope we have record attendance at our virtual GMTA Conference this year!



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

PIANO FACULTY:

- Dr. David Murray, Piano Area Head
- Dr. Karla Rocker, Coordinator of Collaborative Piano
- Dr. Pierce Dickens
- Mr. Jonathan Murphy
- Dr Tom Pearsall
- Dr. Benjamin Warsaw



GeorgiaSouthern.edu/Music

MEET THE NEW GMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD.

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THESE NEWLY NOMINATED OFFICERS WILL BE INSTALLED DURING THE CONFERENCE.

GMTA PRESIDENT

 **Jan Adams, NCTM**, graduated from West Georgia College (now University of West Georgia) in 1978 with BM in Piano Performance and in 1981 with MM Degree in Piano Performance. She studied with Betty Tolbert Smith. She has operated a private studio since 1975. While at the University of West Georgia, she has taught Keyboard Skills and Applied Piano, and she also works as the staff accompanist. She has been the accompanist for the Carroll County Community Chorus for over 30 years.

She has been a member of GMTA for almost 40 years, serving as President-Elect, VP/ Auditions and Secretary. She also was the Certification Chair. She is a member of the American College of Musicians (Guild) where she has been the chair of the Carrollton center for 15 years, and a member of Georgia Federation of Music. She has adjudicated festivals and Auditions in Georgia as well as South Carolina and Alabama.

GMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT

 **Cathy Thacker, NCTM**, is the VP of Newsletters for GMTA, the 2018 Gwinnett County MTA Teacher of the Year, and a Past President of GCMTA. She is an adjudicator for Piano Guild, NFMC Festivals, and other piano events throughout Georgia. Cathy's students perform in recitals, Federated Festivals, Auditions, local competitions, master classes, and Piano Guild. A member of GMTA for 18 years, she believes in supporting the organizations to which she belongs; she served two terms as VP of Auditions before serving in her current position.

Cathy graduated from Bob Jones University in 1984 with her BS in Education, where she studied classical piano with Laurence Morton and hymn playing with Lance Flower. She presented her program on "Middle Movement Syndrome" at the 2018 GMTA conference.

VP OF PROGRAMS

 **Kristi Helfen, NCTM**, is a professor at Oxford College of Emory University where she teaches music history and applied piano, as well as students of all ages in her private studio at home. During the last four years she has also taught music theory and piano ensemble at Eastside Academic Studies in the metro Atlanta area. Kristi received a BS Degree in Music Education/Piano from Asbury University and a MM Degree in Piano Pedagogy from Georgia State University, where she studied with Sergio Gallo. She is a 17-year member of Redeemer Piano Ensemble and adjudicates for GMTA and GFMC. Kristi enjoys performing collaboratively with Pam Martin (one piano, four hands) and Pam Asberry (two pianos). She is also one of the accompanists on staff at Crossroads Presbyterian Church in Stone Mountain.

She has served GMTA/MTNA in various capacities, such as Region IV Auditions Coordinator, MTNA Senior Performance Competition State Coordinator, and Grade 6 Piano Chair. As a member of Decatur MTA she has held the offices of Co-President and Co-Vice President and currently serves as Secretary. In the fall of 2006 Kristi was a recipient of the Steinway Piano Galleries' GMTA Educator Grant. She is also very active in the Georgia Federation of Music Clubs where she is an Area Chair and has served as Secretary at the state level. Kristi has published two articles in *Clavier Companion Magazine*: "Back to School Later in Life: Is It for You?" (May/June 2013) and "Perspectives in Pedagogy" (co-contributor, reviewing Bastien Piano Basics, March/April 2011).

MEET THE NEW GMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD.

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THESE NEWLY NOMINATED OFFICERS WILL BE INSTALLED DURING THE CONFERENCE.

VP OF MTNA COMPETITIONS

Christina Toole's passion for playing and teaching the piano has shaped her life since the young age of eight. She holds a Master's degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Florida State University, where she studied under Dr. Joel Hastings and Dr. Victoria McArthur. Mrs. Toole has over ten years of experience with students of all ages, teaching beginning through advanced levels in both private and group settings. She recently moved to Rome, GA, with her husband, and is an active member of both her local chapter and GMTA. Besides running her private teaching studio, Christina enjoys serving as an accompanist in her area, performing and judging festivals and competitions.



