



# GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, AN AFFILIATE OF MTNA  
Fall Newsletter 2015

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Ian Hobson



GMTA Conference 2015



Ingrid Clarfield



Greg McLean





## FROM THE PRESIDENT

ROBIN ENGLEMAN, NCTM, PRESIDENT

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Greetings everyone!

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and we have entered a new school year. I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and that you are invigorated to be back among your students. Best wishes for all of you this year.

While my summer was not one that I would have planned, I have been abundantly blessed with the love and support of my GMTA friends. At the top of list, I wish to thank Susan Andrews (Finance and Advisory Committee Chair) and Dawn McCord (immediate Past President) who have guided me in so many ways, not just during the past two months, but from the onset of my presidency. Their counsel and support have been invaluable. Mandy Reynolds (GMTA Executive Director) is a true joy to work with day in and day out. I so appreciate everything she does on a daily basis to make my load easier. Rebekah Healan (President-Elect), Cathy Thacker (VP Auditions) and Joy Poole (VP Programs) are so awesome! I have just had to ask and they've been more than willing to do whatever has been asked of them and more. Thank you all!

As you plan your school year, I hope that you have included time to attend our GMTA Conference on the beautiful campus of Agnes Scott College in Decatur. The dates are November 5-7. Joy has devoted many hours in preparation for the conference, along with David D'Ambrosio, the local coordinator. Thank you, Joy and David! Conference highlights include Ian Hobson, a musician of tremendous versatility who has earned an international reputation as a pianist, conductor, and educator, Ingrid Clarfield, most recently named the recipient of the NCKP Lifetime Achievement Award in July, our MTNA President, Rebecca Johnson and last but not least, our many and varied Georgia's Own clinicians! Be sure to check the website regarding hotel information if you don't plan to commute. Conference registration is also on the website - be sure to pre-register by October 15<sup>th</sup>. It is going to be a great conference and I look forward to seeing you all there!

When the GMTA Executive Board met in April, Cathy Thacker was just a little busy finishing up a successful Auditions season. I invite you to check out her article on page 4 – also Rebekah Healan's GATE report on pages 5 and 6. Cathy and Rebekah have met over the summer to tweak some of the Auditions/GATE issues. Thank you both for all of your hard work! Many thanks also to Cathy's local, regional and state staff and to Rebekah's GATE committee.

Earlier this year, Jonathan Klein chaired an ad hoc committee concerning a fee structure for non-member participation in Auditions which was an FTC requirement. Because of his growing experience with all things FTC, I have asked him to chair another committee addressing member concerns with Auditions. Thank you, Jonathan and your committee members, for your wisdom, professionalism and willingness to serve GMTA.

We've had great GMTA participation for grants this year. A total of six grants will be awarded at the GMTA Conference in November: two Steinway Teacher Grants and four GMTA Grants.

Don't forget that MTNA has many grant offerings available on their website as well – deadlines aren't until November 2<sup>nd</sup>. I hope our GMTA members will take advantage of these fantastic opportunities.

MTNA Competitions deadline is September 16<sup>th</sup> which will be held at Clayton State University from Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. See page 8. Thank you, Carol Payne, for your competent leadership for this important event!

Finally, thank you all for your participation in GMTA, your local associations, with your students and in your communities. I count it a privilege to call you friends.





# GMTA CONFERENCE 2015

Joy Poole, VP of Programs

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**The 2015 GMTA Conference on the beautiful campus of Agnes Scott College is Almost Here!** Don't miss this opportunity to attend many inspiring and informative sessions, visit with colleagues and see the exhibits. Start making plans now to attend.

We are delighted to feature Conference Recitalist, **Ian Hobson**, in concert on Friday evening and in the High School Master Class on Saturday morning. Pedagogy Headliner, **Ingrid Clarfield**, who recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, will be presenting sessions that will provide our members with new and inspiring ideas for teaching. Ms. Clarfield will also lead a Middle School Master Class on Friday afternoon. Our Commissioned Composer is one of Georgia's Own, Greg McLean, known as one of Atlanta's most versatile musicians. We are looking forward to the performance on Friday afternoon. The conference will host sessions from over 15 of **Georgia's Master Teachers**. You will not want to miss the exciting sessions from Georgia's Own. Sessions cover a wide variety of topics including the wellness of the teacher and student, your studio, composers, collaborative performances and pedagogy sessions. Below is just a sampling of the sessions:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Stephen Heller: Beyond the Avalanche                   | Kristi Heflen             |
| Wisdom Through the Ages                                | Susan Naylor              |
| Piano Wellness for the Advanced Pianist                | Lyn Worcester             |
| Your Student the Pop Star                              | UGA Tonic                 |
| Teaching Chopin Etudes                                 | Benjamin Warsaw           |
| Taking Care of the Teacher                             | Pam Asberry               |
| The Music of Arvo Pärt                                 | Wayne Gilreath            |
| Creative Housekeeping for the Studio                   | Jerico Vasquez            |
| The Right Bait   | Jan Adams                 |
| Fascination Carmen: Inspired Piano Ensemble Repertoire | Tracy Xian and Chenny Gan |

Make this the year you attend the GMTA Conference. I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the conference.

### Online Registration for Conference

[Click Here For Online Registration](#)

**Conference Hotel** Courtyard Marriot Decatur

[Click Here For Hotel Information](#)

### Conference Presiders Needed

Presiders are needed to introduce the presenter for each session. Will you volunteer? Please contact Joy Poole ([jpoole@burnthickory.com](mailto:jpoole@burnthickory.com)) to become a presider.





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# GMTA AUDITIONS

CATHY THACKER, NCTM, VP OF GMTA AUDITIONS

Here are the 2016 dates and sites for Regional and State Auditions. Thank you to all of my wonderful State Chairs and Regional Coordinators, who work so hard to make Auditions run smoothly! We still need a few people to complete the positions available.

