



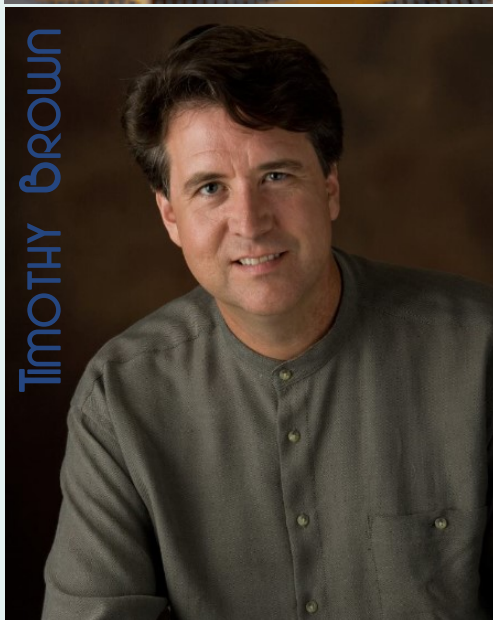
GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Summer Newsletter 2016

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BORIS BERMAN



TIMOTHY BROWN

GMTA
Conference
2016



DAVID PEOPLES



FROM THE PRESIDENT

ROBIN ENGLEMAN, NCTM, GMTA PRESIDENT

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The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot. Michael Altshuler

Congratulations to all of you and your students who participated in the GMTA events throughout this past school year!

Last fall I had the opportunity to help the 2015-2016 state **MTNA Competitions** team under the expert supervision of Carol Payne, VP of Competitions. We had 94 entrants: 91 solo entrants and 3 chamber ensembles. We also had 4 composition entrants this year. Of the 21 GMTA Competition Winners and Representatives that continued on to the **Southern Division** Competition at the University of South Florida in Tampa, January 15-18, we garnered six winners, 3 alternates and 2 honorable mentions. While there, I attended several meetings, served as inside monitor for three events and was very proud of all of our participants. Go to our website to review all who participated on the state and division Competition levels:

<http://www.georgiamta.org/studentactivities/2015%20MTNA-STATE%20Competitions%20Report5.pdf>

The winners from Southern Division represented us the first week of April at the **MTNA Conference** in San Antonio, Texas. Of the Division Winners from Georgia, **Goeun Sim**, student of Sergiu Schwartz, and **Zhihao Wu**, student of **Hans Jensen**, were named second place winners in the Senior and Young Artist String Performance Categories. **Yannie Tan**, won the Junior Piano Performance Competition as well as the Chopin Prize, sponsored by The Chopin Foundation of the United States. Congratulations to **Yannie**, student of **Alexander Kobrin**. We are extremely proud of these students who represented GMTA so superbly. While at the national conference I again monitored for the Voice Competitions, attended the MTNA Foundation GALA, meetings and forums, as well as many fine performances and master classes. At the conference business meeting, **Letitia Colglazier** and **Sue Barnes**, NCTM, were recognized as 50-year Members.

As we gathered for the Executive Board meeting on April 9th, the first Saturday of the **GMTA Auditions** was already underway. **Cathy Thacker**, **Vice President of Auditions**, is to be commended for doing a superb job of patiently organizing the event along with her incredibly large staff of chairs, coordinators, and organizers. I am equally indebted to **Jason Bennett**, Theory Chair, **Rebekah Healan**, previous GATE Chair, **Colette Keogh**, new GATE Chair, their committee and the Local GATE Chairs. Thank you all for your commitment to making GATE successful this first year!

I cannot mention **Jason**, our illustrious GMTA Theory Chair, without acknowledging his other sidekick, **Diane Boyd**, NCTM, GMTA Theory Tests Administrator, her committee, and all Local Theory Chairs. An unbelievable amount of time and work go into writing, administering, grading and reporting these Tests. At the time of the writing of this article, Jason has just posted the Theory Test results to the website. **Well done!!**

I am excited about the **Online Registration** that **Mandy Reynolds** has orchestrated with Handmade Designs. Thank you also to **Joy Poole** and **Cobb County MTA's** participation in exploring the process for this year's Auditions. Thanks to their service, we will be able to implement **Online Registration** statewide for the 2016-2017 GMTA Auditions. As you are aware, Auditions is a huge undertaking and I thank Cathy and her whole team for their excellent work. As with other GMTA initiatives, this is a continually evolving event and will be evaluated and fine tuned over the summer to ensure that we continue to foster an experience that is valued by teachers and students alike.

I mentioned **Mandy** earlier with regard to the Online Registration, but I would like to say further that she truly is the hub that keeps GMTA rolling along. **Mandy, my colleagues and I truly appreciate all you do for us and our organization!**

Plans for the **2016 GMTA Conference** are shaping up beautifully, thanks to **VP of Programs, Joy Poole**. Please read further in this newsletter for more details. You can also check out more information at our website: www.georgiamta.org/conference.php

I have mentioned only a few of the many GMTA members who serve as officers, committee chairs on the local and state levels. I thank you all for your work as teachers and as members of GMTA. If I can be of assistance to you, or if you have suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I hope you all have an enjoyable and relaxing summer.

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	Bayes, Jamie	jbayes@example.com	Bayes, Margaret	\$30.00/lesson
	Blaine, Ashley	blaineash@example.com	Blaine, David	\$45.00/lesson
	Dlaine, Holly	hblair92@example.com	Dlaine, David	\$30.00/lesson
	Davidson, Gweneth	gdavidson@example.com	Davidson, Sharon	\$30.00/lesson
	Duckett, Steve	steved@example.com	Duckett, Jim	\$30.00/lesson
	Green, Dan	dgreen@example.com	Green, Dan	\$30.00/lesson
	Longo, Amanda	amanda03@example.com	Longo, Dad	\$45.00/lesson

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GMTA CONFERENCE 2016 NOVEMBER 3 - 5

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Joy Poole, GMTA VP of Programs

Make plans now to attend the 2016 GMTA State Conference held on the beautiful campus of Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia. The conference schedule will highlight many of Georgia's Own as presenters along with Boris Berman, Timothy Brown and David Peoples.

Conference Recitalist will be Boris Berman. The artistry of Boris Berman is well known to the audiences of nearly fifty countries on six continents. His highly acclaimed performances have included appearances all over the world. Berman is one of the most sought-after keyboard performers, as well as one of this country's more influential musical personalities.

Pedagogy Headliner will be Timothy Brown. Mr. Brown leads a very active career as an exclusive composer for the FJH Music Co. in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida with over one hundred compositions now in print. His works are frequently performed throughout North America and Europe and at numerous international venues such as "The World Piano Pedagogy Conference," the "Festival Internacional de Musica de Tecla Espanola" and the MTNA National Conference,

Commissioned Composer will be David Peoples. As an active composer, David Peoples has filled many commissions and premiered his music for orchestras, wind ensembles, choirs, chamber ensembles, soloists, and jazz bands throughout the Northern Hemisphere. He studied at The University of Memphis and the University of Texas at Austin with private compositional studies with Kamran Ince, Jack Cooper, Jim Richens, and John Mills. His music is published by Bluesilhouettes Music and UNC Jazz Press and distributed by J. W. Pepper. David Peoples is an ASCAP artist.

Attendees who are interested in serving as **presiders**, who welcome and assist the presenters, are encouraged to send an e-mail to Joy Poole (jpoole@burnthickory.com).