VP OF AUDITIONS

Huu Mai, Artist-in-Residence in Piano at the Kennesaw State University School of Music, dedicates much of his life's work towards the proliferation and advancement of music education. A passionate believer in passing on the gift of music, his students have been recognized nationally and internationally. He is a frequent guest-lecturer at music conferences and is an active adjudicator throughout the southeastern United States. In 2019, Mr. Mai received the Georgia Music Teachers Association "Teacher of the Year" Award. As a concert pianist, he has performed as soloist with orchestras including the Georgia Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Wind Symphony, and the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra among others. In his collaborative work, he has performed with artists such as Ken Lavigne and Thomas Giles. Mr. Mai is also an active conductor having conducted the Atlanta premier of "Shanti: A Journey of Peace" by Kanniks Kannikeswaran and serving as music director for several Atlanta-area churches. In addition to his work as a pianist, educator, and conductor, Mr. Mai is also a violinist and composer.

VP OF NEWSLETTERS

Amy Meppen Neal is Instructor of Piano Pedagogy and Class Piano at Shorter University, where she teaches Piano Pedagogy, Class Piano, and piano lessons. Mrs. Neal graduated *summa cum laude* from Baylor University with a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance. She completed her Master of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance at the University of Oklahoma under the noted pedagogue, Dr. Jane Magrath.

Mrs. Neal lives in Rome, Georgia, with her husband and two sons. She moved from California, where she served as Assistant Director of the Santa Monica Academy of Music and taught group piano classes at Cerritos College. Prior to her time on the west coast, she taught class piano, pedagogy, and private piano lessons at East Texas Baptist University.

Amy Neal has taught private piano lessons in Georgia, California, and Texas, and she has maintained an active private studio since 1998. She is a member of MTNA, the American College of Musicians, and NFMC. She has also remained an active accompanist, working with both students and faculty. She has worked at East Texas Baptist University, Longview Opera, Santa Monica Academy of Music, Valdosta State University, Shorter University, and several churches.



MEET THE NEW GMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD.

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THESE NEWLY NOMINATED OFFICERS WILL BE INSTALLED DURING THE CONFERENCE.

VP OF MEMBERSHIP

Chinese American pianist **Beibei Lin** is Assistant Professor of Piano at Valdosta State University. Recent engagements include solo and collaborative performances at Converse College, University of Kansas, Wichita State University, Columbus State University, Oberlin College, and Central Washington University. She has appeared as a presenter and speaker at the College Music Society Southern Conference, The Sport Professionals' Experience and Research Conference, the Group Piano/ Piano Pedagogy Forum, the MTNA Collegiate Symposium, the Georgia Music Teachers Association Conference, and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. She served as the collaborative pianist for MasterWorks Festival in the summers of 2018 and 2019. Lin previously taught at Columbus State University and received her doctorate in piano performance from Florida State University under the tutelage of Heidi Louise Williams.

SECRETARY

Amy Phillips has been playing the piano for 35 years, and it is her passion! She earned her bachelor's degree in music education from Augusta State University in 2001. While there, she was a concerto competition award winner, and she received the Powers Baldwin Music Award for outstanding music student. She also graduated cum laude and was a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society. Mrs. Phillips has been teaching privately for over 20 years, and has a studio at home. She has also taught general music K-5 in a public school and general music K-7 at a special needs Catholic school. Mrs. Phillips has played the piano for various churches for over 25 years. She has accompanied church choirs, elementary and high school choirs, preschool programs, played for graduations, funerals, and countless weddings. She recorded a CD of hymns and worship music titled *Unwavering* to raise money for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering in 2018. She is the current president of Augusta MTA (2019-2021).

MEMBER AT LARGE

Dawn Harmon McCord, DMA, Professor of Music Education and Organ studies, is retired. Dr. McCord has served on the boards of the Georgia Music Educators and Georgia Music Teachers Association (GMTA), including serving as President of GMTA. Dr. McCord is Director of Music and Organist at Carrollton Presbyterian Church. She holds degrees from the University of Georgia, Louisiana State University, and Florida State University with studies in Music Education, Piano, Choral Conducting, and Organ Performance. Leading choral clinics and adjudicating piano events are foremost in her professional activities as well as participating in research related to teaching and learning, piano proficiency, teacher preparation, and all-state choral policies and practice. She has presented her research at international, national, and state conferences.