DATE	WHAT
February 29, 2016	Postmark Deadline for GMTA Regional Auditions Applications
March 15, 2016	Postmark Deadline for completed GMTA Theory Tests to be mailed to Diane Boyd/Postmark Deadline for GATE test scores to be mailed to Rebekah Healan
March 19, 2016	GMTA Regional Auditions. Dates have not yet been confirmed by all Regional Host Facilities.
March 21, 2016	Postmark Deadline for GMTA Auditions Applications
April 9, 2016	GMTA State Auditions for College Piano, Instrumental, Voice and Instrumental Concerto, UGA, Athens, GA
April 16, 2016	GMTA State Auditions for Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto, UGA, Athens, GA

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or call 706-507-8419





## 2015 Report from the GMTA GATE Committee:

The GATE (Georgia Auditions Theory Exam) is a requirement for all students who will be participating in the GMTA Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto Events.

The GATEs include 30 multiple choice questions for Levels A and B.

Level C will have 30 multiple choice questions with an additional 10 questions that will require the students to notate their answers.

Level A is for Grades 4-6

Level B is for Grades 7-9

Level C is Grades 10-12 \*Please note that this includes seniors.

Students will have to pass the GATE in order to advance to Regional and State Auditions.

We have changed the passing grade to actual numbers versus percentage.

### Passing scores for each level is:

Level A 24/30 or higher

Level B 24/30 or higher

Level C 32/40 or higher

The GATE will continue to be administered at the local level. Local Associations have the flexibility to choose the date and venue for giving the test. The GATE must be taken and graded before any announcements can be made regarding advancement to Regional Auditions. Therefore, the last date to give the test will be on their Local Auditions day.

We will send you master copies of the tests with specific instructions on how to process the tests. An answer key will be provided. Local associations will be responsible to give the tests, grade them, record the scores and then confirm student eligibility.

Each student will have ONE opportunity to take the test. There can be make up dates scheduled for students to have an alternate testing date due to conflict or illness – BUT NOT FOR RETAKING THE TEST. Again, all students must complete the GATE and have it graded before they can be considered eligible to advance to Regional or State Auditions.

Students can be exempt from taking the GATE. Exemptions are earned through testing scores that students have received on the GMTA Theory Tests, not on how well they do on the GATE. You can find a chart with exemption information located on the GMTA Website GATE Theory Page. You can access this page by going to the GMTA website. Under “Student Activities” you will find “Theory”. Once you have accessed the theory page, you will see the link to GATE. The exemption requirements are listed here as well as the curriculum and practice tests for all levels of the GATE.

It will be the responsibility of the local GATE Administrator to check on exempt status prior to the administration of the GATE by referring to the currently-published list on the website. They will need to mark that in their local records, as well.

Regional coordinators will also double check eligibility by referring to the exemption list on the website and reports that are submitted to the GMTA GATE Administrator as they are verifying each student's eligibility.

There is a GATE registration form that should be completed for each student. This will help you prepare in advance for the number of students taking each level of the GATE.

The fee for the GATE is \$10. Teachers will collect the fee from each student and submit one check with the GATE Registration forms to the local GATE or Theory chair.

Local Associations still need GATE Registration forms, as not all associations will have their GATE on the day of their auditions. The GATE Registration forms will not need to be sent to regional or state.

The local GATE chairs will need to send a report to the GMTA GATE Administrator showing which students took the GATE at their local association along with their scores. The deadline for this report will be **March 15**.

The GMTA Auditions Expense Report that each local association must fill out and send in to our Executive Director will be edited to include a section for GATE fees.

GATE fees will be used to reimburse expenses of the Local Association in regards to copying the tests.

We decided that a separate test should be printed for each student as we did this year. MTNA offers Office Depot/Max discounts help to cut printing costs!

*...continued from page 5*

Local GATE Chairs will need to notify the GMTA GATE Administrator of their testing date. The tests will be distributed to the GATE/Theory/Auditions chair two weeks in advance of their testing date by email. The GMTA GATE Administrator will continue to keep track of which test is distributed to each association as we have multiple versions.

Students who are only participating in 12th grade Piano or Piano Concerto events are required to take the GATE prior to GMTA Auditions.

Level C of the GATE has been edited, so that each written question will test only one element with fewer items to draw or label. There will be **no** partial credit. Each question will be graded as completely correct or incorrect. The answers **must** match the answer key.

Below you will find some other frequently asked questions with answers that I have included as additional information. Please feel free to contact Rebekah Healan with any other questions that you may have regarding the GATE. [rebekahhealan@yahoo.com](mailto:rebekahhealan@yahoo.com)

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

Do 12<sup>th</sup> grade students have to come to Local Auditions just to take the GATE?

The answer is no, but they may choose to do so. Seniors must take the GATE prior to competing at the GMTA Auditions as arranged by the Local Auditions/Theory/GATE Chairs.

Do students who are only participating in the GMTA Theory Test event have to take the GATE?

No. Only students who are participating in the GMTA Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto events have to take the GATE.

Do students participating in the String, Voice or Instrumental categories have to take the GATE?

No. Only students who are participating in the GMTA Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto events have to take the GATE.

Do students participating in College Piano have to take the GATE?

No. Only students who are participating in the GMTA Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto events have to take the GATE.

Is there a form to fill out to register for the GATE?

Yes. You can find these forms located on the GATE portion of the Theory page on the GMTA website.

Where can I find the information regarding what is on the test?

You can find a description of the Curriculum for each grade level, as well as, practice tests on the GATE portion of the Theory page on the GMTA website.

If my student passes the GATE are they exempt from taking it next year?

No. Exemptions are earned through testing scores that students have received on the GMTA Theory Tests, not on how well they do on this year's GATE. You can find a chart with exemption information located on the GMTA Website Theory Page.

Is there a fee for the students to take the GATE?

Yes, the fee is \$10. This fee will be used to cover printing costs and for the development of a computerized version of GATE. We hope to move to a computer generated test as soon as possible.

