



GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Winter Newsletter 2017

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

In this issue:

President's Report	2
Teaching Tips	5
2016 Conference	6
Music Educator Grants	7
Composer Interview	8
GMTA Auditions	10
MTNA Competitions	11
Local Association Reports	12
Membership	13
Arts Awareness & Advocacy	14
2017 Teacher of the Year	15
Ad Index	15
GMTA Awards	16
Conference Presenter Form	17
GMTA Calendar	18
GMTA Leadership	20

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

SUSAN T. McDUFFIE

The 2016 GMTA Teacher of the Year is Susan T. McDuffie. Susan is a graduate of Wesleyan College where she majored in piano performance and minored in organ. Further study was at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and in master classes with renowned pianists and organists throughout the country. She performs as piano and organ soloist and collaborates with instrumentalists, vocalists, and other pianists including her son, world renowned violinist, Robert McDuffie, and daughter concert pianist and Steinway Artist Margery McDuffie Whatley.

McDuffie is the former organist and director of music ministries at First Presbyterian Church and Vineville Presbyterian Church. She recently served an 11 month interim as organist/choir master at Christ Episcopal Church. She presently substitutes as guest organist at various churches in the area. She is the former accompanist for the Macon Civic Chorale and the Middle Georgia Choral Society. A pop and jazz enthusiast, she has collaborated as pianist with noted jazz instrumentalists and vocalists throughout the Southeast.

Susan promotes all music entities: Macon Symphony Orchestra, Robert McDuffie Center for Strings, music departments at Wesleyan, Mercer University and Middle Georgia State University, and multiple music organizations and institutions. The list is too long to enumerate. Anything involving music has felt her fingers pressing us on to greater heights of achievement and involvement. It seems that Susan McDuffie has contributed more to the overall music community of Middle Georgia than any single musician. A former Wesleyan College faculty member, she has a private piano studio of flourishing talented piano students. Many of her students have been winners of major piano auditions, scholarships and competitions. They often go on to study at leading music institutions and several have become active professionals in the field of music, carrying on Susan's legacy in their own work as teachers and performers. Some of her students have appeared as soloists with the Macon Symphony Orchestra, which Susan is a former President of and has performed with both as soloist and keyboardist. Susan's record as a teacher and active member of GMTA for many decades speaks for itself as the strongest recommendation for her to receive this award. The longevity of her involvement and commitment to GMTA, her community and her students is honorable. Patrons are in attendance because of her insistent encouragement. MaconMTA members join at her persistence of its importance for students and professional collaboration.

We know that her colleagues in the middle Georgia area can attest to the high quality of her musicianship, artistry and professionalism. As a community activist for the arts in Macon and middle Georgia, she has been influential in programs like Midsummer Macon, the Macon Symphony, and in her work as a church musician. She is a member of the American Guild of Organists, National Music Educators and National Music Teacher' Association.



continued on page 4



Greetings GMTA Members! What a wonderful time we had at our GMTA conference in November!! Plans are already being developed and put into place for our 2017 Conference at Berry College. We look forward to seeing you there, so be sure to put it on your calendar! I hope that you all are doing well and looking forward to Spring. We have many wonderful events coming up. Please always watch for your Constant Contact each month and read carefully to stay up to date. Additional and more extensive information can be found in the quarterly newsletter or on the website.

I want to extend my gratitude to Robin Engleman for her service these last two years. President Engleman always kept the heart of GMTA at the forefront of her leadership. She was accessible to all members. Robin made it her mission to visit each local association, so that she could get to know as many of us as possible and to learn the true heartbeat of GMTA. We are grateful for your service and leadership!

Many thanks to the 2015-2016 GMTA Officers, Chairs and FAC members, who served alongside Robin. I am very excited about the current Executive Board and FAC members and their willingness to serve GMTA. I am so grateful that each of you have accepted these roles and I look forward to working with you! Another thank you goes to Mandy Reynolds. GMTA is very blessed to have you. Your efficiency and hard work continues to improve the standard of GMTA operations. We are thrilled that you are with us and have no idea what we would do without you!