MEMBER AT LARGE

Dr. N. Mason Conklin, NCTM, holds a Ph.D. in Music Education with an emphasis in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma, one of the pre-eminent schools in the nation for this field. He also holds a Master of Music in Piano Performance and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Baylor University. Additionally, he has studied at the Marta Sanchez Dalcroze Training Center at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Conklin has over a decade of experience teaching music in a group setting, and is in high demand as clinician and adjudicator in regional, state and national competitions and conferences.



GMTA AUDITIONS

YIEN WANG, VICE PRESIDENT OF GMTA AUDITIONS

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2021 GMTA Regional Auditions are tentatively scheduled for March 20; the deadline for Local Associations to submit ratings is February 22. GMTA State Auditions are TBD.

Due to Covid-19, the GATE requirement for Piano Grades 4-12 is waived this year only.

Please continue to enter your students in GMTA Auditions, or try it out in 2021! We are looking forward to having you participating in 2021, and hope to make it a wonderful experience for all of you.

Please email me at yienwangpiano@gmail.com with any comments or questions you may have.

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Lou Lyon, NCTM, Membership
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Membership: Debra Hughes
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gcmta.org



MTNA COMPETITIONS

ASHLEY CRAIG-DIAZ, NCTM, VICE PRESIDENT MTNA COMPETITIONS

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The first round of MTNA Competitions will be done online. Applications are available on the MTNA website. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, September 16, at 3:00 pm. Click MTNA Competition Guidelines for complete information.

2020 Competitions will be held by video submission. After registering through the MTNA website, students will receive guidelines from GMTA for uploading video. GMTA video submission guidelines will be emailed by September 30th.



NORTH FULTON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

www.NFMTA.com

Check out our opportunities for your Students -- Fall Festival, Celebrate With Music concert and Student Spotlight recital!

President Debra Dickensheets dickensheetsmusic@gmail.com	2nd VP Membership Esther Martin ecmstudio@gmail.com
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CERTIFICATION

RENEE HOLLIMAN, NCTM, CERTIFICATION CHAIR

Georgia has 88 members who are Nationally Certified; a few teachers have applied to be certified and are now working on completing their certifications. MTNA Teacher Certification is a benefit that will last throughout your teaching career. <http://certification.mtna.org/> Click on the link and start the process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Renee hollidolli@comcast.net

“Music teachers’ certification through MTNA strengthens the music teaching profession by asserting the validity of teaching credentials in the public eye. What could be more important to preserve and announce than our credentials as music teachers of excellence?” ~Jane Magrath, University of Oklahoma



North Fulton Music Teachers Association's first members at large meeting was held via Zoom on August 11. We have a new and improved website, <https://www.nfmta.com/>, that has an expanded "find a teacher" listing. Also, there is a "members only" section that has updated information that goes in our handbook, including forms needed for events and auditions. Lisa Handman started a new Instagram page for us at NFMTAGA. Portia Hawkins is administrating our NFMFTA Facebook page. All are important to keep us connected and in the public view during these pandemic times.

1st VP of Programs, Dr. Nancy Elton, has planned for our September meeting to have a presentation by Dr. Grace Huang, Assistant Professor of Piano Pedagogy and Class Piano at the University of Georgia on "Albums for the Young (and Young at Heart)." This program will be via Zoom, due to coronavirus limitations. Other programs for this year are Dr. Joshua Pifer, Assistant Professor of Piano, Valdosta State University, presenting "The Piano Music of Alexander Tcherepnin" in October, and Dr. David Fung, Associate Professor of Piano, University of Georgia, presenting "The Well-Tempered Musician" in November.

Christine Smith announced that the Fall Festival will happen Saturday, October 24, with a new Zoom format. Rhonda Freeman currently has us booked for "Celebrate with Music" at the North Point Mall during the first weekend in December.



Submitted by Deb Ramsey Dickensheets, President of North Fulton MTA



Despite the unique challenges we are all facing, the Rome MTA is preparing for our new year. We are planning to host our annual Fall Recital and our Jazz & Pop Competition this fall. Our Spring Competition is scheduled for March, and this year's era is Baroque music. We are hoping to host our festivals in person with social distancing, but we have plans for virtual submissions and judging, if needed, for each one. Unfortunately, our guest workshop this fall has been cancelled due to COVID-19, but we are still hoping to attend the GMTA and MTNA conferences.