Do we need to have computers to give the GATE?

No. We hope to have a computer generated test soon. We are still researching software and development ideas. We are studying computer based versus internet based testing options as well.

How many times will my student have to take each level of the GATE once they pass it? For example, if my 4<sup>th</sup> grade student passes level A will he/she need to take the GATE in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade? Students must take the GATE every year that they participate in GMTA Auditions unless they receive an exemption by earning the required score or higher on the GMTA Theory Test.

If my student is sick or has a conflict on the day that the GATE is given, can they have another opportunity to take the GATE? Yes. Each local association may schedule a makeup day for students who were unable to take the GATE on the original testing date due to illness or conflict – BUT NOT FOR RETAKING THE TEST.

Can my student take the GATE at another Local Association? No. Students must take the test in the Local Association that they are participating with for Local Auditions.



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### Auditions

Saturday, January 23, 2016  
Monday, February 15, 2016  
*Destination: Music*  
Sunday, March 6, 2016  
Sunday, April 17, 2016

### UWG Preview Days

Nov. 1, 2015  
Jan. 31, 2016  
Apr. 10, 2016

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## GMTA AWARD FUNDS

HEATHER TURNER, NCTM, GMTA AWARDS CHAIR



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our state awards funds over the summer! As of today, we have received a \$150 donation from North Fulton MTA to the GMTA Award Fund.

As you all must know, Robin Engleman has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the GMTA Award Fund in memory of her husband, Phil Engleman. To date, we have received \$990 for this fund. Thank you all for supporting Robin in this way!



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## MTNA COMPETITIONS

CAROL PAYNE, NCTM, VP OF MTNA COMPETITIONS

The stage is set for the competitions to be held the weekend of Oct. 29 – Nov. 1. We will be hosted by Clayton State University again this year. We are happy to have secured the use of Spivey Hall by the facilities director, Michael Osment, for the Senior Piano competition, which will take place on Friday the 29th.

Efforts are continuing to collect comparative data from the other Southern Division states regarding compensation for competition judges.

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### Savannah Music Teachers Association

**Diane Boyd, NCTM, President**

The Savannah Music Teacher's Association will begin its activities with a musical "Fun Day" for K-6th students in September. Called the "Music Fair" it will include face painting, theory and rhythm games, musical "Twister" and more. SMTA will give the GATE and GMTA Theory tests in October and in November will have a Fall Recital for students planning to enter competitions. Other activities for students include a Hymnfest, Piano Olympics, Auditions and a second round of GMTA Theory Tests. In the Spring we will host a recital for 7th-12th grade students who do not enter competitions and an Honors Recital that showcases the "best of" our students. We're looking forward to a busy, but exciting year!



### Decatur Music Teachers Association

**Jane Frackenpohl, President and Charles Hutton, President-Elect**

The Decatur Music Teachers Association will open our 2015-16 programs on Monday, October 5, with *Swedish Pianist, Niklas Sivelov*, from the Royal Danish Music Academy in Copenhagen. Please join us at 10:30am, at Rehoboth Baptist Church, 2997 Lawrenceville Hwy in Tucker, to hear this wonderful program. Other DMTA programs will include Georgia's Own, *George Mann, "Exploring Composer Sydney Smith"*; *Percussionist, Emrah Kotan; "At the Clavichord" with Dan Pyle; "Piano Teaching Out of the Box" with Ken Newton*, and *Violinist, Sylvia Gholsan* discussing the *"Teaching of Dorothy DeLay."*

November 5-7, DMTA will host our GMTA Conference at Agnes Scott College in Decatur. We look forward to welcoming everyone as well as showcasing some of our very own member presentations. Our annual *Fall Music Fest* will be held on Saturday, November 21, where students of all ages, levels, and abilities have an opportunity to perform two compositions, along with scales and cadences, in one or more of these categories: SOLO, DUET, and/or ORIGINAL COMPOSITION. Students receive a rating and detailed comment sheet plus an opportunity to receive one of three cash prizes through our Musical Artistry Awards. This year our GATE Test will also be administered during the Fall Fest event.

On Saturday, February 27 we will combine our local area auditions with our annual *Jo Evans Scholarship Competition* at Agnes Scott College. The Josephine Evans Memorial Fund was established by the Metropolitan Atlanta Music Teachers Association (or MAMTA) in 1983 to honor the memory of this much loved piano teacher and Decatur musician. Open to all Georgia high school students in two age categories, grades 9-10 and 11-12, students play a SLOW movement from a sonata by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, or Schubert and a contrasting piece of the student's choice. Cash prizes are given in each category. Winners will be performing at our final meeting of the year in May.

Please consider attending any of our programs this year or register your students for our Fall Fest or Jo Evans events. For more information or to register, visit our website [www.decaturmusicteachers.com](http://www.decaturmusicteachers.com) or contact us on our new Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/DecaturMusicTeachers](http://www.facebook.com/DecaturMusicTeachers).



### North Dekalb Music Teachers Association

**Laurel Harrell, President**

North Dekalb Music Teachers Association welcomes Laurel H. Harrell as President of our local chapter. Her term runs from 2015 to 2017.

In October, NDMTA students will compete for cash prizes in the Rachel Howard Sonatina/Sonata Competition. This event happens every other year and draws 300+ students! In 2013, over \$4,500 in prizes were awarded!

Our monthly meetings will include a variety of programs to encourage musical growth, both for members and their students. Two master classes, one by Dr. Sergio Gallo of GSU and another by Dr. Douglas Jurs, as well as programs on French Impressionism, new digital technology, preparing students to perform concerti, are examples of the great opportunities we look forward to this year!



**North Fulton Music Teachers Association**  
**Ashley Craig-Diaz, NCTM, President**

North Fulton Music Teachers Association had their “Handbooks Distribution” meeting on August 11, 2015. They are once again meeting at the beautiful Cambridge Academy of Music in Johns Creek. The meeting was immediately followed by “Musicale,” a new NFMTA event that provides casual performance opportunities for NFMTA members and their guests.

