JANUARY 15, 2010 \* PAGE 1

# WINTER NEW

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# 2009 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR William and Mary Ann Knight By Keith Defoor

The recipients of the 2009 GMTA Teachers of the Year are William (Bill) and Mary Ann Knight from Rome.

Raised in Louisiana and South Carolina, Bill studied with Jack Radunsky at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he received the Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance. Subsequently, Bill studied with Dr. Earl Stout at Louisiana State University where he received the Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance. Bill taught at the Rathburn Conservatory of Music in New Jersey from 1957-1959. From 1959-1963, Bill was an independent music teacher in Atlanta. In 1963, Bill began teaching at Shorter College, where he served for over four decades. Bill retired from Shorter College in 2005 with the title Distinguished Professor of Piano.

A native of New Jersey, Mary Ann studied at the Juilliard School of Music with Cecily Lambert throughout high school. Mary Ann studied with Joseph Hungate at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music where she received the Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance. Mary Ann received the Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the University of *(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)* 



Bill and Mary Ann Knight



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT By EDITH SWEATMAN | President GMTA

What a great conference we had in November on the lovely campus of Shorter College in Rome. Thanks to all of you who came and were a part of the wonderful sessions, recitals, master class, banquet and all of the other facets that contribute to such a conference. A very special "thank you" goes to the faculty and staff of this school. Their kindness, availability and gracious hospitality were overwhelming. A conference, no matter how much prior planning, can only be as successful as the hosts will allow....and our hosts were wonderful.

I would like to especially thank the following people at Shorter: Harold Newman, President; Alan Wingard, Dean of School of Fine and Performing Arts; Fred Tarrant and Ben Harris, On-Site Coordinators. Fred and Ben spent many, many hours coordinating all of the details for our competitions and our conference. I would like to also thank Helen Ramsaur and the Rome Association for all of their assistance with our conference, and Mary Ann Knight for graciously allowing us to use her studio for meetings and rehearsals! Brandi Garrett of Shorter College Catering Services deserves special acknowledgment for preparing a lovely banquet and Friday lunches.

Our commissioned work by Sorrel Hays and the recital by our concerto winners on Thursday evening were indeed wonderful highlights of our conference. Congratulations to our concerto winners: Ye Jin Yi, piano, student of Evgeny Rivkin and Sheehan Hanrahan, violin, student of Sonja Foster. The recital on Friday evening by our guest performer, Dr. David Northington, was inspiring and riveting as he performed an all-Copland program. His master class on Saturday morning was in the words of many of you "one of the best master classes I have ever attended!" Our conference pedagogue, Dr. Scott McBride-Smith, left all of us with fresh ideas and knowledge that makes us glad we attended this conference! Because his music never arrived at Shorter (we're still not sure where it is), Scott's publishing company has extended a special offer to GMTA members. This offer is provided on our web site (www.georgiamta.org). Take advantage of this before it expires!

Much gratitude is extended to Dawn McCord for her preparation for this conference as our VP/Programs. Dawn has spent countless hours and many months tending to details that require volumes of emails, visits, phone calls and then more emails. Everything was taken care of with much graciousness, and I thank you, Dawn, for being a huge reason that this conference was successful.

GMTA extends a special thank you to all those whose donations helped make this conference possible. Don Bennett of PianoWorks donated a lovely artist bench again this year in support of the MTNA Foundation Drawing. (Congratulations to Julie Soh-Harbin for winning this year!) Julie donated a mini-recorder in support of the GMTA Award Funds Drawing. (Paula Thomas Lee won this!) Steinway Piano Galleries continued their support through the Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grants, and we thank Tony Martinez for once again, presenting these awards at our conference. The FJH Music Company Inc. donated the goody bags. Rome Association and the Rome Convention Bureau donated items for the goody bags. We also extend our appreciation to all of our exhibitors at this conference.

Donna Trivette, GMTA's Executive Director, is wonderful! Thank you so much, Donna, for your assistance with our conference. From preparing the Conference Program Booklets and Directory, serving as Conference Registrar, welcoming the members to the conference, to answering a million questions from your GMTA President, we thank you for your loyalty and your graciousness in providing so much assistance to GMTA.

I would also like to thank Jonathan Klein for once again serving as our conference photographer. Thank you, Jonathan, for accepting this task!

During our Conference Banquet (which consisted of the largest Prime Rib I have ever seen!!!), Keith DeFoor, GMTA President-Elect, presented the Teacher of the Year Award to Bill and Mary Ann Knight. What an inspiration this fine couple has been to students and teachers! We congratulate you both, and thank you for your service to GMTA. We also thank members of the Shorter voice faculty who treated us to a wonderful program at our banquet!

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

Peggy Lee and her staff were in charge of the competitions. Thank you, Peggy, for insuring that the competitions ran smoothly. We appreciate your many hours of work. Rebekah Jones, our VP/Auditions was in charge of several recitals. Thank you, Rebekah, for organizing this. Our students performed so well. GMTA should be proud of its teachers and students! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard during these competitions and recitals.

Thanks also goes to Becky Bradley, MTNA Foundation Chair, and Julie Soh-Harbin, GMTA Awards Fund Chair, for encouraging members to donate to these worthy funds.

Southern Division Competitions will be held in Birmingham at Samford University January 15-18, 2010. We wish the best for our students who will be competing at this level. The MTNA Conference will be held March 20-24 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Details for this conference can be found on the MTNA web site. (www.mtna.org)

Thank you all for your contribution to GMTA: as members, as chairs, as board members and as teachers who have a strong belief in music education. Our state is well-represented with great members and students, and I thank you for your commitment to GMTA. As we begin 2010, may we move forward with our goals and challenges!