**Submitted by Amy Neal,
President of Rome MTA**



Savannah MTA is still deciding what to do about events in the 2021-21 year. One of our members, Susan Thomson, passed away from cancer in July. She taught at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro for many years, and then she and her husband retired to Savannah to be near family. After relocating to the Savannah area, she taught again at Armstrong State University until she became too ill to work. Her legacy lives on in her students, and we will miss her!



**Submitted by Diane Boyd, NCTM,
President of Savannah MTA**



MEMBERSHIP

DONNA DASHER, NCTM, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

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In previous newsletter articles, I've given readers plenty of reasons why they should either join GMTA or continue their membership. Now, in keeping with the spirit of 2020, this article is dedicated to the reasons I've heard people say they do not want to join GMTA, and how those reasons are debunked.

The top 5 Reasons (Excuses) NOT to join GMTA (and in no particular order)

Reason #1: I don't know anything about it.

My response: Well, I can fix that! GMTA is a professional organization dedicated to the advancement of Georgia music teachers and students through study, training, and collaboration. Teachers learn from each other's skills and experience. Students of GMTA teachers are provided opportunities for expanded musical growth and knowledge beyond what the individual teaching studio can provide. Check out the GMTA and the MTNA websites to find out more.

Reason #2: Isn't it just for experienced, professional teachers?

My response: NO, absolutely not! Some teachers in GMTA have music degrees, and some don't! Some have years of experience, and some have none! Some are nationally certified ,and some are not. GMTA is for ALL teachers teaching music who want to improve their skills, knowledge, and teaching abilities, and make connections with other music teachers. You can gain knowledge and experience, and even seek professional certification through MTNA.

Reason #3: I don't have that many students.

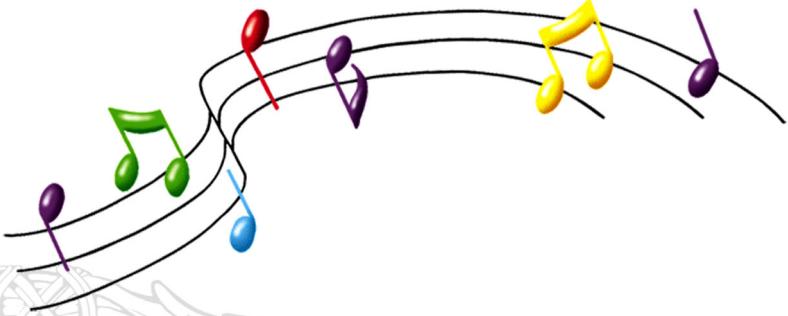
My response: So? Do you want more students? What a better way to network with other teachers and become a listed music teacher with the GMTA directory. As VP of Membership for GMTA, I received notices ALL THE TIME from parents looking for a teacher in their area. I have a current list of teachers and can make recommendations in your area. You don't want more students? No problem, but you certainly want to be the best teacher you can be, right? What a better way to stay atop the latest music and music pedagogy by having access to everything GMTA has to offer. And, not being overwhelmed with many students, you have plenty of time to peruse, read, and study the music articles provided by GMTA and MTNA.

Reason #4: I'm too old.

My response: Never! You know as well as I do that music teachers NEVER quit. Even if you intend to stop teaching at some point, there will always be a grandchild, or a friend or neighbor's child who knows that you are a music teacher and wants to take lessons. You will be teaching, even if just a few students, until the day you die! Don't you want to be able to meet your Maker and say, "I did the absolute best that I could with every single child you sent me?" I certainly do. AND, you have years of experience that you need to share with the younger teachers. If you don't, who will teach the younger teachers the knowledge that you have gained over probably 50+ years of teaching?

Reason #5: I know one of those members, and I don't like them!

Me response: Ha! I know one of the teachers in my organization that I didn't like BEFORE I became a member. Now that I am a member, I've gotten to know her and she's become one of my best friends, and, not saying any names, but Diane, you know who I'm talking about! All I can say is, just "Give Us a Try." What have you got to lose? You don't have to like everybody, but you may come to know and respect them, and make new musician friends, and, who knows, you might start to like them!