CONFERENCE LODGING

La Quinta

Hotel Address:
3944 River Place Drive (4 miles from Wesleyan College) / Phone: (478) 475-0206

Members may contact the hotel directly or our Group Desk at 1-800-642-4239, Option 1 and ask for the special rate for Georgia Music Teachers Association (\$80.10 + tax) . Reservations must be made no later than 10/13/2016 in order to guarantee this special rate.

Fairfield Inn Macon West

110 Plantation Inn Dr, Macon, GA 31210 · (3 miles from Wesleyan College)
(478) 474-9922

Members may contact the desk directly by phone and request the Wesleyan Rate (\$79 + tax). Reservation should be made no later than October 1, 2016 to receive the discounted rate.



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www.ndmta.net

Thank You

We really couldn't have done it without you!

GMTA would like to thank all the institutions that helped host our 2015-2016 events. The success and service to our teachers and students is only possible due to the generosity of your schools and faculty. Our thanks extend to:

Agnes Scott College

www.agnesscott.edu



State Conference

Augusta University

www.augusta.edu



Region II Auditions

Brenau University

www.brenau.edu



Region I Auditions

Clayton State University

www.clayton.edu



MTNA Competitions

Georgia Perimeter College

www.gpc.edu



Region IV Auditions

Wesleyan College

www.wesleyancollege.edu



Region III Auditions

University of Georgia

www.uga.edu



GMTA State Auditions

University of West Georgia

www.westga.edu

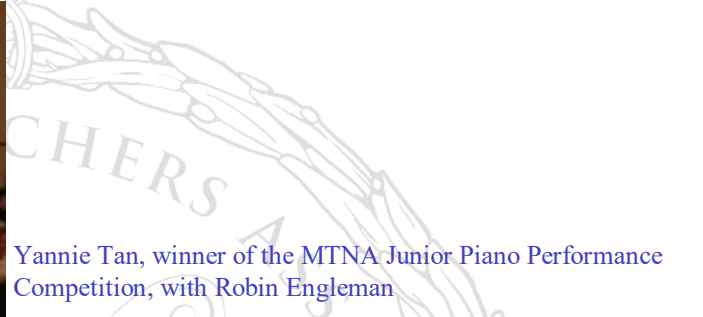


Region V Auditions

2016 MTNA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

At least 34 GMTA members traveled to historic San Antonio to attend the MTNA National Conference April 2-6, 2016. There were approximately 2000 conference attendees at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, on the gorgeous River Walk, which included music teachers, industry representatives, technology leaders and students from all over the United States as well as numerous countries. Attending this Conference was a thrilling experience with something for everyone: wonderful performances, master classes, sessions and exhibits. Plan now to attend next year's Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, March 18-22, 2017.

The Georgia Table at the Conference Gala: (bottom row, left to right) Robin Engleman, Ashley Craig-Diaz, Betty White, Diane Boyd (top row, left to right) Susan Andrews, Dawn McCord, Nancy Elton, Martha Thomas. Robert Andrews was present at the Georgia table, but respectfully declined to be in the picture. Ivan Frazier was also at the Gala, but sat with friends who were honoring his former professor, Guy Duckworth.



Yannie Tan, winner of the MTNA Junior Piano Performance Competition, with Robin Engleman



Yannie being congratulated by Ingrid Clarfield, our 2015 GMTA Conference Pedagogy Headliner



Along the San Antonio River Walk



GMTA THEORY TESTS

Jason Bennett, GMTA Theory Chair

The 2015-2016 GMTA Theory tests have been graded and returned, along with their achievement certificates. The results are posted on the GMTA website.

There were 257 participants in the 2016 GMTA Theory tests. This is down slightly from the 276 participants in the 2015 tests. Fourteen local associations participated this year, down from 16 that participated last year; however, 57 teachers participated this year, compared to 50 in 2015.

As we prepare for our next school year, I hope that many teachers will be thinking about entering their students in the GMTA Theory tests. These tests include ear-training and are very helpful to teachers to see what their students really remember from what they have been taught. Summer is a great time to look over the curriculum and the tests and their keys from past years. These are posted on the GMTA website under Student Activities/Theory. There will be no changes in the curriculum for the 2016-2017 tests.

The theory administrators from each local association may decide to give the tests in the fall as well as in the spring. LAP's please remember to let me know who your theory administrator will be and when your chapter will be giving the 2016-2017 tests.

Please send any questions you have about the GMTA Theory Tests, including specific questions about music theory, to gmta.theory.questions@gmail.com. Answers will periodically be added to an FAQ on the GMTA Theory Test webpage. You may also call me at (912)414-5972 or e-mail at dianelboyd@comcast.net.

Testing went very smoothly this year. A big thanks to the other members of the GMTA Theory committee, Jason Bennett, Donna Dasher and Dr. Susan Thomson for their work and also to all the Theory administrators and helpers in each local association. Thanks to all who support this valuable opportunity for our students!

GATE Testing

They will be made available in both the fall and spring so that LAs can choose a date that works best in their schedules. To ensure fairness, different versions of the tests will be created and distributed. Mailing / distribution dates TBA.

Exemptions will become active. Details are still being finalized and will be published on GMTA's website by 6/30/15, including a list of all students who have earned exemptions for each GATE level.

On the date of Local Auditions, ALL of the GATEs for a grade level must have been administered and graded BEFORE the results of that grade level are announced. For example, an LA cannot announce the results of grade 6's auditions until every participating student has either taken or been exempted from taking the Level A GATE, whether the student took the exam on a date prior to, or on, the date of your Local Auditions. If your LA plans to administer the GATEs on the day of its Auditions, you will need to plan accordingly.

All 12th grade piano and piano concerto Auditions participants must take their GATEs by the date of their Local Association's Local Auditions. GATEs will NOT be administered at either Regional or State Auditions.

Please send any questions you have about the Georgia Auditions Theory Exams (GATEs), including specific questions about music theory, to gate.theory.questions@gmail.com. Answers will periodically be added to an FAQ on the GATE webpage.

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MTNA COMPETITIONS

CAROL PAYNE, NCTM, VICE PRESIDENT, MTNA COMPETITIONS

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The MTNA performance competitions will be held at Mercer University in Macon on October 27 – 30. Please note that this is the weekend before the State Conference, which will be held across town at Wesleyan College. The deadline for entry is 3:00 p.m. on September 14, 2016.

Georgia had a National Winner this year! Yannie Tan, student of Alexander Kobrin, won the Junior Piano division in San Antonio in April. In addition, the following students represented Georgia and the Southern Division in San Antonio:

Goeun Sim, violin, student of Sergiu Schwartz, received Second Place at Nationals for Senior Strings.

Zhihao Wu, cello, student of Hans Jensen, was awarded Second Place at Nationals for Young Artist Strings.

Zhirui Zhou, student of Alexander Kobrin, performed in the Young Artist Piano division.

“Nach” (Chamber Music Winds) from UGA and coached by Connie Frigo, performed in San Antonio as well. Members are Rick Firestone, soprano sax; Caroline Halleck, alto sax; Hassan High, tenor sax; Charlie Young, baritone sax.

Traian Sturzam, bassoon, performed in the Senior Woodwinds event. Traian is a student of Ronald Wirt.



GMTA JUDGES LIST

Yumi Patterson, GMTA Judges List Chair

The GMTA Piano Judges List has been renamed “GMTA Judges List”. Judges of instruments other than piano may apply for inclusion on the list. The applications process will be the same as for the piano judges. Interested GMTA members should apply using the application forms on the GMTA website.

Currently 43 piano judges and 1 voice judge are listed.



