

GEORGIA

Music Teachers Association



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Aurelia Campbell

2008 GMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AURELIA CAMPBELL

BY EDITH SWEATMAN

The recipient of the 2008 GMTA Teacher of the Year Award is Aurelia Campbell from Hartwell. She is a native of Georgia. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Georgia where she studied with Despy Karlas and took several classes under the renowned Hugh Hodgson, founder of the UGA Music Department. At graduation, she was awarded the Sword of Honor, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a member of the music fraternity SAI. She has done considerable further study especially in piano pedagogy.

Aurelia has the distinction of being the first music teacher in Georgia to be Nationally Certified by MTNA. She has held membership in GMTA and MTNA since her days as

a university student. As of 2008, she has 52 years of professional membership and has been a full-time independent piano teacher since that time. In 2004, her colleagues in Georgia and Southern Division elected her a "Fellow of MTNA Foundation." She has served as state piano chairman for GMEA and was the organizer of such projects as the performance of a piano concerto by a high school student. When public school had a piano division of the literary events, she had a student reach the state level for ten years. She has also had several students selected to attend the Governor's Honors Program. She has also been a member of the National Guild of Piano Teachers and has had many students earn the National Certificate. She has (CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

EDITH SWEATMAN
PRESIDENT | GMTA

First of all, let me say what an honor it is to be your president for the next two years. I look forward to serving our organization and working with all of you as we strive to make GMTA an even better organization than it already is. We have a wonderful group of officers and committee chairs that have already begun their work for this term. I thank all of them for agreeing to serve and for the support that they are already showing in the work of GMTA.

Our conference in November in the city of Athens was great! So much planning goes into these three days, and we thank so many who were a part of those preparations. To David Oliver, our Vice-President/Program, we extend our appreciation for organizing such great sessions through Georgia's own talented presenters. We thank you also, David, for keeping us on time for every single session! We also thank Donald Lowe, Director of the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, and the faculty and staff for the use of their fine facilities for this conference. Martha Thomas worked tirelessly as our on-site coordinator, and we thank her for this. A special thank you goes to Timothy Bartholow, former Director of the Performing Arts Center, who worked with GMTA to invite Claude Frank for the wonderful Friday evening concert. We also thank Mark Cedel, conductor of the University of Georgia Symphony Orchestra, and featured guest saxophonist, Kenneth Fischer, for the Thursday evening program. Congratulations to Roger Ou, 2008 GMTA Piano Concerto Winner, for a fine performance with the orchestra on Thursday evening.

Our commissioned composition for 2008, "Quintet for Piano and Winds," was written by Dr. William Davis of the University of Georgia and performed on Friday by: Dwight Manning, oboe; D. Ray McClellan, clarinet; Jean Martin-Williams, horn; William Davis, bassoon; and Martha Thomas, piano. What a wonderful performance!

Our pedagogy headliner, Jane McGrath, was an inspiration as she shared many ideas for effective teaching.

We also thank Dawn McCord and her staff for all of their hard work during our GMTA/MTNA Competitions also held on the University of Georgia Campus. Peggy Lee was in charge of our great student recitals presented by the winners of the GMTA auditions. Thank you, Peggy! GMTA also extends thanks to Don Bennett of Piano Works for donating a lovely artist bench again this year in support of the MTNA Foundation Fund drawing. Congratulations to Donna Nielson for winning the bench! We also thank Southern Keyboards for their donation of the Acoustic Piano CD Recording System in support of the GMTA Award Funds Drawing. Congratulations to Dawn McCord for winning this! We thank Chick Music for their support and for being on-site as well. We were delighted to have Tony Martinez and Byron Brown from Steinway Piano Galleries with us at our conference to present the winners of the Steinway grants. Winners are listed elsewhere in this Newsletter. We thank Steinway Piano Galleries for their continued support through these grants.

GMTA is very fortunate to have Donna Trivette as our Executive Director. Thank you, Donna, for your assistance in our preparation for this conference. We appreciate you serving as our conference registrar, for preparing the conference program and for handling so many other details. We appreciate you very much! We also thank Jonathan Klein for, once again, serving as our conference photographer.

At our Conference banquet, it was my pleasure to present the 2008 GMTA Teacher of the Year award to Aurelia Campbell of Hartwell. Congratulations, Aurelia! We thank you for all that you have done for GMTA, and we applaud you for your dedication to the music profession.

Finally, I want to say a huge "Thank You" to Martha Thomas. What a great GMTA President Martha has been. So many accomplishments have happened under her administration, and much of her time over these past two years has been dedicated to the workings of GMTA. The web site has become a reality during her administration, and we thank her and Jonathan Klein for their hours and hours of work in this endeavor. We appreciate you so much, Martha, and thank you for the service you have provided as our President!