And last but not least, a very heartfelt and most sincere thanks to Susan Andrews for extending her service to GMTA during the past two years. Susan has held many offices and roles for GMTA. I believe that she has greatly impacted the life of Georgia music teachers and the positive environment which surrounds our organization. As FAC chair, she was diligent and thorough and took great care to keep us moving to new heights. Susan, we salute you and appreciate your service!

Our Conference in November at Wesleyan was a tremendous success because of the efforts of many people. Special thanks to Joy Poole, Vice President of Programs, Chenny Gan, Assistant Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at Wesleyan, Mandy Reynolds, GMTA Executive Director and Robin Engleman, GMTA Past President for their tireless efforts and long hours of work. This takes hundreds of emails and several visits and endless days of preparation. We have truly received the benefit of their labor!

Congratulations again to Mrs. Susan McDuffie our 2016 GMTA Teacher of the Year! I was very honored to present this award to Susan. The letters of support that were submitted on her behalf were full of commendations of her teaching, leadership, musicianship and devotion to the arts. Susan will also be honored as the MTNA teacher of the year at the upcoming 2017 Conference in Baltimore. We are so proud of you Susan!

continued on page 3



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We are very excited about adding the College Piano Concerto event to the GMTA Auditions. Information for this event may be found in the Student Activities area of the website. Please contact Cathy Thacker at cbt88@bellsouth.net if you have questions. Online registrations for Auditions, Theory and GATE began this year. There are so many positives that come along with this for GMTA. It will streamline our activities and reduce the amount of man hours that is required for our student events. I know that as we acclimate to it, we will find that it is a true benefit for GMTA.

Our GMTA/MTNA Competitions were held prior to the Conference in November. It was a very successful event. Our Georgia Students continue to be raise the bar in their performance and these competitions are a huge catalyst for that. We appreciate all of the hard work extended by Carol Payne and her staff for this event. Thank you, Carol!

Southern Division was held at The University of South Carolina in Columbia in January. Congratulations are in order for two of our Georgia Students: Melodie Spencer, student of Sharon Stephenson, Southern Division Senior Vocal Performance winner and Alex Yueh, student of Alexander Kobrin, Southern Division Young Artist

Piano Performance winner. These students are advancing to the national level of the MTNA competition. To see a complete listing of students receiving awards and recognitions at the GMTA/MTNA Competition or Southern Division refer to the GMTA website. Results can be found on the Student Activities page under Winner Results.

The 2017 MTNA Conference will be March 21-25 in Baltimore. I hope many of you are making plans to attend! Information for the conference may be found on the MTNA website (www.mtna.org). Come and join me in honoring our own Susan Naylor and Susan McDuffie as they are recognized as new MTNA Fellows at the Gala. Please let me know, at rebekahhealan@yahoo.com, if you are planning to attend the Gala, as we have reserved a table for GMTA members.

I am very much looking forward to serving as your President. I began my journey back in September by attending the 2017 MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati. It was a very informative event. I was able to learn about the inner workings of MTNA and get to know many other State Presidents. Thank you for providing this opportunity for the GMTA President. I am sure that it will be something that I will refer to many times during the coming year!

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She is a former president of the Macon Music Teachers Association, the Morning Music Club and the Macon Pharmaceutical Auxiliary. Previous membership on other boards include, MidSummer Macon Music and Arts Camp, where she was a faculty member and Central Georgia Technical College and the Macon Concert Association. She also serves as a member of the music committee of Vineville United Methodist Church. She frequently adjudicates music auditions and competitions.

Susan McDuffie is a recipient of a 1998 Cultural Award given by the Macon Arts Alliance for outstanding contributions to the arts scene in Middle Georgia. She was also awarded the Wesleyan Alumnae Award for Distinguished Service to the Community and the 2016 Robert McDuffie String Center Award. This award is "given to an individual who has exhibited a strong dedication to and support for the arts, and by extension, for one's community and its future."