JUDGES LIST

SUSAN ANDREWS, NCTM, JUDGES LIST CHAIR

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I am pleased to announce that there are three additions to the GMTA Judges List:

- ◆ Mason Conklin - Piano
- ◆ Debra Hughes – Piano, Voice, and Woodwinds
- ◆ Pamela Asberry – Woodwinds

A complete list of judges and their judging preferences may be found on the "Resources" page on the GMTA Website. Anyone who is interested in having your name included on the GMTA Judges List is strongly encouraged to apply. Applications and recommendations for applicants may be submitted online. Additional voice and instrumental judges are needed. Please contact Susan Andrews, GMTA Judges List Chair, for more information, at pianosusan@comcast.net.



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Young Harris College Department of Music
Dr. Edwin S. Calloway, Chair
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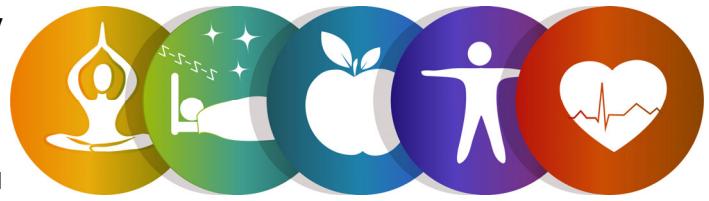


WELLNESS

JULIE SOH HARBIN, NCTM, WELLNESS CHAIR

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Strategies For Coping with Performance Anxiety Podcast by Gail Berenson, NCTM



When the jury or performance is approaching have you ever felt your heartbeat is raising, sweaty and shaky hands or upset stomach? How are you going to control the nerves and anxiety? There are three strategies for coping with performance anxiety.

The first strategy is to find a way to lower your heart-rate. Do aerobic activity 30 minutes at minimum of four days a week will lower your heart-rate. To do daily yoga, meditate and deep breathing with exhale and inhale slowly. To do this act before performing will also help you to calm down. The second strategy deals with how we think about the performance. Step one is trust yourself. The goal is think positively. The mind is amazingly powerful. If the performance is viewed as a threat it engages the body's natural response to fear. It's called fight or flight syndrome. The body then releases a complex of the stress hormone that can derail a performance.

Step two is setting realistic goals. There are three realistic goals:

1. I want to complete this performance at the best I can based on I am capable to do the best I can.
2. I will use this performance as the way to learn where I am with these repertoire what I learn from this performance with help next performance better.
3. I want to enjoy the performance and share with the audience.

Step three is to stay in the present. If a mistake occurs, keep focus on what is coming up. Stop the internal negative voices. Step four is visualize yourself succeeding. By sitting in a quite place looking at your music can create more secure performance. The third strategy is to practice performing. Recording yourself and set up at least four practice performances to friends and church prior to the performance date. These practices will reveal any needed attention or weakness that requires further attention.

Gail Berenson's final thought: Performing can be a joyful experience and to those who accept the challenge can bring tremendous sense of accomplishment and increase self confidence.

**North Dekalb
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Decatur Music Teachers Association

DMTA
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ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

DEBRA HUGHES, NCTM, ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY CHAIR

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Georgia Council of the Arts (GCA) is working to provide access to resources that will help groups continue to move forward. Please review this list for any that might apply to you or your music events, groups and needs.

GCA's Website

GCA continues to post updates to our website regarding opportunities for funding, guidance for reopening, or other issues related to COVID-19 recovery. Go to <https://gaarts.org/tools-for-advancement/emergency-preparedness/> to check new listings.

Facebook

GCA posts daily links and opportunities on our Facebook page. Please follow us to receive daily updates: <https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaCouncilfortheArts/>.

State of Georgia Releases

Georgia Facilities Working Group Reopening Guide: <https://www.georgia.org/georgia-facilities-working-group-re-opening-guide>.

COVID-19 Georgia Suppliers: <https://www.georgia.org/covid19suppliersmap>. This is a list of Georgia organizations that are offering PPE supplies.