The MTNA Conference will be held in Atlanta in March. Make your plans to be at this wonderful conference with great sessions and recitals. Information is on the MTNA web site (www.mtna.org). Let's represent our state well by being in attendance!

We move forward now into this new term. May we work hard to encourage new membership and to add more collegiate chapters to GMTA. We will strive to make our Newsletters and web site even more effective and to serve you well as GMTA members. Thank you for being a part of this great organization!

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CALENDAR AT:
[www.georgiamta.org/
calendar.php](http://www.georgiamta.org/calendar.php)

SERVED GMTA through her local association and has held numerous offices in GMTA over the years, including President, Vice-President of Auditions, and Secretary. She revised the Auditions handbook while serving as Vice-President of Auditions and typed the entire final draft for printing. (GMTA had no computer at the time!!!!) She also served on the Southern Division Executive Board while President of GMTA. Her students have received numerous awards over the years and many have received the Outstanding Performer rating at the state level of auditions. Many students have also received the rating of Outstanding Theorist when taking the state theory exams. She has attended most GMTA Conferences since beginning membership in 1956. She has attended all MTNA Conferences since 1984, except for one, due to illness.

Aurelia has participated in the MTNA Music Study Award Program which she co-created with Wayne Gibson, MTNA President, the Studio Festival Program and the Music Achievement Award Program annually since their inception. Many of her students have continued their piano study on the college and graduate levels. As of 2008, about 35 students who have studied with her have had a parent who studied with her as well!

Her colleagues speak highly of her: “She is known for her ability to think through to the end of every idea and proposal,

and organization is her middle name. Her leadership and service are beyond comparison.” “She has been and continues to be a real role model for the private piano teacher.” One of her former students comments: “Her influence on my life runs deeper than the music she imprinted on my soul. Her standard of excellence, the discipline she instilled in me, sacrifices and choices I made when it came time to practice or perform, have become some of the very characteristics that make up who I am today.”

As a part of her community, she is a member of the Regional Arts Council and the local YMCA. Over several decades, she has prepared many programs by student performers for church, civic and social organizations. Many of her former students currently are serving as church musicians in her county and elsewhere.

Our Teacher of the Year for 2008 was nominated by Wayne Gibson. She has touched countless lives as a piano instructor and is regarded as highly influential among her professional peers.

Congratulations, Aurelia, on your many accomplishments and contributions. We applaud you as GMTA’s Teacher of the Year for 2008.

2008 GMTA CONFERENCE IN REVIEW

DAVID OLIVER

VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS | GMTA

Greetings, GMTA members. Over 150 GMTA members registered and attended the conference at the University of Georgia in Athens. Our weather was (mostly) spectacular and so was our conference. We had a terrific opening concert featuring piano duo Pam Martin and LuAnn Latzanich and pianists Fred Hsiang, Francis Leach and Gila Goldstein. They inspired us with excellent repertoire and brilliant playing.

We enjoyed presentations by Paula Thomas-Lee, Emma Pettyjohn, panelists Lois Finlay, Janice Wong and Tom Pearsall, and Carol Wazlavek whose topics ranged from “Avoiding Teacher Burnout” to “Using Computer Multi-media to teach”. There was a late-afternoon recital by GMTA/MTNA Competition winners, and, at 8 p.m., a concert by the UGA Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Mark Cedel, featuring the GMTA Piano Concerto Competition Winner, Roger Ou. We got up early on Friday to hear a fine presentation by David Murray on Cyril Scott. Immediately following that we had our Annual Business Meeting and a performance of the 2008 GMTA Commissioned Composition. President Martha Thomas (piano) and the UGA Woodwind Quartet premiered a piano quintet by UGA composer William Davis, who also performed as bassoonist in the concert. It was a great new work performed extremely well.

This led into the first of two outstanding sessions of our headlining Piano Pedagogy specialist, Jane Magrath. Dr. Magrath was personable and extremely informative. She held two 90-minute sessions which flew by in a flash. We enjoyed a comedy troupe from Reinhardt College led by Susan Naylor, and a fine presentation from Mary Louise Wilson about the wonderful world of Group Music Making with older students. We heard fine performances from the GMTA College Audition Winners and adjourned to the Conference Banquet.

The meal was delicious, and we congratulated our newly-installed Board Members and the 2008 Teacher of the Year, Aurelia Campbell. Martha handed over the gavel to the capable hands of Edith Sweatman. Martha served beautifully as President and it was an honor and pleasure to work with her.