#### TEACHER OF THE YEAR (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

West Georgia, where she studied with George Mann. Mary Ann taught at the Rathburn Conservatory of Music in New Jersey from 1957-1959. From 1960-1962, Mary Ann taught at South Cobb High School, where her duties included teaching private piano lessons, directing a choir, teaching theory classes, and directing musical theatre productions! In 1965, Mary Ann began teaching at Shorter College, where she has served for the past 44 years.

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An active recitalist throughout his career, Bill has performed across the southern United States as well as in California, New Mexico, Honduras, and Costa Rica. In addition, Bill has performed in recital at Carnegie Hall.

Mary Ann has presented master classes and pedagogy workshops in California, New Mexico, and throughout the southeastern United States. Mary Ann has been a featured presenter at several GMTA conferences and for numerous local associations. Mary Ann is presently editing a book, MAK'S ALMANAK," subtitled "Your Own Personal Pedagogy Course."

Both Bill and Mary Ann have been very active adjudicators of piano competitions throughout the Southeast.

To honor and celebrate the accomplishments of the Knights, Shorter College established the William and Mary Ann Knight Performance Competition in 2002. This endowed annual competition is a high profile event for the School of the Arts at Shorter College.

Bill's and Mary Ann's teaching excellence is borne out by the fact that they have collectively produced 194 student winners in GMTA/MTNA competitions. While the Knights have had so many successful students, their colleagues are quick to point out that Bill and Mary Ann have worked hard with *all* their students, not just the most gifted.

A teacher said of Bill and Mary Ann: "If I had to pick only one word to describe the Knights, I would choose the adjective *generous*. At Shorter College, the Knights consistently worked with their students far beyond regular lesson times. If their students had out of town performances or auditions, they frequently traveled to hear them. Quite often they invited students who were far away from home into their own home for holidays. Not surprisingly, practically all of their students think of the Knights as a second set of parents!"

Bill and Mary Ann Knight were nominated for the 2009 GMTA Teachers of the Year Award by George Mann, Rebekah Jones, and Emma Pettyjohn. Congratulations, Bill and Mary Ann!

# CONFERENCE HEADLINER REPO

Choosing repertoire for a concert program can be challenging, and it requires a good deal of thought encompassing a variety of parameters. Offering a program that focuses on the works of only one composer is particularly daring. Conference attendees at Friday evening's recital enjoyed a rare opportunity in this respect when pianist, David Northington, featured several works by Aaron Copland.

Copland was one of the most important American composers of the Twentieth Century. In many respects, the arc of his personal stylistic evolution as a composer reflects many of the compositional trends that emerged during this period. Northington grasped this fact clearly as reflected in his program choices: the dissonance associated with Copland's early works was balanced against emerging styles such as blues and jazz, as well as the reassertion of tonality as a valid compositional device.

He opened the program with the Three Moods (1920 - 21). These pieces are concise gems and deserve to be heard more frequently. Each work has both technical and musical challenges to be sure, and their vastly different characters provide a good deal of contrast within the set. These pieces were the perfect opportunity for Northington to demonstrate his incredibly wide-

ranging tonal palate. The dissonant opening of *Embittered* was arresting. Northington's clarity of articulation produced a tone slightly tinged with an acidity of mood for me. This, in turn, was beautifully tempered and contrasted by his more playful approach to the middle section. *Wistful* was a masterful display of tonal shading under Northington's hands, while *Jazzy*, whose outer sections were delivered with a rollicking sense of humor, offered him a chance to display his soulful side in the bluesy middle section.

The Piano Sonata (1939 - 41), is a large-scale, three movement work. The sonata enjoyed a brief resurgence of interest among composers in the American school during the early to middle part of the Twentieth Century. Although less frequently performed perhaps, this sonata is well composed and tightly organized. The opening movement, Molto moderato, exhibits many characteristics of sonata form. opening motive, a descending three-chord figure centered in b-flat minor, becomes the genesis for development throughout the movement. Northington's interpretative approach was very straightforward and bold. His sensitivity to tonal shading supported the motivic development in this movement beautifully. The second movement, Vivace, is a virtuosic tour-de-force: the syncopated rhythms, mixed meters, wide leaps, and infusion of blues-influenced scalar devices are very challenging. Northington was very much at home in this movement, delivering the playful melodic figures with clarity and nuance. The last movement, Andante



David Northington with former GMTA Teacher of the Year Aurelia Campbell

sostenuto, is perhaps the most mercurial of the three. Motivically, there are connections to the first movement, Molto moderato, yet the overall homophonic texture used is a stark contrast to the compositional devices in the two movements which precede it. Northington's tone was resonant, and again, his ability to provide widely contrasting tonal shading was demonstrated beautifully.

Following this work, Northington turned to Copland's humorous side and played the ever popular scherzo, *The Cat and the Mouse*. This was quite simply a delightful, playful performance, full of vitality.