This year’s Programs include two master class opportunities for NFMTA Members’ students, one with Dr. Sergio Gallo as the clinician and the second with Dr. Evgeny Rivkin as the clinician. Other programs throughout the year include presentations by Mr. George Mann, Dr. Carol Gingerich, Dr. Stephanie Tingler, and Dr. Joanna Kim.



**Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association**  
**Mary Ann McTier, President**

Gwinnett County MTA, 93 members strong at the date of this publication, has a full year in store for our teachers and students. Our Executive Board Meeting is Wednesday, August 26 where we will vote to approve our 2015-2016 budget and iron out many other details before all our members gather on September 23. Our fall programs include Dr. Jerico Vasquez from Shorter University– “*Creative Housekeeping: The Private Studio as a Business*”, Sarah Moore – “*Help! My Students Aren’t Listening! Is it Me or Them? Effective Strategies for Engaging Young Learners*” and Charles Hutton – “*For Your Studio: The Rare and Beautiful Miniatures of Charles-Valentin Alkan*”. Many of our teachers will attend the state conference, and the following weekend we will have Music Day where students compete by grade level for \$30 cash awards. December brings an opportunity for GCMTA intermediate level students to perform on the Steinway grand at Frys Electronics, providing live holiday music for shoppers.

We usher in 2016 with online registration, as we have done for the past 3 years, for our three Federated Festival districts, followed by our January Brunch at the end of the month. From that point on, the events don’t stop til May! North, Central and West Federated Festivals are held in February & March; our own Natalie Hardy presents “*The iPad in the Studio*” at our February meeting; Local, Regional & State Auditions; Jr.-Sr. Scholarship; the National Conference which several members will attend; our March Master Class with this year’s teacher, Dr. David Watkins; Ensemble Extravaganza, where students compete with their duet partner for prizes; finally, we take time to enjoy celebrating the year together at our May luncheon.

As incoming GCMTA President, I am excited about the year ahead and look forward to the privilege of working alongside the knowledgeable, caring, supportive members of our great organization.



**ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY**  
 DEBRA MURPHY, AA&A CHAIR

Georgia's Own is a listing of GMTA members who are willing to present topics through workshops and programs to the various GMTA local associations. Individuals included in this listing must be GMTA members in good standing with paid dues for each membership year and must keep their contact information updated through Mandy Reynolds, GMTA Executive Director at [georgiamta@gmail.com](mailto:georgiamta@gmail.com). If you would like to be added or removed from this list, please contact Debra Murphy, GMTA Arts Awareness and Advocacy Chair, at [murf2227@bellsouth.net](mailto:murf2227@bellsouth.net).



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# CERTIFICATION

ASHLEY CRAIG-DIAZ, NCTM, CERTIFICATION CHAIR

As of June 30, 2015, GMTA had a membership of 732, and of those, 105 are Nationally Certified. We rank 26<sup>th</sup> in the nation for certification with 14.3% of our members holding National Certification.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KENDRA BALL GANNAWAY, who earned her National Certification in March 2015 through administrative verification.

If you are looking for reasons to not become a MTNA Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, check out this article on the [www.MTNACertification.org](http://www.MTNACertification.org) website, "Certification, Who Needs It? Four Reason to Not Certify." To wet your appetite for a great article, I present to you reason Number 1: "I am too busy. It is too much work. I don't have time for it," to which Ms. Turner, NCTM replies, "How many times have you heard that same response from your students and what was your response?"

If you have not yet renewed your National Certification for 2015/2016, you may do so at <https://members.mtna.org/mtnarenewcertificationform/>. It is incredibly easy and takes approximately 5 minutes to complete. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding renewal. [acraigdiaz@gmail.com](mailto:acraigdiaz@gmail.com)

There are two ways you may become at Nationally Certified Teacher of Music: through Administrative Verification or through completing a Teacher Profile Project. You may read more information about both at <http://www.mtnacertification.org/process/>.