NORTH FULTON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

www.NFMTA.com

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Serene Lee	Portia Hawkins
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GMTA AUDITIONS RESULTS

CATHY THACKER, NCTM, VP GMTA AUDITIONS

The 2016 GMTA State Auditions were held on April 9 and April 16 at the University of Georgia, Hugh Hodgson School of Music. GMTA Auditions Staff would like to extend our gratitude to the Hugh Hodgson School of Music for allowing us the use of their facilities for the GMTA Auditions.

The following categories were represented:

Pre-College Piano, Grades 4-11 – 384 Region Participants; 177 State Participants

12th Grade Piano – 35 Participants

High School Piano Concerto – 13 Participants

College Piano – 17 Participants

High School and College Voice – 14 Participants

Strings/Guitar, K-College – 55 Participants

Brass and Woodwinds – 13 Participants

Instrumental Concerto – 21 Participants

Theory – 257 Participants

Congratulations to all students and teachers who participated in this year’s Auditions!

PIANO DIVISION

Grade 4 – Dr. Elena Cholakova, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist

Erin Li

Ping-Yun Hsu

Cobb

Award: 1st Alternate

Eric Xu

Miao-Fen Lin

North DeKalb

Award: 2nd Alternate

Julia Pearson

Ping Xu

North DeKalb

Award: Award of Excellence

Rayna Chang

Xinyu Su

Mikayla Wu

Grant Peng

Shu-Chuan Hsiang

Hyangbin Choi

Bo Wang

Elena Cholakova

North Fulton

Augusta

Augusta

Gwinnett County

Award: Honorable Mention

Stephanie Sun

Sophie Fang

Andrew Wang

Amity Chen

Keli Xu

Hsin-Lan Chien

Ping Xu

Hsin-Lan Chien

North Fulton

Cobb

North DeKalb

Cobb

Grade 5 – Dr. Elena Cholakova, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist

Ethan Liu

Ping-Yun Hsu

Cobb

Award: 1st Alternate

Jonathan Xue

Robert Henry

Cobb

Award: 2nd Alternate

Susan Meng

Anne Sun

Atlanta

Award: Award of Excellence

Emma Hu

Hwee Boon Ng

Atlanta

Eric Chang
Brian Kang
Rohan Gonsalves

Ping-Yun Hsu
Hsin-Lan Chien
Miao-Fen Lin

Atlanta
Cobb
North DeKalb

Award: Honorable Mention

Alexa Lee
Jeffrey Li
Kelley Lu
Claire Wu

Elena Cholakova
Hiroko Hogarth
Ping Xu
Ping Xu

Atlanta
Augusta
North DeKalb
Atlanta

Grade 6 - Rwei Hao, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist

Carey Byron

Elena Cholakova

Atlanta

Award: 1st Alternate

Grace Peng

Elena Cholakova

Gwinnett County

Award: 2nd Alternate

Daniel Pan

Ping Xu

North DeKalb

Award: Outstanding Performer

Shirley Chen

Hwee Boon Ng

Atlanta

Award: Award of Excellence

Michelle Ho
Daniel Kim
Kimberly Shen

Elena Cholakova
Jean Mann
Ping Xu

South Metro Atlanta
Gwinnett County
Atlanta

Award: Honorable Mention

Katherine Yang
Veronica Kogan
Amy Huang
Margaret Wei

Elena Cholakova
Elena Cholakova
Anne Sun
Ping Xu

Gwinnett County
South Metro Atlanta
Atlanta
Atlanta

Grade 7 - Rwei Hao, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist

Sarah Lao

Anne Sun

Atlanta

Award: 1st Alternate

Rebecca Ho

Wai Yee Agnes Law

Gwinnett County

Award: 2nd Alternate

Michelle Wu

Ping Xu

Atlanta

Award: Award of Excellence

Kyle Tsai
Nicholas Ge
Daniel Shen
Charles Li

Hwee Boon Ng
Ping-Yun Hsu
Keli Xu
Clara Park

Atlanta
Cobb
North Fulton
Augusta

Award: Honorable Mention

Jessie Zhu
Hannah Huang
Rebecca Wu
Robert Jeon

David Watkins
Elena Cholakova
Ping-Yun Hsu
Soohyun Yun

Cobb
Gwinnett County
Cobb
Cobb

Grade 8 - Susan Andrews, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist

Mako Ishikawa

Momoko Yamamoto

Cobb

Award: 1st Alternate

Catherine Shih

Elena Cholakova

Gwinnett County

Award: 2nd Alternate

Chloe Chen

Elena Cholakova

Gwinnett County

Award: Outstanding Performer Julia Li	Elena Cholakova	South Metro Atlanta
Award: Award of Excellence Patrick Chin Michelle Wang Eric Hayashi Julia Chang	Beatrice Ko Ping Xu Hsin-Lan Chien Anne Sun	Cobb North DeKalb Cobb Atlanta
Award: Honorable Mention Gabriella Kogan Ivy Xue Annabel Shue	Elena Cholakova Shu-Chuan Hsiang Lois Finlay	South Metro Atlanta North Fulton North DeKalb

Grade 9 - Susan Andrews, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist Felix Pei	Sue Moncrief	Augusta
Award: Master Class #1 Yuy Hsiang	Shu-Chuan Hsiang	North Fulton
Award: Master Class #2 Moses Wang	Joseph Hokayem	Athens
Award: Outstanding Performer Yannie Tan Helen Bryant	Alexander Kobrin Alexander Wasserman	Columbus Cobb
Award: Award of Excellence Renee Lu Grace Xu Bona Kim	Lois Finlay Ping Xu Mijung Kim	North DeKalb North DeKalb Gwinnett County
Award: Honorable Mention Allen Cai Charmaine Hur Sylvia Tang Nicholas Hong Grace Li Albert Ting	Jewelina Jacobs Elena Cholakova Shirley Irek Ping Xu Soohyun Yun Momoko Yamamoto	Augusta South Metro Atlanta Atlanta North DeKalb Cobb Cobb

Grade 10 - Diane Boyd, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist Benjamin Chin	Alexander Wasserman	Cobb
Award: Master Class #1 Melody Wang	Hsin-Lan Chien	Cobb
Award: Master Class #2 Suekyung Jin	Min Yeong Kim	Decatur
Award: Award of Excellence Kelsey Yao Daisy Zhou Jenny Kang Liam McBane	Elena Cholakova Ping Xu Joanna Kim Frances Thrailkill	Atlanta North DeKalb Northeast GA Decatur
Award: Honorable Mention Stephanie Zhang Evan Hoyt Joshua Anderson Grace Wei Rachel Liu Charles Tortorete	Elena Cholakova Susan McDuffie Davide Palmer Ping Xu William Ransom Claudia These	Atlanta Macon Cherokee North DeKalb Decatur Golden Isles

Grade 11 - Diane Boyd, NCTM, Chair

Award: Conference Recitalist Anthony Zhang	Anne Sun	Atlanta
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Award: Master Class #1 Judy Li	Elena Cholakova	South Metro Atlanta
Award: Master Class #2 Jane Zen	Edith Schiff	Atlanta
Award: Outstanding Performer Ethan Shen	Keli Xu	North Fulton
Award: Award of Excellence Lindsey Chen Nathan Wu Kevin Lee Tao Jiaxing Liu	Jonathan Klein Robert Henry Ping Xu Inna Satunovsky	Athens Cobb North DeKalb Coweta-Fayette
Award: Honorable Mention Lauren Chen Timothy Wang Julia Xiang Dajung Lee	Jonathan Klein Ping-Yun Hsu Ping Xu Joanna Kim	Athens Cobb Atlanta Northeast GA