As a composer, Copland was able to explore the American popular musical landscape, tapping into the richness of cultural diversity from the streets of New York to the folk song inspirations familiar to the Great Plains and the "Wild West." The second half of the program featured the Four Piano Blues, revealing Copland's further exploration with elements of jazz and blues styles. These works, like the Three Moods, deserve wider recognition. Their individual characters are distinct and unique. It was good to hear them as a set, too. I enjoyed Northington's performance very much. He struck a delicate balance in Freely Poetic, allowing his use of rubato to give this movement a sense of being created "in the *(continued on page 5)*"

### 2010 GMTA CALENDAR

January 15-18, 2010	Southern Division Competitions, Samford University, Birmingham, AL	
March 15, 2010	Deadline for all GMTA Auditions applications	
March 20-24, 2010	MTNA Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico	
April 16-17, 2010	GMTA Auditions at Kennesaw State University	
April 17, 2010	GMTA Executive Board Meeting/Local Assoc. of Presidents' Meeting Kennesaw State University	
May 1, 2010	Deadline for articles for Summer GMTA Newsletter	
June 30, 2010	Deadline for membership dues to be paid in order to be included in Directory	
July 16, 2010	Postmark Deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year Nomination	
August 1, 2010	Deadline for articles for Fall GMTA Newsletter	
August 14, 2010	GMTA Executive Board Meeting/Local Assoc of Presidents' Meeting Clayton State University	
September 14, 2010	Online Application deadline (midnight) for all GMTA/MTNA Competitions	
October 15, 2010	Postmark Deadline for GMTA Local Association of the Year applications	
November 1-4, 2010	GMTA/MTNA Competitions @ Augusta State University	
November 4-6, 2010	GMTA Conference @ Augusta State University	
January 14-17, 2011	Southern Division Competitions at Columbus State University, Columbus, GA	

CONFERENCE HEADLINER REPOR (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

moment." The second and third movements, *Soft and Languid*, and *Muted and Sensuous* were just that: evocative with warmth of tone. *With Bounce* was appropriately lively.

The program concluded with a return to the dissonance associated with some works of Copland's early years. Northington chose to end with the Piano Variations (1930). This is perhaps one of Copland's finest compositions. The theme is built on four tones, and the composer experiments with overtones in the opening. The ensuing variations build on one another, becoming increasingly more complex as the variations evolve. The variety of rhythmic, harmonic, and thematic manipulation seems inexhaustible. The full capabilities of the piano's range and tonal palate are demanded, and the work equally taxes those of the pianist as well. This was perhaps Northington's finest playing of the evening. From the smallest pianissimo to the fullest fortissimo, he drew upon a wide range of articulation, tonal color and nuance, delivering a first rate performance.

As encores, Northington offered additional glimpses into the mind of Copland by playing a transcription from the film score, *Our Town*, as well as the ballet score, *Rodeo*, performing the *Hoedown* from the latter. Both works were vehicles that demonstrated his technical prowess and musical savvy.

We were fortunate indeed to have had this opportunity to hear a very gifted pianist, David Northington, and to enjoy his wonderful artistry!

#### 2009 GMTA CONFERENCE By DAWN HARMON MCCORD | Vice President Programming GMTA

The 2009 GMTA Conference was held on the campus of Shorter College in Rome, Georgia, Nov. 5-7, 2009. David Northington presented an all-Copland concert and led a successful master class. Scott McBride Smith presented three pedagogy sessions that were well received. Dr. Smith has since provided a great offer for our members to preview his series, *American Popular Piano*. Through this special, you can save 40% on up to two copies of the Series. Go to <a href="http://georgiamta.org/conference.php">http://georgiamta.org/conference.php</a> to take advantage of this offer. Sorrell Hays premiered "Fanfare Cosmos," a newly composed work for a chamber ensemble using themes from *TOOWHOPERA*. Along with the commissioned work, *TOOWHOPERA* was also performed on Thursday evening. In addition to traditional instruments and exceptional performers from the Georgia and Tennessee music community, the commissioned work featured gamelan, an Indonesian ensemble composed mainly of tuned percussion instruments.

The Northington and TOOWHOPERA concerts and other diverse performances were featured throughout the conference including our own Audition and Competition Winners as well as member sessions that focused on a theme or pedagogical topic. At our banquet, Shorter faculty performed selections from well-known and loved opera scenes. New Orleans author, Craig Cortello, opened our conference with his experiences in the business world as presented in his newest book, *Everything We Needed to Know About Business, We Learned Playing Music.* Cortello's session highlighted nine lessons learned, attributes developed, and insights gained through the experience and personal accounts of business leaders. The session reminded us that we must advocate for the value of music in our society. Cortello states that:

The discipline that musicians must possess to develop their craft to the point that they are even ready to share their talents on any significant level is often under appreciated. How many times had Joe Pass played a scale on the guitar, put chords and bass lines together in interesting combinations, or simply run through fingering techniques to stay sharp and limber? I don't know the answer, but when I hear his recordings, contemplating those questions is mind boggling.

Cortello challenged us to share why learning about music is not a luxury but is obligatory.

GMTA members shared their knowledge and experience adding to the success to the conference. There were 00 performers and presenters scheduled for this conference. There were 4 sessions with a focus on repertoire and performance, 5 on pedagogical and technique issues, and one on MTNA certification.

Fourteen members served as presiders acting as session hosts in order to assure that presenters had site support as well as a warm welcome and thank you from a colleague. Along with a relevant and motivating program of sessions and performances, the success of the conference was insured by the opportunity to mingle with colleagues. Social interactions were facilitated by the Rome music teachers providing hospitality, Donna Trivette organizing the details of registration and publications, and President Sweatman supplying a keen attention to detail and willingness to do anything that was needed. Many thanks are offered to Shorter faculty who not only worked tirelessly to see that our needs were met but went over and beyond the call of duty to see that all ran smoothly. Fred Tarrant spent months preparing for the conference and Ben Harris came in the final weeks and worked tirelessly to keep the wheels greased and running smoothly.

Recommendations for sessions at the 2010 conference are being received and proposal applications will be on the GMTA Website after the first of the year. Next year's conference will be Nov. 4-6 at Augusta State University.