Following the banquet we were treated to a rapturous concert by Claude Frank performing masterpieces of Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert. The highlight for me was his performance of the Sonata in B flat major by Schubert—the most heavenly 40 minutes I can remember spending in a concert hall. Maestro Frank gave very generous master classes Saturday morning to five extremely talented GMTA pre-college students. Finally, the conference came to a close with a wrap-up business session where raffle winners of the concert artist bench and CD recording system were announced.

Though we were exhausted, I feel that the conference was a tremendous success. I’m certain next year’s state conference to be held at Shorter College in Rome will be great, and the MTNA National Conference is this coming March in Atlanta! Plan ahead so that you can attend both of these upcoming events. Conferences provide a wonderful opportunity to be inspired and educated as well as a chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Don’t miss out—I’ll see you there!



CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: CONFERENCE HEADLINER **CLAUDE FRANK** IN THE GMTA MASTER CLASS; CONCERTO WINNER **ROGER OU** WITH **MARK CEDEL** & THE UGA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA; CONFERENCE PANELISTS **TOM PEARSALL**, **JANICE WONG**, & **LOIS FINLAY**; PAST-GMTA PRESIDENT **JOEY HOKAYEM** WITH CURRENT GMTA PRESIDENT **EDITH SWEATMAN**; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **DONNA TRIVETTE**; CONFERENCE PRESENTER **EMMA PETTYJOHN**.

I have heard five piano recitals by octogenarians. Rubinstein and Arrau were invulnerable on all fronts. Rudolf Firkusny was shaky in the Beethoven sonatas in his first half, but was a miracle of youth, fire, and speed in Smetana Czech Dances. Stefan Askenase, a teacher of Martha Argerich, launched his modest sound with great projection, overcoming the bad acoustics of my main floor seat under a balcony overhang. Sitting in the same spot a few weeks later, I found that the young Christoph Eschenbach did not achieve this. Horowitz, Brendel, and Rudolf Serkin were all in top form when I heard them in their seventies.

Claude Frank, my fifth octogenarian, certainly has had the most important career of any GMTA Conference artist I've heard in my 25 years at UGA. A notable achievement was his recording of the complete Beethoven sonatas for RCA.

One could say his GMTA program marked him as a pupil and artistic descendent of Artur Schnabel: sonatas by Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. In the C Major Sonata, K. 330, listeners may have been a bit uneasy in the first movement due to Frank's digital unreliability. The slow movement brought forth exceptional delicacy that was projected beautifully. The hush of the closing was the first of many moments that must be described as world class. The last movement again had some unsteadiness; but, by now, Frank had begun to work refined miracles of balance and projection, removing any sense of

jadedness for those who might have worried about being trapped in a concert hall with three very familiar sonatas!

Beethoven's Sonata Op. 109 was delivered with poetic insight and requisite fire. Again, several shaky moments made me wish I had heard this recital when Frank was 73 rather than 83.

After intermission, an exquisite performance of Schubert's B-flat Sonata, Op. Posthumous, came our way. But exquisite never meant gushing sentimentality or overdone rubati in the name of some artificially posed Viennese tradition. The trill in the bass on page one was controlled in an extraordinary way. How did he get that even sound so soft and still present it with nuance? Many who attended thought the second movement was the best they'd ever heard, I agreed. It moved with a quiet dignity, the tragedy held beneath the surface, and fortunately never became overly reverential. I have never heard a pianist in Hodgson Hall play with such a combination of delicacy, clarity, and projection. The third movement flowed and danced with elegant simplicity- no bogus oompah-pah rubati from Frank! The last movement found him sailing to the conclusion in the strongest form of the night – not a missed note in those treacherous chords in dotted rhythms.

The next morning, while driving him back to the hotel, I mentioned to Frank that I thought his Schubert slow movement was the best I'd ever heard. He replied that it might have been the only one I'd heard from a pianist who had had the piece in his repertoire for sixty-five years! A lovely comment on a priceless performance.

QUINTET FOR PIANO AND WINDS

DR. WILLIAM DAVIS | 2008 GMTA CONFERENCE COMMISSIONED COMPOSER

BY IVAN FRAZIER

The 2008 commissioned composition, *Quintet for Piano and Winds*, by Dr. William Davis was well received by the audience at the General Session Business Meeting, Friday, November 7, in Edge Recital Hall at the University of Georgia Hugh Hodgson School of Music. This engaging work in three movements makes a fine contribution to growing chamber music repertoire that combines the piano with wind instruments. Dr. Davis, Professor of Music and Associate Director of Administration in the Hodgson School of Music, joined the faculty in 1981 and has distinguished himself as a composer, teacher of composition, performer on the bassoon, teacher of bassoon performance, and capable administrator. His compositions include works for symphony orchestra, soloists, chamber ensembles, chorus, and symphonic band. The Atlanta Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Macon Symphony, and others have performed his orchestral works.