Webinars

Budgeting During a Global Pandemic (Kentucky Arts Council) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52EKiPT5ozs&feature=youtu.be>

Fundraising During a Pandemic (Texas Commission on the Arts) – <https://vimeo.com/430165239>

Creative Borrowing (ArtsWA, Oregon Arts Commission and the Idaho Commission on the Arts) – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dsTxWwmM18&feature=youtu.be>

Moving your Content into the Digital World: Legal Guide for Individual Artists and Arts Organizations (New York State Council on the Arts) – <https://arts.ny.gov/resources/NYSCA-PRESENTS>

Other Resources

Check out these additional resources:

Alliance of Artist Communities – <https://www.artistcommunities.org/emergency-relief-programs>

Americans for the Arts – <https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-topic/disaster-preparedness>

Association of Performing Arts Professionals – <https://www.apap365.org/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19-Webinars>

CERF+ - <https://cerfplus.org/>

Georgia Department of Education Resources for Digital Teaching and the Arts – <https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/Fine-Arts.aspx>

League of American Orchestras – <https://www.americanorchestras.org/advocacy-government/disaster-relief-for-nonprofits/coronavirus.html>

Musicares – <https://www.grammy.com/musicares>

National Endowment for the Arts – <https://www.arts.gov/covid-19-resources-for-artists-and-arts-organizations>

Performing Arts Readiness – <https://performingartsreadiness.org/webinars/>

Teaching Artists Guild – <https://teachingartistsguild.org/covid-19-resources/>



GEORGIA'S OWN

DEBRA HUGHES, NCTM, ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY CHAIR

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GEORGIA'S OWN—All interested GMTA teachers are invited to add their name to the “Georgia's Own” list. “Georgia's Own” is an online listing resource where GMTA groups may procure individuals to present informative trainings or special presentations for their meetings. If you wish to be included or want to know more, please contact Debra Hughes - bndhughes@comcast.net.



Welcome New Members!

Catherine Shatto (collegiate)

Tamara Stroup (collegiate)

Jamie Butts

Anne Dicks

Matthew Edwards

Sunyoung Park

Greer Thomison

Kyungmi Yang

Sally Zervakos-Nicewander

Yanyue Zhao

The GMTA Teacher of the Year Award is presented annually to a member of GMTA in recognition of lifetime achievement as a music teacher, with excellence in teaching, musicianship, professional activity, and service to the community and/or state.

Any GMTA association or member may nominate any other GMTA member for the Teacher of the Year. The GMTA Teacher of the Year will be selected from nominated applicants and entered in the MTNA Teacher of the Year competition.

The online submission form will require the following information or uploaded documents: <https://georgiamta.org/teacher-year-application.php>



- Teaching/professional achievement
- Number of years of teaching experience
- Evidence of teaching excellence (i.e., students' success)
- Accomplishments/contributions to MTNA
- Participation in Local, State, and/or National MTNA programs
- Community Involvement
- Former student and/or parent letter of support (upload document)
- Professional colleague letter of support (upload document)

Nominations will need to be submitted online by Monday, September 14, 2020.

The winner will be acknowledged at the 2020 GMTA Conference Banquet.

With so many fine teachers in Georgia, please consider nominating one of your favorites.

For a list of past Teachers of the Year, and to read their Teaching Tips, go to: <https://georgiamta.org/teacher-of-the-year.php>



GMTA AWARDS

LEIGH ANNE BLEICHNER, GMTA AWARDS CHAIR

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Your support of Georgia Music Teachers Association assists professional music education in the State of Georgia. Programs such as scholarships, awards, and grants are made possible through generous support at the individual, local, and corporate level. By investing in GMTA and MTNA, you support our mission of furthering the art of music through programs that encourage and support teaching, performance, composition and scholarly research.

Contributions to the following funds enable GMTA to provide financial assistance to our students through awards and travel grants for students traveling to MTNA Competitions. They may be made in memory or honor of someone or on behalf of an organization, with acknowledgement sent to the appropriate party.

Click [HERE](#) to donate today!

The Nolting Award in Composition was established **The GMTA General Award Fund**, established in 1987 and initially funded by beloved GMTA member Betty Nolting. It is given at the GMTA Conference awarded at the discretion of the GMTA Finance Advisor each year to first-place winners in the MTNA Student Composition Committee. Awards from this fund are given to Composition Competitions for the state-level competition in each age category.

senior string, vocal, and brass/woodwind winners of GMTA Auditions. Donations not designated for a specific fund go into this fund.

The Broadhurst Award in Piano was established in 1992 by the Broadhurst family in commemoration of **The Betty H. White Award Fund** was established in 2019 in memory of Betty H. White. This award will be given annually at the discretion of the GMTA FAC. This award is presented annually at the GMTA Conference to the winner of the MTNA Junior Performance Competition.