#### MEMBERSHIP By DONNA DASHER | Vice President Membership GMTA

January begins a new year and a great time to add former and new GMTA members to your local association. GMTA now has 716 paid members for the 2009-2010 year. Our goal is 800 members. Help us reach other teachers by letting them know the benefits of membership. Local organizations have masterclasses, workshops, competitions, and concert events. GMTA has the state auditions coming up in April, so there's still time to become involved.

Contact former members personally to let them know what activities and events you are sponsoring this half of the year. Encourage them to rejoin and participate. Make them feel welcome by involving them in activities and events.

Contact new prospects and inform them of the lower rate for joining during this second half of the year. MTNA dues are only \$32.50, and GMTA dues are only \$21.00 for a total of \$53.50. If possible, encourage new members to join now by eliminating local dues for first time members.

#### GMTA AUDITIONS By REBEKAH JONES | Vice President Auditions GMTA

GMTA was thrilled to have twenty-seven performers featured in the 2009 conference recitals at Shorter College. The very talented young musicians reminded us of the high level of musical achievement that Georgia has come to be known for. A special thank you goes to each of them and to their teachers for taking the time to come and share with us at the conference.

Three students performed on the Master Class Recital as Dr. Northington offered wonderful suggestions to these fine pianists. This was a very valuable experience for these students. We look forward to having even more participants next year. Congratulations to all of these students and their teachers for the accomplishments that they are making toward musical excellence!

The 2010 GMTA Auditions will be held at Kennesaw State University on **April 16-17.** Application forms for participation in these events can be found in the GMTA Handbook and on the GMTA Website under Student Activities.

The postmark deadline for these forms is **March 15**. Directions to Kennesaw State as well as campus maps can be found on the GMTA Website. I look forward to seeing you all there!

MTNA AUDITIONS By PEGGY LEE | Vice President MTNA Competitions

The GMTA/MTNA Competitions were held at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia on November 2<sup>nd</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>. There were 75 participants competing in the Junior, Senior and Young Artist competitions. Twelve judges declared winners, alternates and honorable mentions in the categories of piano, senior piano duet, strings, woodwinds, brass and voice. The competitions culminated in a winners' recital on Thursday afternoon, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The winners will compete at the MTNA Southern Division Competition to be held in January, 2010 at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

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The music department at Shorter College was a gracious host for the competitions. Despite the disruption of its regular schedule and the use of many of its rooms, every need for the competitions was met with willingness and generosity by so many. Special thanks go to Mary Ann Knight and Jerico Vasquez who gave up their studios for two days for the Junior and Senior Piano Competitions respectively. Also thanks go to Jerico for being a great help as the onsite coordinator, Fred Tarrant, the head of the music department who made sure everything ran smoothly and to Helen Ramsaur who monitored two of the competitions.

Further thanks go to my coordinators for their selfless hard work: Judy Thomas - Junior Competitions, Frederic Hsiang - Senior Competitions, Clara Park - Young Artist Competitions, and Gayle Vann - Composition for all levels. They contributed countless hours of their time both before and during the competitions. Good luck to all of Georgia's representatives at the Southern Division Competitions.

#### MTNA FOUNDATION By BECKY BRADLEY | MTNA Foundation Chair

Thanks to Don Bennett of Piano Works for his support of the MTNA Foundation drawing at the 2009 Conference. This marks the 14<sup>th</sup> year Piano Works has supported the Foundation by donating an artist bench. The winner of this year's artist bench was Julie Soh Harbin. Congratulations!

At the 2009 GMTA conference, \$375 was collected. This amount brings our total for the year to \$2288.50.

Remember that donations to the MTNA Foundation are tax-deductible and it's now possible to make contributions online. Here's how:

Go to <u>www.mtna.org</u> Click on "MTNA Foundation Fund" Click on "Make a Contribution Online" Fill out the online Donation Form Click on "Submit Form"

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to the Foundation this year. Please continue to give generously.

### LOCAL ASSOCIATION REPORTS

#### ATHENS MTA

Jason Bennett | President

Athens MTA has started another exciting year of festivals and workshops! We held our kickoff meeting at Athens First UMC and unanimously passed a statement on "Suggested Transfer Student Etiquette" which can be found on our website (<u>www.AthensMTA.org</u>). Peggy Lee chaired this committee, which included Joey Hokayem and Rebekah Jones. In October, Dr. Martha Thomas gave a presentation on two topics (the art of pedaling, and style characteristics of Baroque through Contemporary keyboard music), and over 125 students performed in our annual Sonata/Sonatina Festival. Our last event of 2009 was a teachers holiday luncheon in December.

We will start 2010 with a business meeting and program, "Financial Planning for the Independent Music Teacher", sponsored by the investment firm Edward Jones. Our annual piano master class will be held in UGA's Edge Recital Hall with Dr. Richard Zimdars serving as our clinician. We're also looking forward to UGA's Piano Pedagogy Symposium in February, featuring lecturers Robert Duke (Duke University) and Martha Hilley (University of Texas). It is free and open to the public, and details can be found on UGA's school of music website (www.music.uga.edu). We will also have our annual AMTA Festival followed by an Honors Recital, and in April, Dr. Sergio Gallo will present a program, "Introducing the Stylistic Differences of Chopin's Intermediate Masterpieces."

#### ATLANTA MTA

Mary TL Williams | President

Atlanta Music Teachers Association is in its 57th year, and still going strong with monthly programs, annual concerts, and performance opportunities for all students.

The highlight of this year's list of events was our first annual Romantic Competition and Festival, where students of all abilities, from beginners to adults, came together to perform repertoire from the Romantic Period. This gave our students the opportunity to perform two pieces for a judge, and winners from each category were given a cash prize, and performed at the Winner's Recital.