As bassoonist, Dr. Davis joined his faculty colleagues, Dr. Dwight Manning, oboe; Dr. D. Ray McClellan, clarinet; Dr. Jean Martin-Williams, horn; and Dr. Martha Thomas, piano in a superb premiere performance of the quintet. Their playing was remarkable for its clarity, precision, and the sensitivity between individual players while projecting individual lines and blending into a pleasing ensemble sound.

The first and third movements are energetic, full of rhythmic vitality and arresting contrasts of texture, dynamics, and register. In the third movement the composer makes use of fugal imitative counterpoint, and seems to recall motives from

earlier movements, which lends a cyclical unity to the work. Each of the five instruments has an opportunity to shine in a solo spotlight during the expressive second movement, but not in an obvious your-turn-my-turn fashion. Rather, each solo statement grows naturally, even inevitably out of the preceding material, and just as subtly re-enters the ensemble texture.

William Davis's *Quintet for Piano and Winds* deserves widely repeated performance and a place in the chamber music repertoire.

Need GMTA Forms?

Want to make a suggestion about the 2008 conference, present in the 2009 conference in Rome GA, or nominate somebody for the Teacher of the Year? You can find these forms online at:

2008 Conference Survey:

WWW.georgiamta.org/conference.php

2009 Presenter Form:

WWW.georgiamta.org/conference.php

Teacher of the Year. Nomination Form:

WWW.Georgiamta.org/teacheroftheyearprogram.php

“GEORGIA’S OWN” SHOWCASE CONCERT

2008 GMTA CONFERENCE

BY TOM PEARSALL

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GMTA members in attendance at the 2008 Conference on Thursday afternoon were treated to a delightful concert presented by some of “Georgia’s Own.” Showcasing five outstanding musicians, each performance was spectacular and the concert featured several works not commonly heard.

Opening the concert was the piano duo team of LuAnn Latzanich and Pam Martin. Ms. Latzanich is a member of the preparatory school faculty at Clayton State University and Ms. Martin teaches at the Georgia Academy of Music. They performed two selections by Cécile Chaminade, *Le Soir, Op. 79 No. 2* and *La Sevillane, Op. 19*. Each performance demonstrated excellent balance, clarity and consummate artistry. *Le Soir* featured lyrical melodies, shimmering tremolos and rippling arpeggios with wonderful bell-like sonorities and engaging dialogue between the two parts. *La Sevillane* provided a wonderful contrast to this with its fast, light character conveyed through crisp staccatos, delicate grace notes and delightful runs and swells. Dramatic moments with bold sonorities and colorful harmonies emerged at times. This listener was left grinning from ear to ear as the performance came to a close.

Next on the program was Fred Hsiang performing the *Transcendental Etude No 4, “Mazeppa”* by Franz Liszt. Mr. Hsiang maintains a private studio of award-winning students in the metro Atlanta area. He prefaced his performance with remarks to the audience in which he shared current issues he has been experiencing with his right hand. Despite this, his performance was a bravura display of technical virtuosity and tremendous excitement. His hands were practically a blur when he easily tossed off difficult octave passages and runs with impressive

speed and precision. Notable too were his seamless transitions and sophisticated use of the pedal.

Francis Leach followed this with a performance of the somewhat obscure *Toccata in C Major, Op. 7* by Robert Schumann. Dr. Leach has performed extensively in the United States and his home country of Guyana. He provided a handout with an in-depth explanation of the complex work, which is set in sonata form framed by an introduction and coda. Delightful rhythmic and harmonic surprises in the piece added to its appeal. Dr. Leach’s playing was very solid, clean and compelling and he did a convincing job of connecting the somewhat disparate parts together.

Concluding the concert was a stunning performance by Gila Goldstein of another somewhat obscure work, *Five Pieces, Op. 34* by Paul Ben-Haim. Dr. Goldstein recently joined the faculty at Columbus State University. As described by the performer, *Five Pieces* featured a mix of Middle Eastern elements and 20th century western styles like Debussy and Bartok. The set brilliantly exploited all registers of the piano and offered starkly contrasting styles and wonderfully blurred sonorities set within a wide dynamic range. Dr. Goldstein’s virtuosic display, rich palette of colors, and sensitive nuance captivated the audience. She beautifully captured the essence of this striking and demanding work that merits much more attention than it currently receives.

Though presented as an afternoon concert, this was truly a spectacular event that the author would’ve happily bought tickets to attend. If you missed it, consider yourself unfortunate. It was that good!