Grade 12 - Lisa Gaal, NCTM, Chair

Award: Senior Cash Award Mia Patillo	Elena Cholakova	Atlanta
Award: 1 st Alternate David Zhao	Elena Cholakova	Gwinnett
Award: 2 nd Alternate John Mori	Edith Schiff	Atlanta
Award: Outstanding Performer Laura Street Chelsea Chen Rosie Probst	Nancy Elton Soohyun Yun Jody Smith Parrish	Atlanta Cobb Decatur
Award: Award of Excellence Elaine Liu Campbell Cona William Zheng David Wang Stephanie Zhang Irena Kuan	Huu Mai Joseph Hokayem Benjamin Warsaw Marissa Woodall Jonathan Klein Shu-Chuan Hsiang	Cobb Athens Savannah Cherokee Athens North Fulton
Award: Honorable Mention Tom Connerley Sherry Luo David King Kathryn Jian Tyler Magnin Katherine Tiemeyer	Joseph Hokayem Aza Boguslavskiy Kristi Helfen Keiko Ransom Benjamin Warsaw Rebekah Healan	Athens Gwinnett Decatur Decatur Savannah Athens

Piano Concerto - Lisa Gaal, NCTM, Chair

Award: Concerto Winner Yannie Tan	Alexander Kobrin	Columbus
Award: 1 st Alternate Ethan Shen	Keli Xu	North Fulton
Award: 2 nd Alternate Liam McBane	Frances Thrailkill	Decatur
Award: Award of Excellence Helen Bryant Benjamin Chin	Alexander Wasserman Alexander Wasserman	Cobb Cobb
Award: Honorable Mention Kelsey Yao Renee Lu	Elena Cholakova Lois Finlay	Atlanta North DeKalb

COLLEGE PIANO - Joanna Kim Doyle, NCTM, Chair

LOWER COLLEGE PIANO

Alexandre Tchaykov
Imsun Lee
Forest Kirkland

Dr. Liza Stepanova
Dr. Evgeny Rivkin
Dr. Martin David Jones

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
Honorable Mention

MIDDLE COLLEGE PIANO:

Soyoun Sheehan
Michael Dubuc
Steven Fitzwilliam
Michelle Stephenson
Meitan Lu

Dr. Soohyun Yun, NCTM
Susan Naylor, NCTM
Dr. Martin David Jones
Dr. You Ju Lee, NCTM
Dr. Geoffrey Haydon

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
OP – 2nd Alternate
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention

UPPER COLLEGE PIANO

Yoonsook Song
Siyu Li
Yan Kou
Jolene Long

Dr. Martha Thomas, NCTM
Dr. Geoffrey Haydon
Dr. Martha Thomas, NCTM
Dr. Clara Park

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
Award of Excellence
Honorable Mention

VOICE DIVISION - Dr. Pat Callaway, NCTM, Chair

VOICE – 9TH GRADE

Kristen Johansen
Madison Ricci

Dr. Stephanie Tingler
Leigh Anne Bleichner

OP – Conference Recitalist
Honorable Mention

VOICE – 10TH GRADE

Melodie Faith Spencer

Heather Spencer

OP – Conference Recitalist

VOICE – 11TH GRADE

Rebekah Sims
Caroline Dorr
Alissa Benkowski
Brittany Bosley
Kyra Newell

Debra P. Murphy
Debra P. Murphy
Dr. Stephanie Tingler
Leigh Anne Bleichner
Huu Mai

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
OP – 2nd Alternate
Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence

VOICE – 12TH GRADE

Colton Carter
Ruth Willet
Nicole Axelrod

Dr. Stephanie Tingler
Arietha Lockhart
Lara Morris

OP – Senior Cash Prize
Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence

VOICE – LOWER COLLEGE

Deborah Stephens

Dr. Stephanie Tingler

OP – Conference Recitalist

VOICE – MIDDLE COLLEGE

Maia Brookes

Dr. Stephanie Tingler

OP – Conference Recitalist

INSTRUMENTAL DIVISION

INSTRUMENTAL CONCERTO - Cathy Thacker, NCTM, Chair

Phoebe Liu
Richard Cho
Maximilian Lou
Amy Park
Joo Young (Maya) Kang
Evan Nicholson

Sonja Foster
Sergiu Schwartz
Martin Gueorguiev
Martin Gueorguiev
Boris Abramov
Martin Gueorguiev

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
OP – 2nd Alternate
Outstanding Performer
Outstanding Performer
Award of Excellence

Serena Gao
Adam Wang
Jennifer Deng
Zoe Lo
Dohyuk Yang
Kyle Qian
Zach Tseng
Anna Hu

William Pu
Martin Gueorguiev
Sonja Foster
Sonja Foster
Valerie Gardner
William Pu
William Pu
Que Yang

Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention

WOODWINDS/BRASS - Cathy Thacker, NCTM, Chair

WOODWINDS/BRASS: GRADES 9-11

Alex Choi
Joseph Clarke
Shawn Zhu

Justin Stanley
Jean Martin-Williams
Debra Hughes, NCTM

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
OP – 2nd Alternate

WOODWINDS/BRASS: LOWER COLLEGE

Addison Whitney
Nicole Perez
Sarah Mendes
Lizzie Digiovanni
Jaron Lehman
Edgar W. Carter
Aakash Patel
Murphy Pulliam
Rebecca M. Dorrill

Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams
Jean Martin-Williams

OP – Conference Recitalist
OP – 1st Alternate
OP – 2nd Alternate
Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence
Award of Excellence
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention

WOODWINDS/BRASS: UPPER COLLEGE

Christopher Miertschin

Jean Martin-Williams

OP – Conference Recitalist

*Continued
on
page 14*



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Auditions

Monday, February 20, 2017
Destination: Music

or by appointment
678 839-6516

UWG Preview Days

Oct. 16, 2016
Jan. 29, 2017
Apr. 23, 2017

UNIVERSITY of
West Georgia

Music
College of Arts and Humanities

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STRINGS - Cathy Thacker, NCTM, Chair