She and her husband Bill are parents of 4 children, 8 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Any recommendation for Susan cannot be made without mention of the incredible nurturing she has given her own children, not only in GMTA auditions when they were young, but throughout their illustrious careers. Most people are aware of the international acclaim her son Robert has received as a virtuoso violinist of the high-

Our 2016 GMTA Teacher of the Year was nominated by Susan Mincey.

Special Thanks:
2016 GMTA Teacher of the Year Selection Committee
LaNelle Nash, NCTM, 2013 Teacher of the Year
Susan E. Naylor, NCTM, 2014 Teacher of the Year
Jan Adams, NCTM, 2015 Teacher of the Year

est order. Susan has passed on the legacy of her commitment of service to the arts to him. He has founded and directs the McDuffie Center for Strings. Susan has been very active in this endeavor also. Her daughter Dr. Marjorie McDuffie Whatley is enjoying a busy career as a wonderful performing solo and collaborative pianist, recording artist and university artist teacher. Marjorie is also very active at the state level in Alabama Music Teachers Association. Whenever attending MTNA National Conventions, one can usually see Susan and Marjorie in attendance, and on at least one occasion heard them serve on a discussion panel.

Susan describes her favorite musical activities as follows, "When I accompany a singer, that's my favorite thing; when I accompany instrumentalists, that's my favorite thing; when I perform Jazz, that's my favorite thing; when I perform classical music, that's my favorite thing; when I perform with the symphony, that's my favorite thing, when I play the organ, that's my favorite thing; when I conduct the choir, that's my favorite thing. Whatever I am doing musically, that's my favorite thing."

We are absolutely thrilled to honor Susan in this way, and it is our great pleasure to announce that she has been named the 2017 MTNA Teacher of the Year!

Contributing to Susan's Nomination and this article:
Former Students and Families
Susan Mincey, Colleague and former President of Macon Music Teachers
David Watkins, NCTM, Colleague and Professor Emeritus of Piano, Kennesaw State University
Susan McDuffie
Kathy Pye, daughter
Margery McDuffie Whatley, daughter
Rebekah Healan, GMTA President

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I am deeply honored to have been chosen the 2017 Georgia Teacher of the Year. Although I enjoy performing as solo pianist, organist and even playing jazz piano with a jazz combo, there is nothing that gives me more pleasure than teaching budding young musicians and watching them grow from young beginners to seasoned performers, many who have advanced to being accepted into leading music schools -- even becoming music school faculty members and outstanding soloists.

You have asked that I submit teaching tips. It seems I have been teaching all my life beginning with neighborhood children during my high school years, but before I submit my teaching tips, let me tell you a little of my background. At the age of 3, I could play any tune with the I, IV, V, and V7 chords by ear. At age 6 my parents enrolled me with a teacher who couldn't teach me because I played all the pieces "by ear". However, I did have a teacher who taught me to sight read and play difficult repertoire, but with terrible technique. My parents took me to community concerts to hear famous pianists. Watching them, I knew I needed an instructor to properly build my technique. Although I was playing very advanced repertoire and receiving top rating in music festivals, I knew I was lacking in fine technique and musicianship.

During my senior year in high school, a young Oberlin conservatory piano graduate was hired by our school system to teach piano. She was the first REAL teacher I had. She wanted me to enroll at Oberlin-even had her professor fly to my home town of Edenton, North Carolina to audition me. I was offered an attractive scholarship to Oberlin, but my parents wanted me to attend Wesleyan college. When I returned home during Thanksgiving, friends and my former teacher gathered around to hear me play. But I could only play Bach Inventions and Hanon exercises hands separately but with perfect hand position, strong fingers and relaxed wrists. My Oberlin trained teacher told me I could not have received any better training at Oberlin. She said that was exactly what I needed. I knew then that if I was to become a teacher, I would be successful in teaching students the correct way from what I learned from my years at Wesleyan.