MEMBERSHIP

DONNA DASHER

VICE PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP | GMTA

I would like to encourage every member of GMTA to commit to invite at least one person to join GMTA this coming year. Our membership as of 11/30/08 stood at 744, although our highest membership in recent years was 800 on 3/31/06. During the second half of the 2008-09 membership years, the membership will be at its highest, partly due to late renewals, and partly due to six-month memberships.

New members who have never been a MTNA member can join from January 1 through June 30, 2009 for half price. So invite new prospects to our local association meetings and activities. By joining now, their students can participate in local performance evaluations and in state competitions. If your local association has the funds, you can even offer to pay the local dues to encourage the six-month “trial” membership.

And, don’t forget the 2009 MTNA National Conference in Atlanta, March 29- April 1. Let’s work to reach a goal of over 800 members this coming year. Membership in GMTA means membership in MTNA. By becoming members of MTNA, many private teachers, could benefit from the new insurance offerings. Investigate what MTNA has to offer and make new prospects aware of these benefits as well.

MTNA FOUNDATION

LAURA BLANTON

Thank you to Don Bennett of Piano Works for his support of the MTNA Foundation drawing at the 2008 Conference. The winner of the artist’s bench from Piano Works this year was **Donna Nilsson**. Congratulations! At the 2008 GMTA conference, \$340 was collected. This amount brings our total for the year to \$1,169. Remember that donations to the MTNA Foundation are Tax-deductible, and it’s now possible to make contributions online. Here is how:

- Go to www.mtna.org
- Click on “MTNA Foundation”
- 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!

For the ninth 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) Marcena Kinney: Teacher Education
- (2) Justin Daniel: Student Scholarship, Student of Altry James
- (3) Connor Groseclose: Student Scholarship, Student of Davide Palmer
- (4) Robert Joseph Wazlavek: Student Scholarship, Student of Carol Ann Wazlavek
- (5) Abigail Lutz: Student Scholarship, Student of Linda Lokey
- (6) Marjorie Saviano: Student Scholarship, Student of Robin Blankenship
- (7) Hannah Wilkerson: Student Scholarship, Student of Jean Day
- (8) Jonathan Harper: Student Scholarship, Student of Helen Ramsaur



A Steinway Piano Galleries Educator Grant will also be given to the GMTA/MTNA Young Artist Piano Performance Winner, Slavik Gabinsky, student of Anna Arshavskaya. The final grant will be awarded to the High School Senior Piano Winner of the 2009 GMTA Auditions.

Tony Martinez and Byron Brown of the Steinway Piano Galleries of Atlanta presented the grants to the recipients during the 2008 GMTA Conference held at University of Georgia in Athens. Steinway Piano Galleries' generosity and support are greatly appreciated by the members of GMTA and their students.

GMTA AWARD FUND

LOU LYON

At the November 2008 conference, Southern Keyboards donated a new Kawai PR-1 Acoustic Piano CD Recording System which is a complete system to produce audio CD recordings from your own acoustic piano. Adding a microphone enables recording of voice or other instruments. This system sells for \$1595.00. Each \$10 donation to the awards fund gave people a chance to win this machine in a drawing at the conference. \$440 was raised for the awards fund. **Dawn McCord** was the lucky winner of the drawing!

Thanks go to all of the following people for donating to the awards fund: Bonnie Bowen, Pat Hankey, Misty Simmons, Mandy Munoz, Keith Defoor, Ruth Rowell, Cindy Feagin, Alicia Wolstencroft, Sue Moncrief, Paula Thomas-Lee, Kristi Helfin, Donna Dasher, Marianna Carroll, Tom Pearsall, Robin Engelmann, Sandy Yeargan, Aurelia Campbell, Joey Hokayem, Ashley Craig-Diaz, Emma Pettyjohn, Martha Thomas, Jana Ritchie, Mark Salcedo, Peggy Lee, Mary Jane Server, Claudia Theise, Charles Hutton, Susan Naylor, Dawn McCord, Tom McKillo, Jonathan Klein, Jackie Hollingsworth, and Carol Wazlavek. Thanks also to Silas Lyon at Southern Keyboards for donating the recording unit.

Athens MTA

Jonathan Klein | President

This year has gotten off to an exciting start for Athens MTA. Our first meeting was in the new concert space at Chick Music store in downtown Athens. This was a business meeting with dessert and fellowship following. In October AMTA was pleased to have Dr. Geoff Haydon as our workshop clinician. Dr. Haydon presented tips for introducing improvisation into studio lessons. October also marked the annual Sonata/Sonatina Festival that featured over 70 live performances by students of AMTA teachers. 2008 closed with a teachers' luncheon in December.