STRINGS : GRADES K/1

Evan Xue

Mimi Tam

OP – Conference Recitalist

STRINGS : GRADES 2-3

Eugenie Lim

Sonja Foster

OP – Conference Recitalist

Lucas Liu

Que Yang

Award of Excellence

Mahalia Mason

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Jayden Lee

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

STRINGS: GRADES 4-5

Anna Willard

Martha Gerschevski

OP – Conference Recitalist

Sophia Ho

Que Yang

OP – 1st Alternate

Sola Ishibashi

Kristin Jutras

Award of Excellence

Brandon Lee

Mirna Dinovic

Award of Excellence

Katie Chong

William Pu

Award of Excellence

Ella Grace Malcom

Sonja Foster

Award of Excellence

David McClellan

Kristin Jutras

Honorable Mention

Elly Kim

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Alice Choi

Mirna Dinovic

Honorable Mention

STRINGS: GRADES 6-7

Evan Nicholson

Martin Gueorguiev

OP – Conference Recitalist

Tobias Liu

Sonja Foster

OP – 1st Alternate

Zach Tseng

William Pu

OP – 2nd Alternate

Zachary Surbrook

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Patrick Kim

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Lydia Meadows

Kristin Jutras

Honorable Mention

Emma Surbrook

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Daniel Huang

Kristin Jutras

Honorable Mention

Sean Kim

Mirna Dinovic

Honorable Mention

Brian Ji

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

Anna Hu

Que Yang

Honorable Mention

Eunice Chon

Nadir Khashimov

Honorable Mention

STRINGS: GRADES 8-9

Jennifer Deng

Sonja Foster

OP – Conference Recitalist

Maximilian Lou

Martin Gueorguiev

OP – 1st Alternate

Zoe Lo

Sonja Foster

OP – 2nd Alternate

Yuji Yamada

Nadir Khashimov

Award of Excellence

Rachel McClellan

Kristin Jutras

Award of Excellence

Serena Gao

William Pu

Honorable Mention

Adam Wang

Martin Gueorguiev

Honorable Mention

STRINGS: GRADES 10-11

Phoebe Liu

Sonja Foster

OP – Conference Recitalist

Joo Young (Maya) Kang

Boris Abramov

OP – 1st Alternate

Dohyuk Yang

Valerie Gardner

Award of Excellence

Kyle Qian

William Pu

Honorable Mention

Sarah Chen

William Pu

Honorable Mention

STRINGS: GRADE 12

Alex Yang

Mimi Tam

OP – Senior Cash Award

Jasmine Liu

Mimi Tam

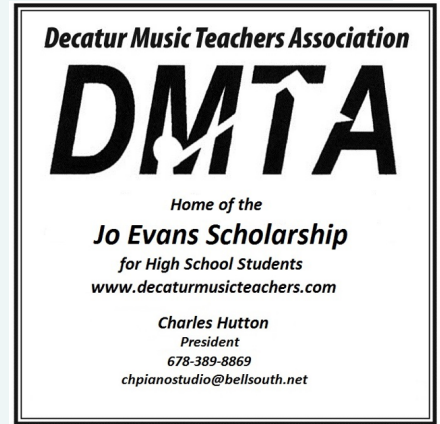
Award of Excellence

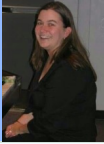
STRINGS: UPPER COLLEGE

Esther Holliday

Wendy Warner

Award of Excellence





GMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

REBEKAH HEALAN, GMTA President-Elect and GMTA TOY Chair

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

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

The online submission form will require following information or uploaded documents:

<http://www.georgiamta.org/memberResources-teacherOfTheYearApp.php>

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

Nominations will need to be submitted online by Monday, September 12, 2016. The winner will be acknowledged at the 2016 GMTA Conference Banquet. With so many fine teachers in Georgia, please consider nominating one of your favorites.

For a list of past Teachers of the Year and to read their Teaching Tips go to:

<http://www.georgiamta.org/memberHonors-TOTY.php>



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GMTA AWARD FUNDS

16

HEATHER TURNER, NCTM, GMTA AWARDS CHAIR

Many thanks to the individuals and Local Associations of GMTA who supported the Awards Funds during the past few months. Since the donations we received at our 2015 GMTA conference, a donation has been made by the Women's Club for \$25 in honor of Aurelia Campbell and \$75 from GCMTA (\$25 for each of the three award funds). What a wonderful way to continue supporting our students and encouraging their creativity and musicianship! Please help us continue to provide this support by donating a gift basket for the 2016 conference. If your LA would like to participate in the raffle, or if you have any questions about the Awards Funds, please contact me at high_meadows_farm@yahoo.com.

GMTA has three Awards Funds. The "GMTA Composition Award Fund" was established in 1987 and initially funded by beloved GMTA member, Betty Nolting. It is given at the GMTA Conference each year to first-place winners in the MTNA Student Composition Competitions for the state-level competitions in each age category.

The "GMTA Broadhurst Fund", established in 1992 by the Broadhurst family in commemoration of Joan Broadhurst, goes to the MTNA Junior Performance Competition winner of the state-level competition. It is also given at the GMTA conference.

The "GMTA Award Fund" includes honorary and memorial gifts and is awarded at the discretion of the GMTA Finance Advisory Committee. Donations not made to a specific fund go into this fund.



ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

DEBRA MURPHY, GMTA AA&A CHAIR

A new education law was signed last December. To date, far too much focus in education has been directed toward standards and testing, and the arts have suffered. Many educators are celebrating the new law stating it advocates for arts education.

An article for NPR included the following statements from educators:

"This truly is a historic moment for music education and music educators across the nation. The main reason why we're so happy is because in the well-rounded education definition there is a distinct stand-alone listing for music for the first time in American history."

"The bill begins a new era for music education, as it includes 'music' as a standalone subject as part of the 'Well-Rounded Education' provision, which provides increased opportunities for the access of music education."

You can review NAFME's [in-depth analysis](#) and [fact sheet](#) on ESSA to gain a thorough understanding of what various music-and arts-friendly provisions exist within the new law @

<http://www.nafme.org/wp-content/files/2015/11/NAfME-ESSA-Comprehensive-Analysis-2015.pdf>

GMTA's Georgia's Own

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.

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.

2016 STEINWAY PIANO GALLERIES MUSIC EDUCATOR GRANTS AND GMTA GRANTS

17

In 2016-2017, GMTA active members may apply for \$400 grants for teacher professional development and student music instruction. These grants are being provided by Steinway Piano Galleries and GMTA. GMTA will also be accepting applications from collegiate members for grants to go toward tuition, conferences, or other music events. General information regarding the grants is below. Additional information can be found on our website (www.georgiamta.org).

NUMBER OF GRANTS

Steinway Piano Galleries will award four \$400 Steinway Piano Galleries Music Educator Grants. Of these four grants, one will be awarded to the 2016 GMTA/MTNA Competitions Young Artist Piano Performance Winner, and one will be awarded to the High School Senior Piano Winner from the 2017 GMTA Spring Auditions. GMTA will award four \$400 GMTA Grants.

APPLICATIONS

Steinway Piano Galleries will email the applications for the Steinway Piano Galleries Music Educator Grants directly to GMTA active members. The application for the GMTA Grants is available on the GMTA website (www.georgiamta.org). GMTA active members may apply for both grants; however, a member may receive only one grant.

APPLICATIONS DEADLINE

The application deadline for both the Steinway Piano Galleries Music Educator Grants and the GMTA Grants is Monday, September 12, 2016 (always the 2nd Monday in September).

AWARDING OF THE GRANTS

Seven of the eight grants will be awarded at the 2016 GMTA Conference November 3-5 at Wesleyan College in Macon. The remaining grant will be awarded to the High School Senior Piano Winner from the 2017 GMTA Auditions.



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Young Harris College Department of Music
Dr. Richard Knepp, Chair
(800) 241-3754 ext. 5182
finearts@yhc.edu | yhc.edu



Decatur MTA

Jane Frackenpohl, Immediate Past President, Charles Hutton, President

The Decatur Music Teachers Association opened the 2015-16 season with our very own Kristi Helfen, who gave us a sneak preview of her excellent GMTA Conference presentation entitled "Stephen Heller: Beyond the Avalanche." Other DMTA programs this year included Georgia's Own, George Mann, "Exploring Composer Sydney Smith;" Percussionist, Emrah Kotan, demonstrating "World Percussion Instruments;" "At the Clavichord" with Dan Pyle; "Piano Teaching Out of the Box" with our very own Ken Newton, and our last program with Violinist, Sylvia Gholson discussing and demonstrating the "Teaching of Dorothy DeLay."