The turnout was above expectation, and we had students from other associations participate as well, so it was great to share this experience with our GMTA Neighbors. This event, in part sponsored by AMTA member, Raisa Parmentier, helped our association raise money for future events and the continuing education of our members.

This winter we are pleased to welcome back Gila Goldstein of Columbus State University's Schwob School of Music, to give a master class for advanced students. We are partnering with other associations to make this event possible.

Lastly, we find continued success with our new website. It reaches out to new members, and offers a database for potential students to find qualified teachers in their area.

#### **CHEROKEE MTA**

Suzanne Hosea | President

CMTA celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on October 10 with a dinner and program. Special guests included Dennis and Ruth McIntyre from Reinhardt College, Joe and Janey Chapman, and Edith Sweatman. Susan Naylor organized scrap books and our history for the guests to review. We all realized we have always been a very active chapter. We had great articles with photos in the "Around Town" publications. Activities for this year include programs by Joe Chapman and Marcia Dunscomb, and a Master class with Carol Gingerich. Our students and teachers performed at the Pianothon at Town Center Mall in December. In the spring, we will have an Awards Ceremony with Dr. George Mann and the guest artist. Joe Lozier is frequently updating our website.

#### COBB MTA

Misty Simmons | President-Elect

Cobb County Music Teachers Association is very excited to present the programs and activities that we have planned for students and teachers this year! We began in September with a presentation of new teaching materials by Michael Collins from Ken Stanton Music. We followed up with a wonderful workshop by Dr. Martha Thomas on teaching interpretation in different styles and periods. The workshop included comparing and contrasting musical techniques such as ornamentation, pedaling and articulation throughout keyboard history.

December begins with our annual Christmas luncheon, and later this month we will have our Pianothon, where students perform at Town Center Mall. In January, CCMTA is helping to sponsor the Gila Goldstein master class for advanced students in conjunction with NFMTA and AMTA. In February, Lois Finlay will present a workshop on "Coaching Students to be Winners." Also in February, CCMTA will host the annual Solo Festival, followed in March with the local GMTA auditions. At our March meeting, CCMTA awards/scholarship recipients will perform for our group. We end our year with a luncheon in April and the installation of our new officers, finishing out yet another year full of programs and activities!

### STEINWAY PIANO GALLERIES EDUCATOR GRANTS By Edith Sweatman | president gmta

For the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Steinway Piano Galleries of Atlanta has graciously sponsored the Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grant program. Ten \$400 grants enable deserving GMTA teachers and students to further their study of music and provide incentive for the continued pursuit of excellence.

GMTA members applied for eight of the ten grants for teacher education or student scholarship by submitting an application to the GMTA Steinway Grant Selection Committee. The Steinway Piano Galleries of Atlanta sends out the application each spring or early summer. Many thanks to the committee members Jan Adams, Susan Andrews and Martha Melton for their work in the selection of the following recipients of this year's grants:

- (1) Jonathan Klein: Teacher Education
- (2) Josh Hasty: Student Scholarship, Student of Vickey Powell
- (3) Lydia Nichols: Student Scholarship, Student of Claudia Theise
- (4) Yash Kadadi: Student Scholarship, Student of Nancy Elton
- (5) Suyuan Tan: Student Scholarship, Student of Momoko Yamamoto
- (6) Dominic Iafelice: Student Scholarship, Student of Gloria Park
- (7) Eh-den Perlove: Student Scholarship, Student of Bette Chambless
- (8) Amber Banks: Student Scholarship, Student of Dana Rice

A Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grant will also be given to the GMTA/MTNA Young Artist Piano Performance Winner, Huan Yang, student of Gila Goldstein. The final grant will be awarded to the High School Senior Piano Winner of the 2010 GMTA Auditions.

Tony Martinez and Byron Brown of the Steinway Piano Galleries of Atlanta presented the grants to the recipients during the 2009 GMTA Conference held at Shorter College in Rome. Steinway Piano Galleries' generosity and support are greatly appreciated by the members of GMTA and their students.



TONY MARTINEZ (pictured 2nd from left) OF STEINWAY PIANO GALLERIES PRESENTS THE 2009 EDUCATOR GRANTS

### 2009 CONFERENCE PHOTOS NOVEMBER 5-7 | ROME GEORGIA



CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: ATHENS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS JASON BENNETT & DR. STEPHANIE TINGLER DRS. KEITH DEFOOR & CYNTHIA DEFOOR with TOM PEARSALL, 2009 GMTA/MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION WINNERS, 2009 GTMA/MTNA COMPETITION WINNERS, GMTA COMMISSIONED COMPOSER SORREL HAYS



CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: 2009 GTMA COLLEGE AUDITION WINNERS, BILL & MARY ANN KNIGHT, 2009 GMTA PRE-COLLEGE AUDITION WINNERS, DRS. MARTHA THOMAS & SCOTT MCBRIDE SMITH, MEMBERS OI THE SAVANNAH MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.

### IN MEMORIAM

Long time GMTA member Kenneth Fischer, a renowned saxophone soloist and professor in the University of Georgia's Hugh Hodgson School of Music, has died following a brief illness. After being awarded his Doctor of Music with Distinction in Performance from Indiana University, he joined the UGA faculty in 1979.

A frequent contributor to *The Saxophone Journal*, he authored numerous articles on repertoire and pedagogy. Fischer was an outstanding performer and appeared as a soloist at numerous meetings of the World Saxophone Congress, including the world premieres of several works dedicated to him. In 1987, Fischer was awarded a Soloist Recording Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the recording of original works for the saxophone. Fischer's recordings are available from the Educational Music Service, Coronet Records and ACA Digital Recording labels.