In 2009 AMTA is looking forward to our winter business meeting and program in January where we will hear a lecture recital on the 24 Gillock Preludes by UGA chapter member Angela Moody. February will feature the AMTA All-Level music festival at the University of Georgia with an Honors recital to follow in early March. Rounding out the spring will be a piano master class with Dr. Richard Zimdars, the MTNA national conference in Atlanta, and our Spring Business meeting with program.

Augusta MTA

Catharine McClure | President

The Augusta MTA began the year on June 30 with a Board Luncheon and Planning Meeting. On September 12, we held our annual Kick-Off brunch. We handed out Yearbooks and had a brief business meeting. September was a very "musical" month with many performances at the Augusta "Westobou" Festival. Participating teachers include Martin David Jones, Clara Park, and Rosalyn Floyd. The October meeting was a Sharing Meeting with creative teaching and studio ideas. Our new hospitality coordinator, Nancy Cleveland, has been doing a super job making things inviting, beautiful, and delicious!

In November, several of our teachers went to Athens for the GMTA conference and were so proud to be there when Edith Sweatman was installed as the new GMTA president. On November 22nd AMTA held our first Community Outreach Recital and Martha Childers did a wonderful job organizing it. The residents of the Assisted Living facility seemed to enjoy the Recital.

Another recital is planned for January, as well as a Kawai workshop featuring Barry Baker. The Workshop in February will be "The Many Roles of the Piano Teacher" by Natalia da Roza. Our Festival is in February and the Local Auditions will be in March with a Winners Recital on March 19th. There are ensembles also planned in March--coordinated by Judy Wells, and we wrap up our teaching year in May with a Luncheon.

Cobb MTA

Joy Poole | President

What a great start to the year for the Cobb County Music Teachers Association. Our first programs of the year included our own GMTA Teachers of the Year. George Mann led a wonderful program, "Exploring the Sonatas of F.J. Haydn," for our September meeting followed by an inspiring and informative

program, "Thoughts and Ideas; What Works and What Doesn't," led by Jean Mann. We celebrated Christmas with our annual luncheon that was enjoyed by all the members and our Pianothon event where our students perform at a local mall.

With the new year just around the corner we have many events on the calendar. CCMTA is looking forward to hearing many talented students at the local Solo Festival and Auditions. Also, planned for the new year we will continue with outstanding programs. David Watkins will lead, "How Shall I Phrase It?" in February followed by the Winners Recital in March of scholarship recipients of CCMTA. At our final meeting all the members will enjoy our annual Spring Brunch.

Coweta-Fayette MTA

Mary Server | President

The September meeting of Coweta-Fayette chapter was hosted by the Music and Arts Store of Peachtree City. They brought our attention to some of the new piano method and supplementary music that they had received. In October, our teachers met to offer ideas from our own experience to each other. There was unanimous agreement that we have MUCH to offer each other, as we have different strengths and passions in what we do. Our December luncheon was preceded by a presentation on MTNA certification, given by one of our members who has that certification. January and February will feature a presentation by George Mann and a duo recital by our own members/alumnae LuAnn Latzanich and Pam Martin. Our association will have strong participation at the Federation festival in early March.

Savannah MTA

Diane Boyd | President

The Savannah Music Teachers Association held a recital for 7th-12th grade students on October 18, 2008. We took the students and families out for a pizza party and then on to a duo-piano concert sponsored by the Savannah Concert Association. The pianists were Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers and among their selections was the piano duet version of Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring". On November 22 we held our very popular annual "Music Fair" for students K-6th grade. In December some of our students played Christmas Carols at the Savannah/Hilton Head airport. SMTA teachers had a Christmas luncheon at "Papa's" on Wilmington Island.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Johnny Mercer, SMTA teachers and students will be presenting three concerts at the Mulberry Inn in downtown Savannah. We will be playing at the 4 pm "Teas" on Saturday, January 24th and Sunday, January 25th and during the Sunday luncheon time. In February we will participate in Armstrong Atlantic University's "PianoFest" and hold our Piano Evaluation Clinic, Local Auditions and Theory Tests. In March we will hold our annual "Hymnfest". In April we will present an "Honors Recital" featuring some of our best students. We will end our year in May with a luncheon and the installation of new officers.