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North Fulton MTA: page 9

South Metro Area MTA: page 18

Young Harris College: page 12

Complete Calendar can be found at <https://georgiamta.org/calendar.php>

September 1 Deadlines:

Membership Renewal Deadline (extended for 2020)

Deadline to apply for GMTA Commissioned Composer Award

September 14 Application Deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year

September 16 Online Registration Deadline for MTNA Competitions—MTNA Website

<https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/MTNA/Engage/Competitions/Competitions.aspx?DisplayAreaOptions=No&hkey=28c32edb-a7fc-4cb6-9366-71e4f5512033>

September 30 Student Membership Renewal Deadline

Application Deadline for:

GMTA Teacher Grants

Steinway Teacher Awards

October 23 -24 MTNA Competitions will be held by video submission.

November 5-7 **GMTA Virtual Conference**

UPCOMING

March 13-17, 2021 **MTNA NATIONAL CONFERENCE - ATLANTA**



Executive Board:

President: Joy Poole president.georgiamta@gmail.com

President-Elect: Jan Adams, NCTM presidentelected.georgiamta@gmail.com

Conference Committee: programs.georgiamta@gmail.com

Vice President of Membership: Donna Dasher, NCTM membership.georgiamta@gmail.com

Vice President of Newsletters: Cathy Thacker, NCTM newsletters.georgiamta@gmail.com

Vice President of GMTA Auditions: Yien Wang auditions.georgiamta@gmail.com

Vice President of MTNA Competitions: Ashley-Craig Diaz, NCTM Mtnacompetitions.georgiamta@gmail.com

Secretary: Mary Ann McTier Secretary.georgiamta@gmail.com

Member-at-Large: Robert Henry robert@roberthenv.org

Member-at-Large: Michiko Otaki MichikoOtaki@clayton.edu

Immediate Past President: Rebekah Healan Boles rebekahhealan@yahoo.com

Executive Director: Mandy Reynolds georgiamta@gmail.com

Committee Chairs:

Chair-Arts Awareness & Advocacy: Debra Hughes, NCTM bndhughes@comcast.net

Chair-Certification: Renee Holliman hollidolli@comcast.net

Chair-Collaborative Performance: Shu-Ling Chen, shulchen@yahoo.com

Chair-College Faculty: Dr. Tracy Xian tracyxian9@gmail.com

Chair-Collegiate Chapters: Amy Neal amynpiano@gmail.com

Chair-Commissioning: Dr. Jeri-Mae Astolfi, NCTM Commissioning.georgiamta@gmail.com

Chair-Finance/Advisory: Rebekah Healan Boles FAC.georgiamta@gmail.com

Chair-GMTA Awards: Leigh Anne Bleichner leighanne.bleichner@gmail.com

Chair-Independent Music Teachers Forum: Robin Engleman englemanr@bellsouth.net

Chair-MTNA Foundation: Jordan Sommer jordanbsommer@gmail.com

Chair-Judges List: Susan Andrews, NCTM pianosusan@comcast.net

Chair-Theory: Jason Bennett BennettMusicStudio@gmail.com

Chair-Wellness: Julie Harbin, NCTM julieharbin@gmail.com

Local Association Presidents:

Athens: Nancy Robertson, NCTM nlpiano@bellsouth.net
Atlanta: Elena Dorozhkina elena.dorozhkina@gmail.com
Augusta: Amy Phillips amyvthomas79@gmail.com
Cherokee: Mason Conklin, NCTM nmc@reinhardt.edu
Cobb County: Leigh Anne Bleichner leighanne.bleichner@gmail.com
Columbus: Yien Wang wang_yien@columbusstate.edu
Coweta-Fayette: Fernando Ramos neverfall@peoplepc.com
Decatur: Charles Hutton chpianostudio@bellsouth.net
Golden Isles: Donna Nilsson nilsson.music@att.net
Greater Marietta: Judith Siegel, NCTM yourpianostudio@me.com
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South Metro Atlanta: Tracy Threlkeld academy.threlkeld@gmail.com
Western Georgia: Jan Adams, NCTM jadams9800@bellsouth.net

The Georgia Music Teachers Association (GMTA) is a member of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) and memberships are jointly held in both organizations. Members receive subscriptions to *The American Music Teacher*. Membership is open to individuals professionally engaged in any field of musical activity and dues should be sent to MTNA, 1 W. 4th St., Ste. 1550 Cincinnati, OH 45202. MTNA is available toll-free at 1-888-512-5278 to answer your questions regarding membership dues or on the web at www.mtna.org.