"Dr. Fischer was a brilliant musician, an artist admired by all who knew him," said Dale Monson, director of the music school. "He was also a dynamic and

international leader in his profession, as well as here at UGA. For more than thirty years he led one of the finest saxophone studios in the world."

Fischer's accolades and achievements are accompanied by wide-ranging respect and affection from international colleagues, whom he regularly brought to UGA to perform and interact with his students. Most recently the Zagreb Saxophone Quartet completed a one-week residency at the music school in October, conducting master classes, coaching ensembles and performing. "It's important for our students to be able to work with such musicians and to get them to know them not only as performers and teachers, but also as human beings," Fischer said at the time.



### 2009 CONFERENCE SURVEY FORM

#### About you:

1. Was this the first GMTA Conference you attended?
2. What prompted you to attend this year's conference?
3. Would you wish to attend future conferences?
About the 2009 GMTA Conference:
1. What was your favorite aspect of the conference?
2. What was your least favorite aspect of the conference?
3. Which sessions did you enjoy the most? The least?
4. What topics would you suggest for future conferences?
1. What topics would you suggest for future conferences.
Other:
What other suggestions would you like to mention?

Send to: Edith Sweatman, President, GMTA at ejs@sweatman.us or mail to:

Edith Sweatman 420 Harlem-Grovetown Road Harlem, GA 30814

## GMTA CONFERENCE PRESENTER PROPOSAL FORM

#### GMTA CONFERENCE PRESENTER PROPOSAL FORM GMTA CONFERENCE, AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA NOVEMBER 4 – 6, 2010

Proposals must arrive by March 1, 2010

Please submit this form by March 1, 2010 to be considered for the 2010 GMTA Conference to be held at Augusta State University in Augusta on Thursday through Saturday, November 4-6. Note the sessions will be accepted for presentation only on Thursday afternoon, November  $4^{th}$ , and all day Friday, November  $5^{th}$ . Questions? Contact Dawn McCord at <u>dmccord@westga.edu</u>.

**NAME:** (as you wish it to appear in the program):

ADDRESS:			
CITY, STATE, Z	IP CODE:		
TELEPHONE:			
EMAIL:		FAX:	
TITLE OF PERF	ORMANCE/SESSIO	<b>DN</b> (as you wish it to appear in the program):	
BRIEF DESCRII	TION OF PERFORM	MANCE/SESSION (as you wish it to appear in the program):	
		QUIPMENT NEEDED: Check all that apply. Lectern/Podium:	
	-	Microphone:Music Stand:	
	<b>REQUESTS:</b> Indicate 1 <sup>st</sup> , n Nov 4:	<sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , and 3 <sup>rd</sup> choice: Friday morning, November 5:	
,	·	Conflicts, Days/Times to Avoid:	
		IC PHOTOGRAPH AND A 200 WORD PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAD o <u>dmccord@westga.edu</u> or to the attention of VP/Program:	<b>PHY</b>
		Dr. Dawn McCord University of West Georgia 1601 Maple Street Carrollton, GA 30118	

#### GMTA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES SHORTER COLLEGE, ROME GEORGIA | NOVEMBER 6, 2009

#### GMTA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES Shorter College, Rome, Georgia November 6, 2009

#### WELCOME

The 2009 Annual Business Meeting of the Georgia Music Teachers Association was called to order at 3:00 PM in the Brooks Chapel at Shorter College. President Sweatman welcomed the GMTA membership to the conference and extended appreciation to the faculty and staff of Shorter College for hosting the conference and the competitions.

President Sweatman introduced Dr. Harold Newman, President of Shorter College, who extended greetings to our membership on behalf of the college.

The minutes from the Annual 2008 Business Meeting were approved as stated in the Summer issue of the GMTA Newsletter. The Financial Report for fiscal year 2008-2009, as compiled by Haley and Associates, showed total revenues of \$75,296.00 and total expenses of \$71, 502.64, resulting in a net surplus of \$3,793.36. The report was accepted.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In January, 2009, President Sweatman attended the MTNA Southern Division Competitions held at Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia. From Georgia, there were four winners, three alternates and 2 honorable mentions. William May, student of Alfred Cohen, was the winner in the Young Artist Composition Division. Zachary Bryant, student of Earl Coleman, won the Senior Voice Division; Chelsea Hoover, student of Jean Martin-Williams, won the Senior Brass Division; Rachel Roby, student of Linda Lister, won the Young Artist Voice Division. The winners traveled to Atlanta in March to the MTNA National Conference. Zachary Bryant won third place in the Senior Performance Voice Competition; Rachel Roby received second place in the Young Artist Performance Voice Competition and William May received third place in the Young Artist Composition.

President Sweatman attended the 2009 MTNA Conference in March in Atlanta and also served on the MTNA program committee for this conference. It was an outstanding conference featuring wonderful sessions and recitals and it was wonderful to have Atlanta as the host site for this conference. The 2010 GMTA Conference will be held at Augusta State University in Augusta and the 2011 Conference will be held in Columbus. The 2010 MTNA Conference will be March 20-24 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The 2011 MTNA Conference will be in Milwaukee; 2012 Conference will be held in New York City.