So many thanks to the Chairs who so ably ran the MTNA-GA Competitions for the last 2 years. Melanie Williams carried the Composition Competitions and Jan Adams steered the Junior Competitions. For smooth sailing, we had Emma Pettyjohn to guide the Chamber Competition and fill in the blanks for needed assistance. The multitude of entries for the Senior Competition was corralled by Jackie Reed and the growth in numbers award goes to the Young Artist Chair, Paula Thomas-Lee. Thank you to all Chairs who did such a great job. The 2008-09 Competitions were held at the University of Georgia in Athens. President Martha Thomas was invaluable in coordinating facilities, monitors, hospitality and providing the frequently needed good sense of humor. Approximately 70 entrants participated in the Competition and they were given excellent direction and coaching by 22 teachers. We know that our students will do well at the Division level Competitions. Congratulations to all the students who placed at our fall event. Please click on the link below to see the results of the competitions (Note: once your browser takes you to the site, scroll down to the bottom of the page to MTNA Competitions

[MTNA-GMTA 2008 COMPETITION RESULTS](#)

GMTA PIANO JUDGES LIST

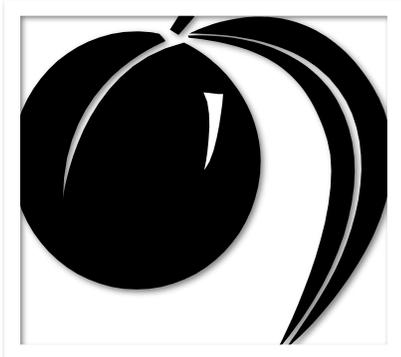
BARBARA KORZAN
GMTA JUDGES COMMITTEE CHAIR

GMTA is in need of experienced piano teachers who are willing to judge local association competitive auditions and non-competitive festivals. If you are a GMTA member in good standing (your dues are paid), you have kept up with your music education and you enjoy judging many levels of student performances, you are the one we need for the judges list.

To apply for inclusion on the GMTA Piano Judges List, download the application and two copies of the reference form from the GMTA web page, www.georgiamta.org, and follow the instructions or request them to be mailed to you by writing, calling or e-mailing committee chair, Barbara Korzan, 2700 Barbara Avenue, Columbus, GA 31907, phone-706-561-3065, e-mail: bkkorzan@knology.net You will need to complete the application form and submit it to the committee chair by U.S. mail or e-mail. You will be responsible for securing two GMTA member references, each of whom will fill out the reference form and mail or e-mail it to the chair on your behalf.

The time span from application to approval by the Judges Committee depends on the speed with which your completed application and references reach the committee. Even if you are not approved in time to be listed in the latest GMTA directory, your contact information will be sent to the local association presidents and listed on the GMTA web page: www.georgiamta.org

Questions? Contact Barbara Korzan, Chair, Judges Committee at:
2700 Barbara Avenue
Columbus, GA 31907
706-561-3065
bkkorzan@knology.net



MTNA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Conference Hotel: Westin Peachtree Plaza

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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):

GMTA Award Fund: 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.)

GMTA Broadhurst Award Fund: 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.

GMTA Composition Award Fund: 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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The University of Georgia is also proud to host the American Liszt Society's 2011 Festival celebrating the bicentennial of the birth of Franz Liszt.



Mendelssohn Symposium
Scholar-in-Residence: R. Larry Todd
April 10 - 11, 2009
Hugh Hodgson School of Music



The Hugh Hodgson School of Music announces a celebration of the bicentennial of Felix Mendelssohn's birth featuring Larry Todd (Duke University). Dr. Todd's biographies include Oxford University Press; biographies of Felix Mendelssohn and Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (forthcoming); Bärenreiter: Mendelssohn's *Songs without Words* (2008) and *Elijah*; Dover: piano music of Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel.

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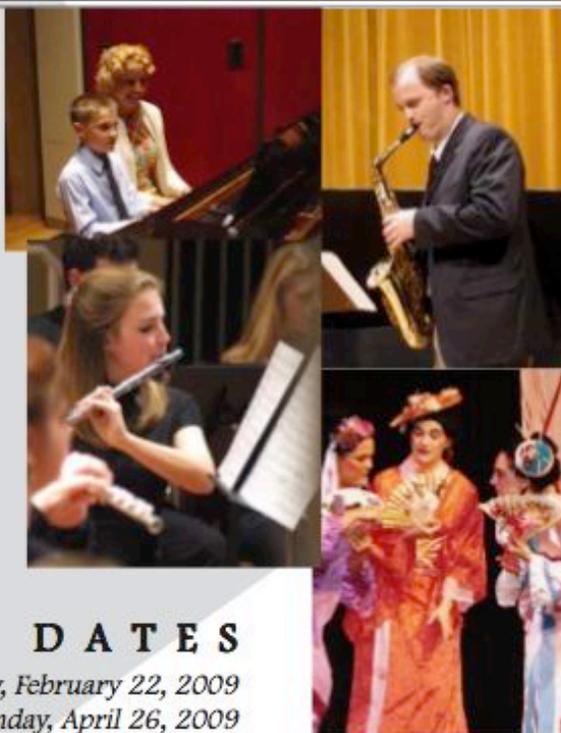
A U D I T I O N D A T E S