DMTA hosted the November GMTA Conference at Agnes Scott College in Decatur. Member David D'Ambrosio, Director of Piano Studies and Accompanying at Agnes Scott, was the key contact and facilitator. In addition to Kristi Helfen, we showcased another fellow member Pam Asberry, who presented the important topic "Taking Care of the Teacher." Our annual Fall Music Fest, chaired by Mary Lou Swann, was held on Saturday, November 21, where students of all ages, levels, and abilities had an opportunity to perform two compositions, along with scales and cadences, in either: SOLO, DUET, and/or ORIGINAL COMPOSITION categories. Students received a rating and detailed comment sheet plus an opportunity to receive one of three cash prizes through our Musical Artistry Awards. Next year we will be adding a sightreading component created by member Ellie Feibish. This year Pam Martin successfully administered the GATE Test during our Fall Fest event. On Saturday, February 27, we combined for the first time our Local Auditions and Theory Achievement Tests with our annual Jo Evans Scholarship Competition. The Josephine Evans Memorial Fund was originally 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 perform a SLOW movement from a sonata by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, or Schubert and a contrasting piece of their choice. Cash prizes were given in each category. Winners perform at our final May meeting. Local Auditions Chair, Keiko Ransom, and Jo Evans Chair, Charles Hutton, made this collaboration a success.

We are pleased to report that our DMTA membership and meeting attendance are up from previous years. Kudos to our Membership Chair, Charles Hutton, for encouraging new membership as well as ably facilitating our meetings this year! For more information about DMTA, visit our website www.decaturmusicteachers.com or like us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DecaturMusicTeachers.

Atlanta MTA

Kathleen Ackermann, President

AMTA is finishing a busy and successful year. We had interesting programs presented by Kevin Chance, Margery McDuffie Whatley, Lois Finlay, with a Master Class in January presented by Robert Henry. In February, we held our non-competitive "Music Fest" at England Piano. Our chapter's biggest project remains the Romantic and Impressionistic Piano Competition. This event is open to all teachers and students in Georgia.

We had many talented performers enter our newly organized 2015 competition. Pre-College students were invited to enter. Twenty-three teachers participated and \$1,405 in cash awards was distributed! Several GMTA Chapters were well represented.

New for 2016: after much thought and discussion, we are changing the venue and month of the competition. The 2016 RIPC competition will be held at Georgia State University on Saturday, November 12, 2016. The Winners' Recital will be held at Steinway Piano Galleries in Alpharetta, on Sunday November 13, 2016. We invite all GMTA members to enter their pre-college students. They need to prepare two pieces: one Romantic piece and one Impressionistic piece, *or* two contrasting Romantic pieces. Students fall into one of six levels, depending on their grade in school. Level One is for students in Second Grade and under. Successive levels are organized in two grade increments (e.g. Level Two is Grades Three and Four, etc.) We will have applications and more information on our website shortly. www.atlmta.org



President: Mary Ann McTier
770-262-8639

Membership: Debra Hughes
770-978-9680

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gcmta.org

Gwinnett County MTA

Mary Ann McTier, President

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our committee chairs and executive board, GCMTA had a busy and rewarding year. Our program chair, Eva Bone, secured wonderful monthly presentations including Dr. Jerico Vasquez – *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*, Charles Hutton – *The Music of Charles Valentin Van Alkin*, Natalie Hardy – *iPad in the Studio*, and our annual Master Class with this year's guest teacher, David Watkins.

Our students enjoyed numerous well planned events throughout the year. Beginning In November with Music Day, an opportunity for students in piano, guitar, voice and woodwinds to perform two pieces for a judge, participants in grades 4-12 competed within their grade level for \$30 cash awards. We also had 37 students take the GMTA theory test.

The first Saturday in December, many students performed holiday music on the Steinway grand at Frys Electronics. Holiday shoppers enjoyed this live entertainment, and students got the opportunity of playing in a unique setting!

In February and March, GCMTA held three separate Federated Festivals with approximately 700 students participating in a variety of events including piano solo, hymn playing, concerto, voice, woodwind, guitar and theory with scholarships awarded to the top high school performers.

Jr.Sr. Scholarship, an event specifically for our high school juniors and seniors, was held in March as an open audition. At our Local Auditions we had 42 entries with 36 OP winners chosen to compete at region. Fifteen OP winners were chosen to compete in the GMTA State Auditions and 11 students received recognition at the state level.

The Ensemble Extravaganza, held April 30, showcases piano duet, duo, trio and quartet in recital with music chosen from the NFMC Bulletins (2011-current). Partners compete within various levels.

Our year culminated last week with our May Luncheon. The highlight of that event was the presentation of our third annual **GCMTA Teacher of the Year Award with the 2016 recipient being Mrs. Susan Andrews**. GCMTA is very grateful to Susan for her untiring commitment to our local association as well as her service at the state and regional levels.

Summer will be a time for reflection and planning for our teachers as well as preparation for national online registration for Federated, studying the new NFMC bulletin, streamlining our website and reviewing our Procedure Manual for any necessary changes. Then, much sooner than any of us can imagine, we'll be "back to school"! But, let's savor every minute between now and then!

North Fulton MTA

Ashley Craig-Diaz, NCTM, Immediate Past President

NFMTA has had a full year! Between programs, master classes, recitals, and "Shop-Talk" coffees, there were events for every teacher to get involved and connect with fellow teachers.

One of NFMTA's newer events, Musicale, was in full swing with monthly gatherings allowing teachers a chance to perform for one another in a relaxed, non-formal environment. Several recitals were given by Musicale participants.

NFMTA elected its new board of officers and chairmen at the April meeting. They were then sworn in at the May Spring Luncheon, a favorite event of NFMTA members. This year's luncheon was held at Mittie's Café in downtown Alpharetta.

Rwei Hao was honored as this year's NFMTA Teacher of the Year 2016 at our spring luncheon! Congratulations, Rwei, for this highly esteemed accomplishment!

A Grand Ensemble Hosted by MaconMTA March 13, 2016

Susan Mincey, Immediate Past President, MaconMTA, Nancy Dyes, Director of A Grand Ensemble 2016

What a thrill it was on March 13, 2016 to combine multiple ensembles of twelve pianists on the Porter Auditorium stage of Wesleyan College, where you will attend GMTA Conference this coming November. The Telegraph, Macon's newspaper, gave A Grand Ensemble front page coverage above the fold where it was titled a "Unique piano concert held at Wesleyan College" - and indeed it was. Over 100 students, preceded by a teacher ensemble playing *Over the Rainbow*, performed on six grand pianos in ensembles compiled from various MaconMTA studios. The newspaper quoted Susan Mincey, Pres., MaconMTA, as saying, "This is like a piano orchestra. You may take a basic duet and multiply it six times, and everyone has to stay together, which is a very tricky thing." That was managed by having the lead teacher conduct from behind the edge of the stage curtain perched on a high platform where he or she would be visible to all twelve pianists.

This was not the first Grand Ensemble to have been presented by MaconMTA. The first Grand Ensemble was held in 1984 at Wesleyan College with 234 students participating and using six brand new Yamaha grand pianos provided by Ernest Penley, owner of Georgia Music. The idea for a Grand Ensemble came forth from a musical need. Students had the opportunity to participate in Festival, Guild, and auditions held by GMTA and GMEA and in all these, they were evaluated.

Students needed an opportunity to enjoy playing entertaining music with other pianists just for the sheer joy of playing and interacting with many students whom they had never met. The Grand Ensemble exceeded all expectation. Since that first program, there have been others, the last being in 2003. The new and younger members of MaconMTA got wind of what was done in the past and were enthusiastic about reviving a great musical opportunity for students.

Students described themselves as ecstatic over the experience of playing in such a large piano group. They exclaimed they wanted to do that again! Wesleyan College is looking forward to hosting our event again in two to three years. MaconMTA enjoyed sharing exposure to the community of Wesleyan's history for graduating fine musicians. It is good for students to work on such a project which MaconMTA VP of Membership, Susan McDuffie, former Wesleyan faculty member, described to The Telegraph as "a good learning opportunity...playing duets... and...to follow a conductor and keep time with other pianos."