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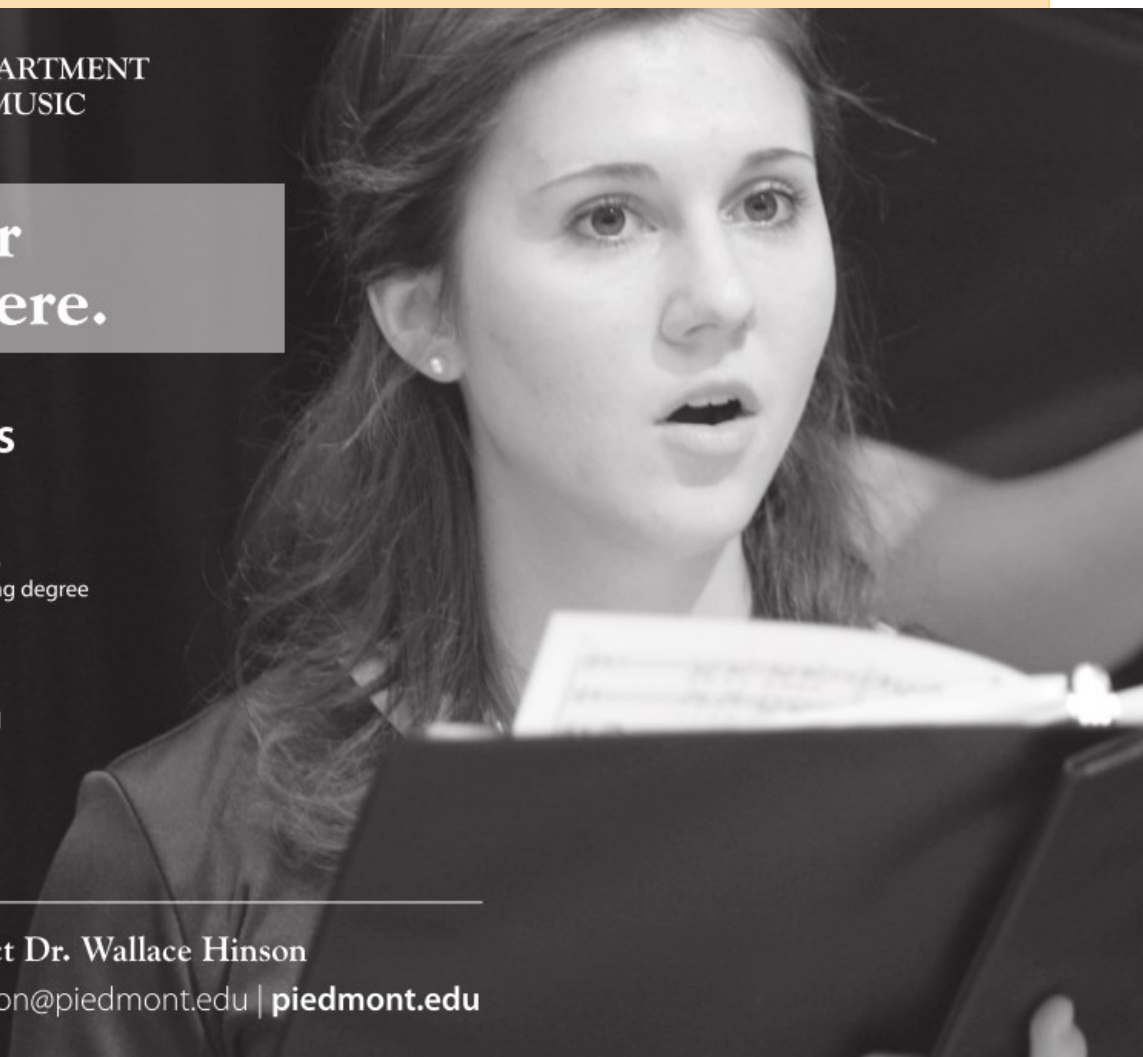
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## Member Discount News!!!

We all know how invaluable it is to belong to an organization such as MTNA. Education opportunities for teachers and students alike, the support of your peers, teaching tips, information on legal issues, etc,

Membership with MTNA is also accompanied by invaluable privileges and advantages, including discounts from the following retailers and businesses. Please see below the list of discounts included with your membership. You can find the links on the Membership page of MTNA.org

### Office Supplies

Office Depot and OfficeMax are now one company! Members save up to 80% off over 93,000 products.

Save on your printing, cleaning and furniture needs. Shop online or in stores. Enjoy FREE next-day delivery on online orders over \$50.



### Free MTNA Prescription Savings Card: SAVE MORE NOW!

We have been able to negotiate higher discounts for our members for the Prescription Savings Program. MTNA members can receive a FREE card to start saving up to 75% on prescription drugs today! This card has no fees and it will never expire. One card covers the entire household, including pets.



### Publications and Products

Making Music is a different kind of music magazine. Making Music encourages recreational musicians to become more engaged in playing their instruments and to participate in the larger music making community. Instead of focusing on one instrument or genre, as most music magazines do, Making Music covers all types of music makers, from beginners to long-time players and teachers, from brass bands to rock and roll, from group keyboard lessons to drum and ukulele circles. Read stories about music makers from all walks of life, learn about the benefits of making music, find music destinations and camps, hear about new and unique instruments and different genres of music, and much more. Save \$4 off the regular one year subscription price of \$16.95. Just \$12.95 for MTNA members. Subscribe online using the Code: MTNA.



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Sign up for the no obligation 30-day free trial here: <http://www.musicteachershelper.com/promo/540620> and automatically receive a 10 percent discount every month just for being an MTNA member. This offer is currently available to new users of Music Teacher's Helper.

Better Practice is an app for both music teachers and students alike. It is an advanced teaching management platform for teachers and a state-of-the-art practice management tool for students. It makes daily lesson planning easy and practice fun and engaging. At the heart of the app is a customized practice list created by a powerful recommendation engine that guides the student's practice each day based on the needs of each student. Ultimately, the app helps students enjoy practice and develop faster, so teachers retain students longer and remain modern and relevant. Try it for free with the Starter Plan at [BetterPracticeApp.com](http://BetterPracticeApp.com) and apply the code *PracticeIsFun* to get your MTNA discount: 10% off the teacher's rate.



Continued on page 13...

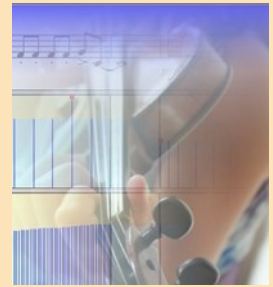
...continued from page 12...

MTNA and Oxford University Press are thrilled to announce the launch of the MTNA-OUP partnership webstore! The online store features hundreds of OUP Music Education and Performance titles at discounts exclusive to MTNA members. Visit the site regularly to take advantage of author spotlights and special offers on the latest books in music education, piano, voice, choir, technology, music history and more.



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By trying to make music available to everyone, Pizzicato music software has met many aspects of music education. Whether for music theory, music notation, music reading or creative music composition, Pizzicato has developed itself into a large field of experimentation, like a music laboratory, which combines many features taken from a multi-use toolbox. Teachers who want to know more about the software's pedagogy are invited to visit <http://www.arpeggemusic.com/music-education-software.htm>, where they will also find special pricing (available for schools, independent teachers and all students) for different products plus a free basic program. For any questions, please email [info@arpeggemusic.com](mailto:info@arpeggemusic.com).



Those looking to buy a piano are often also looking for a piano teacher. [PianoBuyer.com](http://PianoBuyer.com) is the most trusted and best-known consumer guide for acoustic and digital pianos in America. Now MTNA members can advertise their services to PianoBuyer.com's 25,000 monthly visitors for only \$69 per year—27% discount off the regular price. They'll even create an attractive color display ad for you at no additional charge. Your ad will be displayed only to viewers in your local market area.