The GMTA Auditions were held April 17-18 at Kennesaw University under the supervision of VP/Auditions, Rebekah Jones. There were a total of 565 participants. Participants included 454 Pre-College Piano, 16 High School Piano Concerto, 36 College Piano, 30 High School and College Voice, 17 K-College strings, 7 High School and College Brass and Woodwinds and 5 Instrumental Concerto participants. We thank Jason Bennett for his work with our theory area. 207 students took the theory exam, representing a 12% increase from 2008. The testing will continue to occur only at the local level. Detailed information regarding these exams is located on our web site. We thank David Watkins and Kennesaw State University for hosting our State Auditions. The 2010 auditions will again be held at Kennesaw State University.

The MTNA Competitions were held this week, November 2-5, on the Shorter College campus under the supervision of Peggy Lee, VP/Competitions. There were 71 solo entrants, 3 Senior Piano duets and 1 chamber ensemble in the Performance Competitions. There were 17 entrants in the Composition Competitions. This year 9 solo winners, 4 composition winners, 1 piano duet winner, and 1 chamber ensemble winners will represent GMTA in the MTNA Southern Division Competitions in January 2010.

As of October 15, 2009, GMTA has 691 members. The number of professional and senior members: 660; number of student members: 31; number of certified members: 102. The number of registrants for our 2009 conference is 105.

The bank balance as of October 15 is \$16,162. 45. The balance in our reserve fund is \$60,923.23. The amount in our Composition Award Fun is \$7537.00. The amount in the Broadhurst Award Fund is \$11,365.00 and the amount in the GMTA Award Fund is \$8971.50.

President Sweatman thanks the following people for their work and contributions to the 2009 GMTA Conference:

### GMTA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES. Continued from page 9

- ♦ Dr. Fred Tarrant for his untiring efforts as our contact person with Shorter College
- Dr. Alan Wingard, dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts at Shorter College
- Dr. Harold Newman, President of Shorter College
- Sen Harris for stepping in at the last minute to assist as our contact person due to sickness with Dr. Tarrant
- The vocal faculty of Shorter College for their presentation of our banquet program and to all faculty members that have contributed in any way to our conference. GMTA appreciates your kindness and willingness to work with us.
- ♦ Helen Ramsaur and the Rome Association for their assistance with our conference
- Ann Hortman, Lisa Smith and the Rome Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing items for our goody bags and for their assistance with our conference
- Solution Dr. Dawn McCord, VP/Program for the many, many hours she has spent planning this conference
- ♦ Donna Trivette, our GMTA Executive Director and conference registrar
- ✤ Jonathan Klein, conference photographer
- The many "Georgia's Own" member who presented at out conference sessions
- GMTA members who served as presiders for our sessions
- Steinway Piano Galleries for their Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grants and Tony Martinez of Steinway Piano Galleries who worked as our liaison for this project and also to our selection committee for the Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grants
- Son Bennett of Piano Works who contributed the artist bench for the MTNA Foundation Fund drawing
- ♦ Julie Soh-Harbin who contributed the "Flip Video" camcorder for our GMTA Award Funds drawing
- ✤ Brandi Garrett and the catering staff of Shorter College
- ✤ FJH for donating our "Goody Bags"
- Peggy Lee, VP/Competitions and Rebekah Jones, VP/Auditions for their untiring efforts this week

President Sweatman would like to congratulate Cherokee County Local Association for recently celebrating their 25th anniversary!

President Sweatman offers much appreciation to all of the officers and chairs of GMTA. There are many hard-working members who are taking their responsibilities with GMTA seriously, and I thank each one of you for making my job easier through your commitment. A special thanks goes to Martha Thomas, our Immediate Past President, for all of her assistance this past year!

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 GMTA Conference: Augusta State University (November 4-6) 2011 GMTA Conference: Columbus State University

2011 MTNA Conference: Milwaukee 2012 MTNA Conference: New York City

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Edith Sweatman, President Joy Poole, Secretary

### GMTA AWARD FUNDS DONATION FORM

#### **GMTA AWARD FUNDS DONATION FORM**

Contributions to these 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. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the GMTA Award Fund, please complete this form and return it to Donna Trivette, 956 Green Knoll Drive, Dacula, GA 30019. Checks should be made payable to GMTA with one of the following funds designated on the check memo (lower left side of check):

**<u>GMTA Award Fund</u>**: Established in 1993 to include honorary and memorial gifts, and awarded at the discretion of the GMTA Finance Advisory Committee. (Donations received without a specific

designation will be deposited into this fund.)

**<u>GMTA Broadhurst Award Fund</u>**: Established in 1992 by the Broadhurst family in commemoration of Joan Broadhurst, and given annually at the GMTA Conference to the MTNA Junior Piano Performance Competition winner of the Georgia state-level competition. Award amount is 90% of earnings for that year.

**<u>GMTA Composition Award Fund</u>**: Established in 1987, initially funded by Betty Nolting and given annually at the GMTA Conference to first-place winners in the MTNA Student Composition Competitions for the Georgia state-level competitions in each age category. Award amount is 90% of earnings for that year plus any subsidy from the GMTA operation fund, divided by the number of first-place winners.

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GMTA thanks you for partnering with our organization in this effort to recognize and encourage our students!

### GMTA ADS

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912.344.2823 Kevin.Hampton@armstrong.edu www.finearts.armstrong.edu



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Edwin "Sandy" Calloway, D.M.A., Chair, Music Department



Hugh Hodgson SCHOOL OF MUSIC The University of Georgia

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#### Saturday, February 20, 2010

The Piano Pedagogy Symposium is free and open to the public. A lunch, available for \$10.00, must be pre-ordered by February 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Dr. Peter Jutras at pjutras@uga.edu.

COMING EVENT February 17-19, 2011 The University of Georgia proudly hosts the American Liszt Society Festival celebrating the BICENTENNIAL OF FRANZ LISZT.