I had the great opportunity to study at Wesleyan with Ralph Lawton, concert pianist and a former student of the eminent Joseph Lhevinne and Madame Olga Samaroff. He was a master teacher and many of my teaching tips stem from his instruction. Other teaching tips stem from my pedagogy study with professor Gladys Pinkston at Wesleyan who studied methods from the eminent pedagogue Louise Robyn from the American Conservatory in Chicago. In fact, I had her teach my daughter Margery, who now with that fabulous background studying with Ms. Pinkston, has her doctor of musical arts degree and is a Steinway Artist.

The Robyn method covers every facet of technique that Lhevinne and Samaroff display, but is taught within a child's grasp of understanding. With this background, students are prepared musically and technically to master major works at an early age. While other methods work well with many teachers, I have found that the Robyn books cover every facet of piano technique and musicality from the beginning stages that children can comprehend. In other words, by following this method, a child should be able to play pieces technically and musically as well as an adult. Although the pictures in the books are dated, I tell the child to disregard them. Of course, I use other supplementary materials.

From the very first lesson, I have the student establish a musical tone by doing arm drops into each finger for one octave. The finger should be curved and firm. Afterwards I have the student play either a 3 or 5 note slur. At the beginning of the slur the student drops into the key: retains a relaxed wrist and gradually lifts at the end. The slurs can either be played legato, staccato or non-legato. Within the slurs the student displays different gradations of dynamics and sings "soft and then grow loud" and then reverses.

I teach Technique as a means of producing correct tonal sound for musical interpretation of a piece and I insist on proper hand position, strong fingers and wrist motion which are both essential in successfully creating the various articulations and dynamic gradations within playing. This seems to have worked so well preparing my students to advance greatly in their studies, enabling many to win competitions, placing first in GMTA and Festival auditions and soloing with the Macon Symphony Orchestra.

Most of all, I want my students to love music and share their talents with their friends, schools and churches and their future students and children. What a joy it has been and still is to teach these wonderful students and watch their musical growth with much pride!!

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2016 CONFERENCE

JOY POOLE, GMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT

The 2016 GMTA State Conference was a great success, thanks to the efforts of everyone involved. Wesleyan College welcomed GMTA members to their beautiful campus and served as wonderful hosts: many thanks to Chenny Gan, the School of Music Faculty, Tamara Hawkins and Hannah Doan. We appreciate James Ogden and Kevin Ulshafer for the time they gave to make sure the conference ran smoothly. We also thank the Macon MTA and Susan Mincey for serving as wonderful hosts for the conference. Not only did the association provide a hospitality room each day but compiled a cookbook of favorite recipes as a gift to each member attending. The conference would not have happened without the advice and help from Robin Engleman, Mandy Reynolds and Susan Andrews. I appreciate the many hours that each of you gave in planning the conference.



The banquet highlighted many special awards. Judith Siegel, Sue Barnes and Letitia Colglazier were recognized for 50-Year MTNA membership. Susan Naylor and Susan McDuffie were named MTNA Fellows and Susan McDuffie was recognized as GMTA Teacher of the Year.

The conference featured Conference Recitalist, Boris Berman, and Pedagogy Headliner, Timothy Brown. Boris Berman presented a world-class performance of Debussy's Preludes and an outstanding master class while Timothy Brown provided stellar sessions.

Our Georgia's Own presented many sessions that were informative and stimulating. Collaborative performances, research, composers and pedagogical sessions provided something for everyone. Thank you to each of the Georgia's Own presenters and presiders for helping to make our conference a success!

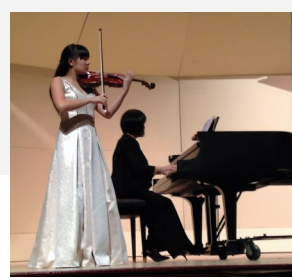


Members enjoyed many performance programs throughout the conference: the GMTA Commissioned Composition, "Sonata, 'Riding Crepuscular Rays'" by David Peoples, which was performed by Kelly Via, piccolo and Joanna Kim-Doyle, piano. Thursday evening's concert highlighted Yannie Tan and Phoebe Liu, GMTA Concerto Winners and the Redeemer Ensemble as they celebrated 50 years.