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Going on a trip? MTNA members can save up to 25 percent off a rental car while experiencing the comfort and reliability of Avis from over 4,800 locations in more than 140 countries! Make sure to use your Avis Worldwide Discount-AWD-Number: B291076. For more information call toll free: (800) 331-1212.



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15

Thank you, Georgia Music Teachers and Local Associations, for your generous contributions to the MTNA Foundation Fund. Georgia has contributed \$3,537.00 to the Fund in 2014.

Congratulations to Martha Thomas, who was recognized as a new Fellow at the MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas in March 2015. Donations made in Martha's honor to the MTNA Foundation Fund totaled \$2,185.00. Contributions are still being accepted if you would like make a donation.

We are already off to a good start for 2015. Donations totaling \$65 have been credited to Georgia in the first quarter. Thank you for your contributions.

The MTNA Foundation Fund makes possible the many programs that benefit the professional growth of teachers and musical growth of our students. The Commissioned Composer program, MTNA Student Competitions, Collegiate Chapter of the Year, Teacher Enrichment Grants, Studio Teacher Fellowship Grants and Teacher Enrichment Grants are only a few of the many programs funded by the MTNA Foundation Fund.

Your investment in MTNA, through a contribution to the MTNA Foundation Fund, is **tax deductible** and will help advance the value of music study, music making, and the professionalism of music teachers.

Donations can easily be made online at [mtna.org](http://mtna.org). Click on MTNA Foundation Fund at the top of the page, then click on "Make a Donation" and follow the online instructions.



Diane L. Boyd, NCTM, President  
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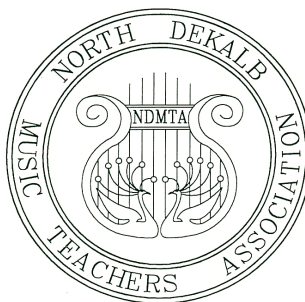
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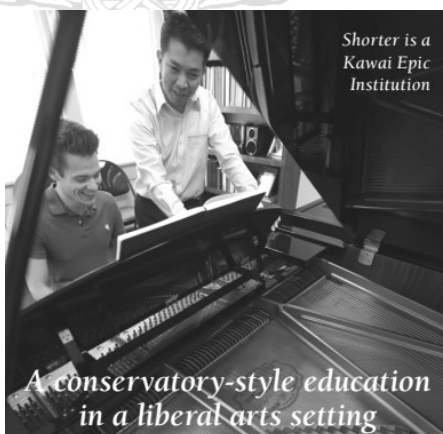
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Nov. 13, 2015 (for Spring 2016)

Jan. 23, Feb. 13, & Feb. 27, 2016 (for Fall 2016)

2015

**September 14:** Application deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year, Steinway Teacher Awards, GMTA Teacher Grants (Deadline always on second Monday of September)

**September 16:** Online application deadline (3:00 p.m. Eastern Time) for MTNA Competitions

**September 30:** Student Membership Renewal Deadline. Student membership year runs from October 1 thru September 30

**October 1:** GMTA Theory Achievement Tests (not GATE) mailed to Local Associations

**October 15:** Pre-registration Deadline for GMTA Conference

**October 29-November 1:** MTNA Competitions, Clayton State University, Morrow

**November 2:** Online application deadline (3:00 p.m. Eastern Time) for Local Association of the Year Award <http://www.mtna.org/programs/awards/award-applications/local-association-of-the-year-award/>

**November 5-7 :** GMTA State Conference, Agnes Scott College, Decatur

**December 1:** Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Winter Newsletter. Local Association Presidents may submit articles to Natalie Hardy at [nsmhardy88@gmail.com](mailto:nsmhardy88@gmail.com)

2016

**January 15-18:** Southern Division Meetings and Competitions, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

**February 29:** Postmark Deadline for GMTA Regional Auditions Applications

**February 29:** Deadline for Regional Coordinators to submit Judge information to VP of Auditions

**March 12:** FAC Meeting

**March 15:** Postmark Deadline for completed GMTA Theory Tests to be mailed to Diane Boyd

**March 15:** Postmark Deadline for completed GATE test scores to be emailed to Rebekah Healan

**\*\*March 19:** GMTA Regional Auditions

**March 21:** Postmark Deadline for GMTA Auditions Applications

**April 2-6:** MTNA Conference, San Antonio, Texas

**April 9:** GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens

**April 9:** GMTA State Auditions for College Piano, Instrumental, Voice and Instrumental Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens

**April 16:** GMTA State Auditions for Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens

**May 1:** Graded GMTA Theory Achievement Tests (not GATE) & certificates mailed to participating teachers

**June 30:** Individual Membership Renewal Deadline. Individual membership year runs from July 1 thru June 30

- August TBD:** Officer reports due to Secretary for upcoming Board meeting
- August TBD:** GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, Clayton State University, Morrow
- September 12:** Application deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year, Steinway Teacher Awards, GMTA Teacher Grants (Deadline always on second Monday of September)
- September TBD:** Online application deadline (3:00 p.m. Eastern Time) for MTNA Competitions
- September 30:** Student Membership Renewal Deadline. Student membership year runs from October 1 thru September 30
- October 1:** GMTA Theory Achievement Tests (not GATE) mailed to Local Associations
- October 10:** Pre-registration Deadline for GMTA Conference (Deadline always on second Monday of October)
- November TBD:** MTNA Competitions
- November 3-5:** GMTA State Conference, Mercer University, Macon

## 2017

- January TBD:** Southern Division Meetings and Competitions, South Carolina
- March 18-22:** MTNA Conference, Baltimore, Maryland

## 2018

- January TBD:** Southern Division Meetings and Competitions, Virginia
- March 17-21:** MTNA Conference, Orlando, Florida

\*\*all but one Regional location have been confirmed

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**GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014**