Tickets were free, but out of gratitude to students' and teachers' efforts and after their tremendous enjoyment of the concert, families and friends donated over \$700 to the MaconMTA Summer Scholarship Program. This money will send one to several students to fine arts camps this summer!





COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS

Soohyun Yun, NCTM, Collegiate Chapters Chair

MTNA Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium Participation

A number of GMTA Collegiate members and faculty attended and presented the 5th MTNA Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium (national conference) held at the University of South Carolina at Columbia from January 15-16, 2016. The event brought more than 120 students, faculty and music professionals from nationwide. Students and faculty from Kennesaw State University, University of Georgia and Shorter University participated. Followings are presenters of GMTA at the symposium.

Uni Choi, Yoonsook Song, Benjamin Turk and Crystal Wu (University of Georgia, Pete Jutras and Martha Thomas, advisors) presented a session on “Your Student The Pop Star!”

Abstract: Keyboard Jam is an exciting opportunity for your students to be featured as the soloist with a live band. The presenters will share their experiences in preparing their students for Keyboard Jam, along with the logistics of putting together such an event.

Ai Nguyen (Kennesaw State University, Soohyun Yun, advisor) presented poster session on “Benefits And Methods Of The Scale Practice For Beginner Piano Students.”

Soyoun Sheehan (Kennesaw State University, Soohyun Yun, advisor) presented a poster session on “Motivating Young Beginners: Body-Engaged Rhythm Counting Activities.”

Dr. Soohyun Yun (Kennesaw State University) taught a master class at the Teaching Demonstrations.

School of Music



STEINWAY & SONS

Piano Faculty



Robert Henry



Soohyun Yun



Julie Coucheron

Degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Bachelor of Music in Performance
- Bachelor of Music in Music Education



CERTIFICATION

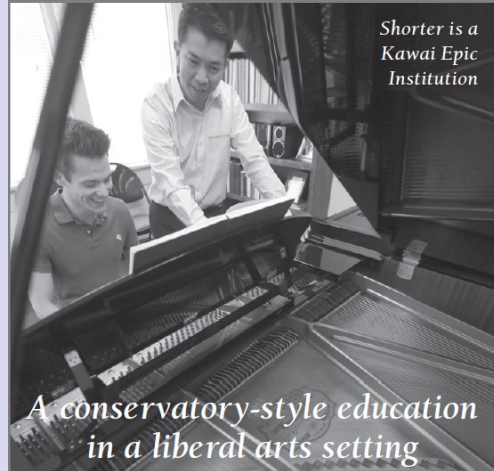
ASHLEY CRAIG-DIAZ, NCTM CERTIFICATION CHAIR

As of December 31, 2015, GMTA had a membership of 727, and of those, 105 are Nationally Certified. We rank 24th in the nation for certification with 14.4% of our members holding National Certification.

This past March, I had the pleasure of attending the MTNA Certification Open Meeting at the MTNA 2016 National Conference. Clarification was given on the three video teaching sessions required to complete the Teacher Profile Projects. These videos are the portion of the project about which I receive the most questions. I was glad to receive this clarification and will happily pass on the information to anyone who has concerns about this portion of the project.

In her closing statements, Marianne Bryan, NCTM, reminded those in attendance that National Certification is not only for the individual, but also the over-all profession of music teaching. As the summer approaches and you begin to look into summer enrichment projects, I urge you to begin the process in pursuing your National Certification from MTNA.

You may learn more about MTNA National Certification at www.mtnacertification.org or by contacting me at acraigdiaz@gmail.com.



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Dear GMTA Members,

I was very honored when Robin Engleman reached out to me with the desire to reprint an article I wrote for the state and local MTNA leadership for the June 2015 VIP Newsletter, which MTNA distributed by e-mail. While our national membership showed a slight rise for 2015-2016, we should not lose focus on continuing to attract and retain new members to our great organization. We particularly need to continue to serve our collegiate members and recent graduates as they represent the future of MTNA, and we need to encourage many of our younger teachers to affiliate. We show a particular gap in our membership in the 30-45 year old demographic, and I feel this is largely due to many of these teachers potentially having multiple jobs as well as young families. However, MTNA can benefit all levels of teachers, particularly when we remain committed to creative and supportive programming at the local levels. The local associations are the heart and pulse of MTNA. Rather than focus your energies inward, I would encourage you to focus your attention outward into your communities as this is when our local associations shine the most brightly.

I am humbled to be serving as your Southern Division Director for the next two years, and if I can be of assistance to you, your local association, or your state association in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. GMTA represents one of the pillars of Southern Division, and I am proud to celebrate your rich history among my colleagues on the national board. I will add that I also feel I have enormous shoes to fill as you have had a number of notable national leaders from GMTA—most recently Martha Thomas, whose leadership continues to inspire me.

Sincerely,

Kevin T. Chance, NCTM

Programming from the Inside Out
Kevin Chance, NCTM
MTNA Southern Division Director
Assistant Professor of Piano, University of Alabama

When we consider programming for our local associations, it seems as though we are most intuitively drawn towards programming “in.” We seem to look at programs that are going to immediately help our current members, and this is certainly a healthy part of any local association’s activities. However, it is equally important for us to look at programming “out.” In other words, we need to consider programming ideas that we extend our reach into the community as well as open our doors to potential new members.

When I think about different types of programming, several types immediately come to mind—social networking opportunities, professional development, outreach, and student-focused activities, and ideally, one event can intermingle these distinctions. When I talk to local association presidents, one of the frustrations I often hear is that attendance at meetings is dwindling, and with the current job market, that is perhaps not surprising as many of us are wearing a number of hats each week to make ends meet. However, that does not mean that we have to give up on offering meeting opportunities for our members. When I first started teaching, I met with a group of friends once a month for “pedagogy lunches.” Sometimes we established a topic beforehand to talk about. Other times, we just talked and bonded over issues we happened to be dealing with. These small group discussions were always invigorating and made us feel connected, and perhaps local associations could try this as a way to reach out to members who cannot attend regular meeting times. Consider scheduling these meetings at many different days and times to give members a wide variety of possible times to tap into. An added benefit to these types of meetings is that it provides an ideal opportunity to mentor new members on the activities of the organization.

When looking at programming for professional development, we so often turn to the trusted teachers in our areas, and they are always a wonderful source of knowledge. However, many colleges and universities have aspiring teachers doing interesting research into pedagogical topics, and we have to remember that these college students are the future of our organization. Reach out to faculty colleagues and ask for recommendations for advanced undergraduate or graduate students who might be ready to present for a local association. Another option would be to host a lightning talk day where a number of local college students come to give short presentations on the work they have been doing. The sooner we can tap into this generation, the more likely we are hooking them into the importance of professional memberships, and their perspectives can be enlightening as they are less removed from the current generation of pre-college students than many of us are.

We are also frequently guilty of programming heavily towards piano. Music teachers share much in common. At the national MTNA Conference, we have the “One for All” track that is designed to appeal to teachers of any instrument. While presentations on piano repertoire and technique are important, consider inviting instrumental or vocal teachers in the area to present as well. Additionally, consider opening outreach events to instrumental and vocal colleagues who might not be current members. I do not know of very many teachers who are not looking for opportunities for their students, and opening our doors for some of our events might be enough to encourage some of them to join.

When considering outreach, do not be afraid to think outside the box. Outreach events that provide visibility not only can raise funds but they can also build studios as we have to promote the importance of music study within our communities. Monster concerts, flash mobs, and perform-a-thons are only the beginning of the possibilities that exist to increase our visibility in the communities. Consider joining forces with other music organizations in your communities to gain an even wider outreach base and an increased visibility for your events.