The conference showcased many talented students who performed in the MTNA and GMTA Winners Recitals. Thank you to Carol Payne and Cathy Thacker for their work in organizing these recitals.

For the sixteenth consecutive year, Steinway Piano Galleries has sponsored the Steinway Piano Galleries Music Educator Grant program. Four \$400 grants are awarded to deserving GMTA teachers and students to enable them to further their study of music and to provide incentive for their continued pursuit of excellence. Ike Van Meter, Director of Institutional Sales, Steinway Piano Galleries, made the presentations. The company's continued generosity and support is greatly appreciated by GMTA members and their students.

Plans are underway for the 2017 GMTA Conference to be held at Berry College in Rome, November 2nd thru 4th. We are looking forward to a wonderful conference and hope that you will make plans to attend.



Steinway Piano Galleries Music Educator Grant Recipients

Grace Huang, NCTM, *Teacher Education Grant*
 Melinda Hubbell, *Student Scholarship*
 Allen Yueh, *MTNA-GA Young Artist Piano Performance Competition Winner*
 High School Senior Piano Winner, 2017
 GMTA Auditions (to be presented following 2017 Auditions in April)

GMTA Music Educator Grants

Lori Bennett Hamrick, *Teacher Education Grant*
 Mary Ann McTier, *Teacher Education Grant*
 Laurel Gibson, *Student Scholarship*
 Heather Turner, NCTM, *Student Scholarship*
 Justin Stanley, *Student Scholarship*
 Sue Williams, *Student Scholarship*

To complement the Steinway Grant Program, GMTA also offers \$400 grants to deserving teachers. This year, President Robin Engleman presented four awards.

Thank you to the Selection Committee members LaNelle Nash, Donna Dasher, and George Mann.



NORTH FULTON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

www.NFMTA.com

President
Serene Lee
Smlig1348@gmail.com

2nd VP Membership
Portia Hawkins
pshawkins8@aol.com

I was asked by Rebekah Healan to write a review for the 2016 GMTA Commissioned Work, Sonata, 'Riding Crepuscular Rays,' by David Peoples. I thoroughly enjoyed the performance by Kelly Via, piccolo, and Dr. Joanna Kim-Doyle, piano. Instead of providing a review, I thought it would be interesting to interview David Peoples about the journey of the composition from beginning to end.

Here is the story of that journey. Enjoy!

Patti Bennett (PB): *Many musicians only dabble in composing, so we are mesmerized by the entire process by an established and rising star composer. We'd love for you to take a few moments and elaborate on your process of composing the 2016 Georgia Music Teachers Commissioned Work, Sonata, 'Riding Crepuscular Rays.'*



PB: *When you were asked to do a commissioned work, were you given any parameters? Or were you given artistic license?*

David Peoples (DP): There can be a lot to consider on an opportunity like this. I was offered to suggest to the GMTA president what type of piece she wanted for the program and for the organization. It was first colored by the space, instruments, and duration . . . from there, everything fell into place. I suppose I had artistic license, commissions usually allow the composer artistic license.

PB: *What ignited the idea?*

DP: I knew what I wanted to say and could hear the piece, and knew the abilities/could hear what was possible by the performers that graciously agreed to the performance.

PB: *What came first – the idea, the title, the tune, the actual music, or other?*

DP: Some of it was reliving experiences and finding a way to communicate those experiences through music.

continued on page 9



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PB: *Do you work purely on inspiration? Do you give yourself an assignment? What process did you follow with this particular piece?*

DP: Pencil, manuscript paper, and piano; computer for engraving.

PB: *What was the time frame of completion from beginning to end?*

DP: Roughly six months, working with it a little every week.

PB: *Once you were off and running, how did you come up with the instrumentation?*

DP: Instrumentation came first.

PB: *Were there other compositions or ideas you considered using for the commissioned work?*

DP: 40 piece choir, saxophone and piano, baritone solo, piano duet.