Notice

The GMTA Newsletter is an information journal focusing on matters directly related to MTNA, GMTA and local associations only. It does not promote the studios of individual teachers or institutions by publishing articles regarding the accomplishments of teachers, students, or an institution's activities. Paid advertising is available for this purpose. GMTA expressly reserves the right to refuse publication of any article, photograph, or advertisement contrary to the objectives of MTNA or the Associations. All articles are subject to editing due to size or content.

Advertising

Limited advertising space is available for firms or individuals who have a product or service of specific interest or benefit to GMTA members. All correspondence regarding advertising should be sent to the Executive Director, Mandy Reynolds, by email at georgiamta@gmail.com.

Submittals

GTMA publishes its online newsletter three times per year. Publication dates and their respective deadlines are as follows:

January 15th (Deadline: December 1st) June 15th (Deadline: May 1st) September 15th (Deadline August 1st)

Editor

Cathy Thacker, NCTM, VP of Newsletters newsletters.georgiamta@gmail.com

Proofreaders

Rebekah Healan, Immediate Past President
Mandy Reynolds, GMTA Executive Director

GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 AND 2019**

**PREPARED BY
HALEY & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
d.b.a./HALEY-MCKAIN CPAs
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JUNE 30, 2020 AND 2019

ASSETS

	2020	2019
ASSETS:		
Cash in bank	19,939	18,384
Cash in savings	54,714	55,070
Award reserve funds	49,541	49,687
Property and equipment, net of \$1,724 and \$1,090 accumulated depreciation	2,044	2,688
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 126,238	\$ 125,829

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES:		
Prepaid revenues	\$ 6,931	\$ 11,888
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,931	11,888
NET ASSETS:		
Fund Balance	113,941	111,817
Net Income	5,366	2,124
TOTAL NET ASSETS	119,307	113,941
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 126,238	\$ 125,829

These financial statements have not been subjected to an audit or review or compilation engagement, and no assurance is provided on them.

GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 AND 2019

	2020	2019
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
SUPPORT, REVENUES, GAINS, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS		
GMTA dues	\$ 26,074	\$ 25,844
Advertising - newsletter	5,668	5,923
Auditions	36,184	42,382
Conference	10,915	4,553
Commissioned work	750	750
Net investment return	44	29
TOTAL	79,635	79,481
EXPENSES		
Executive Sec./Treas. compensation and taxes	24,248	24,813
Auditions	26,106	30,239
Convention	11,640	12,112
Commissioned work	2,000	1,500
Office	3,016	3,197
Website expense	1,479	1,515
GMTA Music teacher grants	1,700	1,650
Professional fees	1,700	1,700
Travel	607	3,494
Travel - student grants	600	2,150
Miscellaneous	384	-
Depreciation	644	1,497
TOTAL	74,124	83,867
Change in unrestricted net assets	5,511	(4,386)
TEMPERARILY RESTRICTED AWARD FUNDS		
Investment income, net of investment expenses	40	30
Contributions received	915	7,680
Awards paid	(1,100)	(1,200)
Change in temporarily restricted net assets	(145)	6,510
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	5,366	2,124
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	113,941	111,817
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 119,307	\$ 113,941

These financial statements have not been subjected to an audit or review or compilation engagement, and no assurance is provided on them.

GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 AND 2019

	2020	2019
CASH FLOW PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Increase in net assets	\$ 5,366	\$ 2,124
Adjustments to reconcile increase in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Add: Depreciation, a non-cash expense	644	730
Loss from assets retired	-	767
(Decrease)/increase in prepaid revenues	(4,957)	1,166
(Increase)/decrease in prepaid expenses	-	650
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,053	5,437
CASH FLOW USED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase equipment	-	(1,623)
Net cash used by investing activities	-	(1,623)
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH	1,053	3,814
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>123,141</u>	<u>119,327</u>
CASH AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 124,194</u>	<u>\$ 123,141</u>
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION		
Interest expense	\$ -	\$ -
Income tax expense	\$ -	\$ -

These financial statements have not been subjected to an audit or review or compilation engagement, and no assurance is provided on them.