<b>ASSETS</b>		<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>ASSETS:</b>			
Unrestricted cash in bank and savings		\$89,844	\$81,449
Restricted cash in banks and CD's		\$24,378	\$24,094
Property and equipment, net of \$922 and \$1,339 accumulated depreciation		\$1,017	\$1,192
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$115,239</u></b>	<b><u>\$106,735</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Prepaid revenues		\$12,618	\$13,562
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$12,618</b>	<b>\$13,562</b>
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>			
Unrestricted		\$78,242	\$69,078
Permanently restricted		\$24,379	\$24,095
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$102,621</u></b>	<b><u>\$93,173</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$115,239</u></b>	<b><u>\$106,735</u></b>

**GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 AND 2014**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:		
SUPPORT, REVENUES, GAINS, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS		
GMTA Dues	\$28,361	\$29,009
Advertising – newsletter	\$5,385	\$5,894
Auditions	\$28,450	\$25,265
Conference	\$14,052	\$14,124
Commissioned Work	\$750	---
Labels	\$75	\$150
Net investment return	\$21	\$54
Miscellaneous	<u>\$17</u>	<u>---</u>
TOTAL	\$77,111	\$74,496
EXPENSES		
Auditions	\$18,757	\$18,023
Accounting	\$1,550	\$1,500
Convention	\$12,781	\$12,760
Executive Sec./Treas. Compensation and taxes	\$20,725	\$25,350
Commissioned work	\$1,500	\$750
Office	\$2,413	\$4,552
Website expense	\$1,295	\$807
Directory	---	\$550
Travel	\$3,175	\$2,600
Travel – student grants	\$4,450	\$4,900
GTMA Music teacher grants	\$660	\$1,700
Depreciation	\$488	\$615
Loss on assets retired	<u>\$153</u>	<u>---</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$67,947</u>	<u>\$74,107</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	<u>\$9,164</u>	<u>\$389</u>
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Investment income, net of investment expenses	\$24	\$53
Contributions received	\$960	\$888
Awards paid	<u>(\$700)</u>	<u>(\$700)</u>
Change in permanently restricted net assets	<u>\$284</u>	<u>\$241</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$9,448	\$630
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>\$93,173</u>	<u>\$92,543</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$102,621</u>	<u>\$93,173</u>

## Executive Board:

President: Robin Engleman, NCTM [englemanr@bellsouth.net](mailto:englemanr@bellsouth.net)  
 President-Elect: Rebekah Healan [rebekahhealan@yahoo.com](mailto:rebekahhealan@yahoo.com)  
 Vice President of Programs: Joy Poole [jpoole@burnthickory.com](mailto:jpoole@burnthickory.com)  
 Vice President of Membership: Jane Lester [jlpliano@bellsouth.net](mailto:jlpliano@bellsouth.net)  
 Vice President of Newsletters: Natalie Hardy [nsmhardy88@gmail.com](mailto:nsmhardy88@gmail.com)  
 Vice President of GMTA Auditions: Cathy Thacker, NCTM [cbt88@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbt88@bellsouth.net)  
 Vice President of MTNA Competitions: Carol Payne, NCTM [canticle80@gmail.com](mailto:canticle80@gmail.com)  
 Secretary: Jackie Reed, NCTM [jackiereed@bellsouth.net](mailto:jackiereed@bellsouth.net)  
 Member-at-Large: Portia Hawkins, NCTM [pshawkins8@aol.com](mailto:pshawkins8@aol.com)  
 Member-at-Large: Betty White, NCTM [bettypiano@comcast.net](mailto:bettypiano@comcast.net)  
 Immediate Past President: Dawn McCord, NCTM [dmccord@westga.edu](mailto:dmccord@westga.edu)  
 Executive Director: Mandy Reynolds [georgiamta@gmail.com](mailto:georgiamta@gmail.com)

## Committee Chairs:

Chair-Arts Awareness & Advocacy: Debra Murphy [murf2227@bellsouth.net](mailto:murf2227@bellsouth.net)  
 Chair-Certification: Ashley Craig-Diaz, NCTM [acraigdiaz@gmail.com](mailto:acraigdiaz@gmail.com)  
 Chair-College Faculty: Paula Thomas-Lee, NCTM [ptl@reinhardt.edu](mailto:ptl@reinhardt.edu)  
 Chair-Collegiate Chapters: Soohyun Yun, NCTM [syun1@kennesaw.edu](mailto:syun1@kennesaw.edu)  
 Chair-Finance/Advisory: Susan Andrews, NCTM [pianosusan@comcast.net](mailto:pianosusan@comcast.net)  
 Chair-GMTA Awards: Heather Turner, NCTM [high\\_meadows\\_farm@yahoo.com](mailto:high_meadows_farm@yahoo.com)  
 Chair-Independent Music Teachers Forum: Annette Day, NCTM [daystudio@bellsouth.net](mailto:daystudio@bellsouth.net)  
 Chair-MTNA Foundation: Colette Keogh, NCTM [cakeogh16@gmail.com](mailto:cakeogh16@gmail.com)  
 Chair-Piano Judges List: Yumi Patterson, NCTM [yumisan2k@bellsouth.net](mailto:yumisan2k@bellsouth.net)  
 Chair-Technology: Joe Lozier [joe@lozierstudio.com](mailto:joe@lozierstudio.com)  
 Chair-Theory: Jason Bennett [BennettMusicStudio@gmail.com](mailto:BennettMusicStudio@gmail.com)