PB: *Was the stress level higher when composing a commissioned work for the state music teachers association?*

DP: No. Writing on commission is very comfortable for me, I have been commissioned many times before this commission.

PB: *Do you hear the completed work in your head and write it down? Or do you compose theoretically? Analytically? Combination? Other?*

DP: I know what it sounds like, then work with an acoustic piano to create a sketch score.

PB: *Do you work by pen and paper at first and then computer or do you just use the computer?*

DP: Computer is an engraving tool, not a compositional tool when writing for acoustic instruments. (At least for me it is).

PB: *What music writing program(s) do you use?*

DP: I don't write acoustic music with a computer. I engrave with Finale or LilyPond. I create electronic music (acousmatic/electro-acoustic) using programs such as Reaper or ProTools. I play and use Garage Band recreationally.

PB: *How do you input the music into the computer?*

DP: Combination of computer keyboard, mouse/iPad, and digital piano.

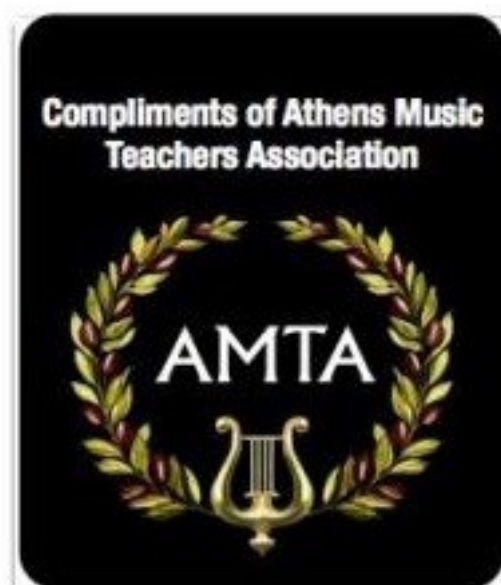
PB: *Did you hear the musicians practice/perform before the performance at the GMTA General Session? Why or why not?*

DP: Yes. Help us all have confidence that everything sounds right, correct engraving problems, discuss tempo/ other music elements. As a composer, I can give a unique perspective on what is right/wrong and make adjustments as needed.

PB: *Could you select one section and give us a run-through of the musical picture you were painting?*

DP: For the second movement, I could relive the experience of being on Lake Peten Itza – imagining the water, tasting the salt in the air, feeling the knottiness of the canoe, feeling the texture of the native bag rubbing against my back, seeing the flashes of light on the waves of the water, knowing the power of the wind – putting myself in the same experience I experienced while super imposing the sound of piano and piccolo into reliving that memory.

Thank you, David Peoples, for sharing the journey of your composition. Your skill, creativity and artistry are apparent in this work. What a wonderful, musical picture you painted of the crepuscular rays. The instrumentation choice was excellent for bringing out the depth and beauty of the magnificence of God's hand in creation. GMTA is fortunate to have you as a member, and we look forward to future compositions.





GMTA AUDITIONS

CATHY THACKER, NCTM, VICE PRESIDENT GMTA AUDITIONS

10

I hope that many of you are preparing students for the 2017 GMTA Auditions. Our Regional Auditions will be held on Saturday, March 18, 2017, at five locations throughout our state. The local associations comprising the regions stay the same as last year. College Piano and Piano Concerto, Voice, Instrumental and Instrumental Concerto State Auditions will be held on April 8, 2017, at the University of Georgia in Athens. Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto State Auditions will also be held at the University of Georgia on April 15, 2017.

I have emailed all Local Auditions Chairs their packet of information concerning local Auditions. If you have not received your packet, please let me know right away and I will send you this information.

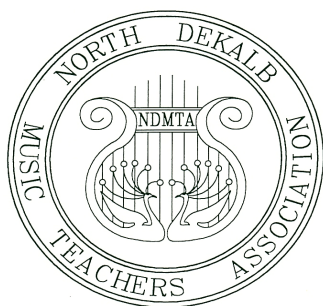
Thank you to the GMTA staff for your many hours of tireless work! All of them do a tremendous job and help make the entire Auditions process a smooth operation. Please thank these teachers who volunteer much of their time for our students. Thank you to Mandy Reynolds, Executive Director, and Joy Poole, President-Elect, for organizing the online registration for us.