# **PIANO PEDAGOGY SYMPOSIUM**



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### Saturday, February 20, 2010

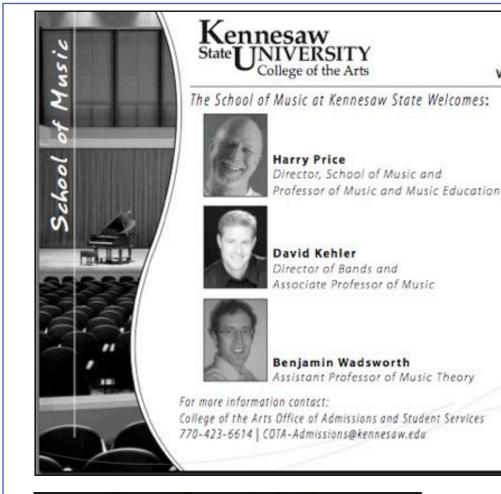
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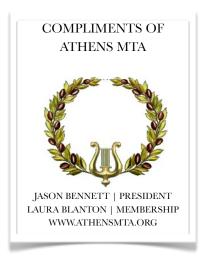
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### GMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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President: Edith Sweatman, 420 Harlem-Grovetown Rd., Harlem, GA 30814 (cjs@sweatman.us) President- Elect: Keith DeFoor, P.O. Box 65, Young Harris, GA 30582 (Kdefoor@yhc.edu) Executive Director: Donna Trivette, 956 Green Knoll Drive, Dacula, GA 30019 (donnatrivette@bellsouth.net) Vice-President/Program: Dawn McCord, University of West GA, 1601 Maple Street, Carrollton, GA 30118 (dmmcord@westga.edu) Vice-President/Membership: Donna Dasher, 32 Magnolia Marsh Dr., Richmond Hill, GA 31324 (Dsdasher39@comcast.net) Vice-President/Newsletters: Jane Lester, 1031 Holly Point Way, Watkinsville, GA 30677 (jlpiano@bellsouth.net) Vice-President/GMTA Auditions: Rebekah Jones, 141 North Church St., Bogart, GA 30622 (rebekahhealan@yahoo.com) Vice-President/MTNA Competitions: Peggy Lee, 275 Sandstone Drive, Athens, GA 30605 (peggyklee@bellsouth.net) Secretary: Joy Poole, 912 Evian Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30152 (jbpoole@comcast.net) Members-At-Large: Fred Hsiang, 480 Barnesley Lane, Alpharetta, GA 30022 (shinvinc@yahoo.com)

David Watkins, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, GA 30144 (<u>dwatkins@kennesaw.edu</u>) Immediate Past President: Martha Thomas, 155 Knob Lick Drive, Athens, GA 30605 (<u>mlthomas@uga.edu</u>)

#### **Committee Chairs**

Archivist: Margaret Liu (mliumusic@mindspring.com) Arts Awareness: Diane Boyd (dianelboyd@comcast.net) Certification: Jan Adams (jadams9800@bellsouth.net) College Faculty: Kevin Hampton (Kevin.Hampton@armstrong.edu) Collegiate Chapters: Pete Jutras (pjutras@uga.edu) Concerns: Betty White (bettypiano@comcast.net) Finance/Advisory: Martha Thomas (mlthomas@uga.edu) GMTA Awards: Julie Soh-Harbin (juliesohharbin@yahoo.com) IMTF: Paula Thomas Lee (ptl@reinhardt.edu) MTNA Foundation: Becky Bradley (beckyb9@hotmail.com) Piano Judges List: Barbara Korzan (bkkorzan@knology.net) Technology: Joe Lozier (joe@lozierstudio.com) Theory: Jason Bennett (bennettmusic@mac.com)

#### **Local Association Presidents:**

Athens: Jason Bennett bennettmusic@mac.com Atlanta: Mary Williams mary@marywilliamspianostudio.com Augusta: Catharine McClure <u>cmcclure@knology.net</u> Cherokee: Suzanne Hosea suzannehosea@bellsouth.net Cobb County: Joy Poole jbpoole@comcast.net Columbus: Martha Aguirre Aguirre MV@aol.com Coweta-Fayette: Mary Jane Server maryjaneserver@hotmail.com Decatur: Glen Eckman gleneckman@yahoo.com Golden Isles: Donna Nilsson nilsson.music@comcast.net Greater Marietta: Pam Barksdale pamlbark@bellsouth.net Gwinnett County: Janet Will jbwill2@bellsouth.net Macon: Barbara Probst nolebarb@bellsouth.net North Dekalb: Kathy Ackerman crosstownjazz@bellsouth.net North Fulton: Maria Kransmo mkransmo@earthlink.net Northeast Georgia: Keith DeFoor kdefoor@yhc.edu Rome: Helen Ramsaur hramsaur@yahoo.com Savannah: Kelli Horton 88keyspianostudio@gmail.com South Georgia: Janet R. Robinson robinsjanet@gmail.com South Metro: Grace Caudle gnotes@earthlink.net Western Georgia: Rachel Griffin griffingirl81@yahoo.com

#### Membership

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, GMTA newsletter and the GMTA Directory. Membership is open to individuals professionally engaged in any field of musical activity and

### GMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

dues should be sent to MTNA, 441 Vine Street, Suite 3100, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-3004. 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 institutions' 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 Donna Trivette by fax (770) 237-8845 or by email donnatrivette@bellsouth.net

#### **Submittals**

GTMA publishes its online newsletter three times per year. Publication dates and their respective deadlines are as follows: January 15th (Deadline: November 30th) June 15th (Deadline: May 1st) September 15th (Deadline August 1st)

#### **Editors**

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