Ultimately, all of our programming should serve to benefit our students. They are the future of music. When you are considering your programming for the upcoming years, look for opportunities to open your doors and your minds to new experiences and possibilities, and don't be afraid to think outside the long-established traditions of the organization as we strive to tap new members and the resources they can provide us.



MTNA FOUNDATION

COLETTE KEOGH, NCTM, MTNA FOUNDATION CHAIR

An additional \$2,405.00 contribution was raised for the Foundation Fund at the MTNA National Conference in San Antonio through the State Pride Drawing. Participating states donated gifts which were grouped together into larger baskets and were raffled off. Donated gifts included items such as jewelry, CDs, artwork, fine wine and gift cards.

These are some programs supported by the **MTNA Foundation Fund**:

The Composer Commissioning Program
MTNA Student Competition Awards
MTNA Awards
Teacher Enrichment Grants
Local Association Affiliate Grants
Program Enrichment Grants
Collegiate Project and Enrichment Grants
MarySue Harris Studio Teacher Fellowship
Collegiate Chapter of the Year Award
State and Local Association of the Year Awards
MTNA Fellow Program

Your contributions ensure the continued success of these programs. More information and applications can be found on the MTNA website.

Please consider making a donation to the Fund when you renew your MTNA membership. There is a place provided on the renewal form.

Thank you all who have contributed so generously to the MTNA Foundation Fund throughout the year.



Thanks to all you Georgia MusicLink teachers for bringing music to the lives of your students! These are some of the available benefits for those MusicLink students:

DEADLINES:

- Camp Scholarships - You must apply and seek financial aid from the camp PRIOR to sending in the form.
- Senior Award of Excellence - \$1000 scholarship for a graduating senior. Application on website (Teacher Info page)
- Grass Roots Grant – grant of up to \$300 to assist alliance partners with expenses for MusicLink programs (instruments, start up fund, expansion)
- Teacher Reimbursement Form – to reimburse up to \$100 for out-of-pocket expenses (music, fees, materials) on behalf of their MusicLink students.

And, as always, MusicLink Teachers have access to the Discount List where music, supplies and even instruments can be obtained free or at deep discounts.

Questions??? Call Nora Martin @ 770-861-4283 or wolf193@charter.net



Atlanta

Music

Teachers Association

President
Kathleen Ackermann

770-451-5159

www.atlmta.org

Since 1952

2016

- **June 30:** Active Membership Renewal **Deadline**. Active membership year runs from July 1 thru June 30
- **August 1: Deadline** for articles to be included in the GMTA Fall Newsletter
Articles should be submitted to Natalie Hardy at nsmhardy88@gmail.com.
- **August 16:** Officer and Committee Chair Reports due to Secretary at jackiereed@bellsouth.net for upcoming board meeting
- **August 20:** GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, Clayton State University, Morrow, Georgia
- **September 12:** Application **Deadline** for GMTA Teacher of the Year, Steinway Music Teacher Awards, GMTA Grants (Deadline always on second Monday of September)
- **September 14:** 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
- **October 27-30:** MTNA/GMTA Competitions, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia
- **November 3-5:** GMTA State Conference, Wesleyan, Macon, Georgia
- **December 1: Deadline** for articles to be included in the GMTA Winter Newsletter
Articles should be submitted to Nancy Riley at nancy.riley@gmail.com

2017

- **January 13-17:** Southern Division Meetings and Competitions, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina
- **February 27:** Postmark **Deadline** for GMTA Regional Auditions Applications
- **February 27:** Postmark Deadline to Report GATE Test Scores
- **February 27:** Deadline for Regional Coordinators to submit Judge information to VP of Auditions
- **March 15:** Postmark Deadline for completed GMTA Theory Tests to be mailed to Diane Boyd
- **March 18:** GMTA Regional Auditions. Dates have not yet been confirmed by all Regional Host Facilities as of 6/2/16
- **March 18-22:** MTNA Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
- **March 20:** Postmark **Deadline** for GMTA Auditions Applications
- **April 8:** GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens
- **April 8:** GMTA State Auditions for College Piano, Instrumental, Voice and Instrumental Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens
- **April 22:** GMTA State Auditions for Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens
- **May 1: Deadline** for articles to be included in the GMTA Summer Newsletter
Articles should be submitted to Nancy Riley at nancy.riley@gmail.com

Executive Board:

President: Robin Engleman, NCTM englemanr@bellsouth.net
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 Vice President of Membership: Jane Lester jlpliano@bellsouth.net
 Vice President of Newsletters: Natalie Hardy nsmhardy88@gmail.com
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 Vice President of MTNA Competitions: Carol Payne, NCTM cantic80@gmail.com
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 Immediate Past President: Dawn McCord, NCTM dmccord@westga.edu
 Executive Director: Mandy Reynolds georgiamta@gmail.com

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

Local Association Presidents:

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GMTA Audition Staff: Vice President of GMTA Auditions: Cathy Thacker, NCTM cbt88@bellsouth.net

State-Level Audition Chairs

Auditions Chair College/Adult: Dr. Joanna Kim Doyle, NCTM joanna.kim@ung.edu
 Auditions Chair Instrumental Strings, Woodwinds, Guitar, & Brass:
 Auditions Chair Voice [Grades 9-12, College/Adult]: Dr. Pat Callaway drpat@healthyvoicestudio.com
 Auditions Chair Piano 4 & 5: Dr. Elena Cholakova elena.cholakova@emory.edu
 Auditions Chair Piano 6 & 7:
 Auditions Chair Piano 8 & 9:
 Auditions Chair Piano 10 & 11: Diane Boyd, NCTM dianelboyd@comcast.net
 Auditions Chair Piano 12, Concerto (Piano 9-11): Joseph Hokayem, NCTM joeyh@mindspring.com

Auditions Coordinator Region I: Ping Xu feliciapingxu@yahoo.com

Cherokee, Gwinnett, North DeKalb, Northeast Georgia

Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 4 & 5: Jean Mann
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 6 & 7: Glen Eckman
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 8 & 9: Viola Tan
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 10 & 11: Ping Xu
Auditions Coordinator Region II: Colette Keogh 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: Colette Keogh

Auditions Coordinator Region III:

Columbus, Coweta-Fayette, Macon, South Georgia

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

Decatur, North Fulton, Atlanta, South Metro

Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 4 & 5: Hwee Boon Ng
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 6 & 7: Jackie Reed
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 8 & 9: Julie Soh-Harbin
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 10 & 11: Keiko Ransom

Auditions Coordinator Region V: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com

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: Deanne Ohman
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 8 & 9: Wanda Hughes
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 10 & 11: Linda Lokey, NCTM

MTNA Competitions Staff: Vice President of MTNA Competitions: Carol Payne, NCTM canticle80@gmail.com

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Competitions-Young Artist Performance: Debra Hughes, NCTM bndhughes@comcast.net

Competitions-Chamber Music Performance: Debra Hughes, NCTM bndhughes@comcast.net

Competitions-Composition Competitions: Soohyun Yun, NCTM syun1@kennesaw.edu

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

Notice

The GMTA Newsletter is an information journal focusing on matters directly related to MTNA, GMTA and local associations only. It does not promote the studios of individual teachers or institutions by publishing articles regarding the accomplishments of teachers, students, or an 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, Mandy Reynolds by fax (770) 945-7504 or by email georgiamta@gmail.com

Submittals

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

January 15th (Deadline: December 1st)

June 15th (Deadline: May 1st)

September 15th (Deadline August 1st)

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