Wednesday, February 11, 2009 • Sunday, February 22, 2009
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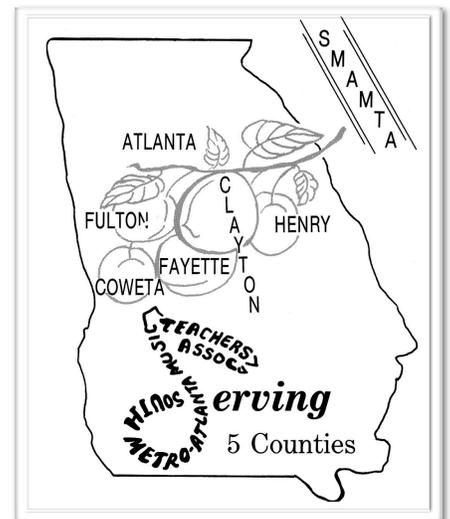
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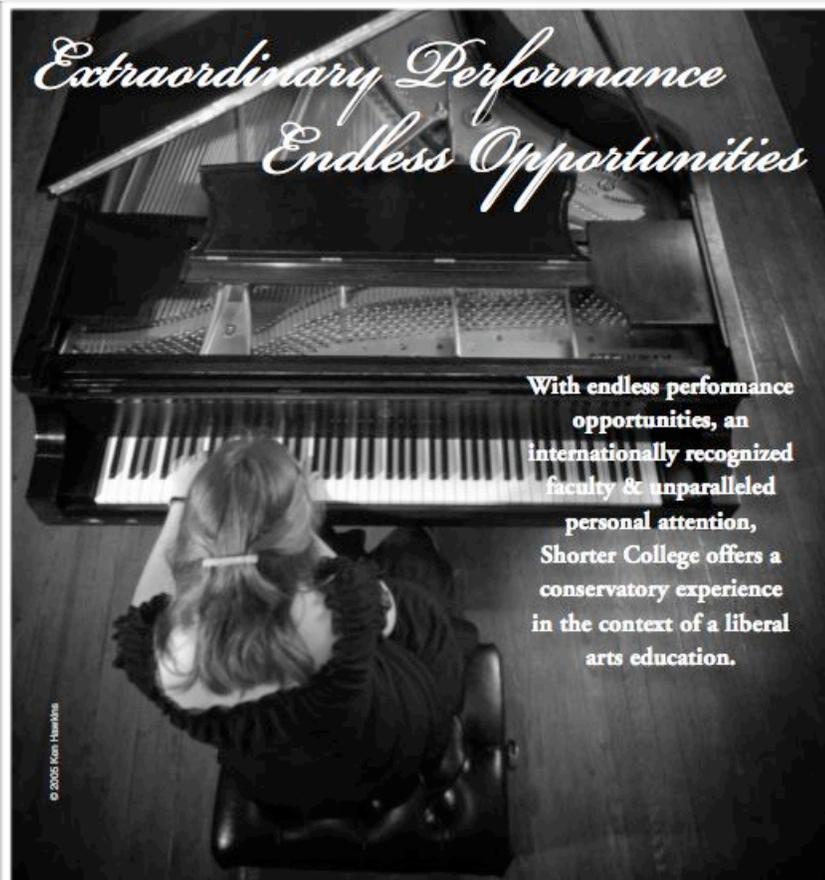
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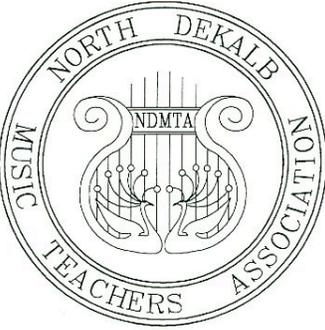
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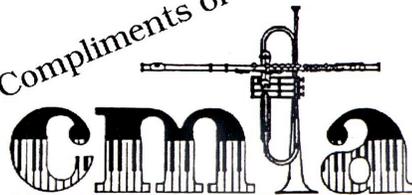
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GMTA LEADERSHIP 2008-2010

For more information about GMTA's Executive Board, Administrative Committees, and Local Association Presidents go to:

WWW.Georgiamta.org/leadership.php

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 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.

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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

GMTA 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)

EditorsJane Lester, VP Publicity | 1031 Holly Point Way Watkinsville, GA 30677 | jlplano@bellsouth.netEdith Sweatman, GMTA President | 420 Harlem Grovetown Rd Harlem, GA 30814 | ejs@sweatman.usJonathan Klein, VP Publicity | 170 Woodstone Dr. Athens, GA 30605 | jonathanfk@gmail.com