## Local Association Presidents:

Athens MTA: Jack Bamford [jbamford@athenschristian.com](mailto:jbamford@athenschristian.com)  
 Atlanta MTA: Kathy Ackermann [crosstownjazz@bellsouth.net](mailto:crosstownjazz@bellsouth.net)  
 Augusta MTA: Sarah Moore [sevans583@gmail.com](mailto:sevans583@gmail.com)  
 Cherokee MTA: Laura Lozier [laura@lozierstudio.com](mailto:laura@lozierstudio.com) / Paula Thomas-Lee, NCTM [ptl@reinhardt.edu](mailto:ptl@reinhardt.edu)  
 Cobb County MTA: Huu Mai [huutmai@gmail.com](mailto:huutmai@gmail.com)  
 Columbus MTA: Martha Aguirre [AguirreMV@aol.com](mailto:AguirreMV@aol.com)  
 Coweta-Fayette MTA: Annette Day, NCTM [daystudio@bellsouth.net](mailto:daystudio@bellsouth.net)  
 Decatur MTA: Jane Frackenpohl [janefrac@earthlink.net](mailto:janefrac@earthlink.net)  
 Golden Isles MTA: Donna Nilsson [Nilsson.music@att.net](mailto:nilsson.music@att.net)  
 Greater Marietta MTA: Ruth Ann Clark [cfrac@earthlink.net](mailto:cfrac@earthlink.net)  
 Gwinnett County MTA: Mary Ann McTier [mam0609@comcast.net](mailto:mam0609@comcast.net)  
 Macon MTA: Susan Mincey [susanmincey@cox.net](mailto:susanmincey@cox.net)  
 North DeKalb: Laurel Harrell [harrell17@bellsouth.net](mailto:harrell17@bellsouth.net)  
 North Fulton: Ashley Craig-Diaz, NCTM [acraigdiaz@gmail.com](mailto:acraigdiaz@gmail.com)  
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 South Metro Atlanta MTA: Benjamin Bertin [bwbertin@gmail.com](mailto:bwbertin@gmail.com)  
 Western Georgia: George Mann, NCTM [georgemannga@aol.com](mailto:georgemannga@aol.com)

## GMTA Audition Staff:

### State-Level Audition Chairs

Auditions Chair College/Adult: Joann Kim Doyle, NCTM [joanna.kim@ung.edu](mailto:joanna.kim@ung.edu)  
 Auditions Chair Instrumental Strings, Woodwinds, Guitar, & Brass: Anne Sun [shuannesun1011@gmail.com](mailto:shuannesun1011@gmail.com)  
 Auditions Chair Voice [Grades 9-12, College/Adult]: Pat Callaway [drpat@healthyvoicestudio.com](mailto:drpat@healthyvoicestudio.com)  
 Auditions Chair Piano 4 & 5: Elena Cholakova [elena.cholakova@emory.edu](mailto:elena.cholakova@emory.edu)  
 Auditions Chair Piano 6 & 7: Rwei Hao, NCTM [rhao@bellsouth.net](mailto:rhao@bellsouth.net)  
 Auditions Chair Piano 8 & 9: Susan Andrews, NCTM [pianosusan@comcast.net](mailto:pianosusan@comcast.net)  
 Auditions Chair Piano 10 & 11: Diane Boyd, NCTM [dianelboyd@comcast.net](mailto:dianelboyd@comcast.net)  
 Auditions Chair Piano 12, Concerto (Instrumental 6-11, Piano 9-11): Lisa Gaal, NCTM [musicbylisa@att.net](mailto:musicbylisa@att.net)





**Auditions Coordinator Region I:** Ping Xu [feliciapingxu@yahoo.com](mailto:feliciapingxu@yahoo.com)

**Gwinnett, North DeKalb, Northeast Georgia**

Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 4 & 5: Viola Tan  
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 6 & 7: Glen Eckman  
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 8 & 9: Gayle Vann  
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 10 & 11: Ping Xu

**Auditions Coordinator Region II:** Colette Keogh [cakeogh16@gmail.com](mailto:cakeogh16@gmail.com)

**Athens, Augusta, Golden Isles, Savannah**

Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 4 & 5: Edith Sweatman  
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 6 & 7: Sarah Moore  
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 8 & 9: Nancy Riley  
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 10 & 11:

**Auditions Coordinator Region III:** Jimease Thompson - [jimease\\_s@hotmail.com](mailto:jimease_s@hotmail.com)

**Columbus, Coweta-Fayette, Macon, South Metro**

Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 4 & 5: Susan Mincey  
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 6 & 7: Susan Mincey  
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 8 & 9: Ruth Rowell  
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 10 & 11: Ruth Rowell

**Auditions Coordinator Region IV:** Kristi Helfen [pkhelfen@yahoo.com](mailto:pkhelfen@yahoo.com)

**Decatur, North Fulton, Atlanta**

Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 4 & 5: Hwee Boon Ng  
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 6 & 7:  
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 8 & 9:  
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 10 & 11: Keiko Ransom

**Auditions Coordinator Region V:** Joy Poole [jpoole@burnthickory.com](mailto:jpoole@burnthickory.com)

**Cherokee, Cobb, Greater Marietta, Rome, Western Georgia**

Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 4 & 5: Joe Camillo, NCTM  
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 6 & 7:  
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 8 & 9: Wanda Hughes  
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 10 & 11: Linda Lokey, NCTM

**MTNA Competitions Staff:**

Competitions-Junior Performance: Julie Smith [pianojem1984@gmail.com](mailto:pianojem1984@gmail.com)

Competitions-Senior Performance: David George [davidngeorge1@gmail.com](mailto:davidngeorge1@gmail.com)

Competitions-Young Artist Performance: Debra Hughes, NCTM [bndhughes@comcast.net](mailto:bndhughes@comcast.net)

Competitions-Chamber Music Performance: Debra Hughes, NCTM [bndhughes@comcast.net](mailto:bndhughes@comcast.net)

Competitions-Composition Competitions: Soohyun Yun, NCTM [syun1@kennesaw.edu](mailto:syun1@kennesaw.edu)



**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. Membership is open to individuals professionally engaged in any field of musical activity and dues should be sent to MTNA, 1 W. 4th St., Suite 1550, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. MTNA is available toll-free at

1-888-512-5278 to answer your questions regarding membership dues or on the web at [www.mtna.org/membership-information/](http://www.mtna.org/membership-information/)

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**Submittals**

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

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