2016 Pre-college Conference Recitalists



2016 College Conference Recitalists



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MTNA COMPETITIONS

JOANNA KIM DOYLE, NCTM, VICE PRESIDENT MTNA COMPETITIONS

11

The 2016-2017 MTNA State Performance Competitions were held on October 27-29, 2016 at Mercer University in Macon, GA under the supervision of Carol Payne, immediate past VP for MTNA Competitions. There were 98 total entrants participating. There were 86 solo entrants and 4 chamber ensembles in the Performance Competitions, and 8 entrants in the composition category. State Coordinators were Elena Dorozhkina, Junior Coordinator, David George, Senior Coordinator, Debra Hughes, Young Artist and Chamber Music Coordinator. Soohyun Yun was the State Composition Coordinator.

The 2016-2017 MTNA Southern Division Performance Competitions were held January 13-16, 2017 in Columbia, South Carolina.

The results of the Competitions can be found at the following link: [MTNA-Georgia Winners](#)

Southern Division winners will compete at Nationals on March 18-22, 2017 in Baltimore, MD.



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Macon Music Teachers' Association**Sheryl Wilkinson, president**

Our greatest privilege this fall was to host the GMTA Conference at Wesleyan College in Macon during the first weekend in November !Thanks goes to Susan Mincey , head hostess and to all members who brought food , bought donations for goodie bags , and gave much energy to make the Conference one to remember!

Our January planning meeting for 2017 will be filled with discussion involving a Feb teacher's visit to the Fox , an ensemble playing fun day (teachers only!), our GMTA auditions and GATE testing, our March NFMC festival, April Honors Recital, and plans for Guild Adjudications the first weekend in May. We are looking forward to a wonderful semester.

Best wishes for a marvelous, musical 2017!

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- Opportunities for your students to participate in festivals and competitions in national, state and local levels.
- Continuing education through regular webinars, national and state conferences, and your presentations in your local association.
- Personalized support for your private business such as insurance products, and discounts for travels and office supplies.

So, why not give it a try? Even more, why not invite some of your friends to join with you? You’d be amazed at what this organization can do for you and your music studio.

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ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

PAM ASBERRY, ARTS AWARENESS & ADVOCACY 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.

If you would like to be added or removed from this list, please contact Pam Asberry, GMTA Arts Awareness and Advocacy Chair, at pam.asberry@gmail.com



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2017 GMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

JOY POOLE, GMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT

15

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

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

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

<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 11, 2017.

The winner will be acknowledged at the 2017 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>

Advertisement Index

Armstrong State University: Page 2
Athens MTA: Page 9
Atlanta MTA: Page 8
Columbus State University: Page 16
Decatur MTA: Page 5
Gwinnett County MTA: Page 18
Ken Stanton Music: Page 4
Kennesaw State University: Page 14
Louisiana State University: Page 12

My Music Staff: Page 3
North DeKalb MTA: Page 10
North Fulton MTA: Page 7
Savannah MTA: Page 16
South Metro Atlanta MTA: Page 8
Steinway Piano Galleries: Page 10
University of Georgia: Page 13
Young Harris College: Page 11

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 Junior Piano Award Fund** was established in 1992 by the Broadhurst family in commemoration of Joan Broadhurst. This award is presented annually at the GMTA conference to the winner of the MTNA Junior Performance Competition.

The **GMTA Honors Award Fund**, established in 1993, includes honorary and memorial gifts and is awarded at the discretion of the GMTA Finance Advisory Committee. Awards from this fund are given to senior string, vocal, and brass/woodwind winners of GMTA auditions. Donations not designated for a specific fund go into this fund.



Donna S. Dasher, NCTM, President

Donna S. Dasher, NCTM, Membership Chair

(912) 727-4490

dsdasher39@gmail.com

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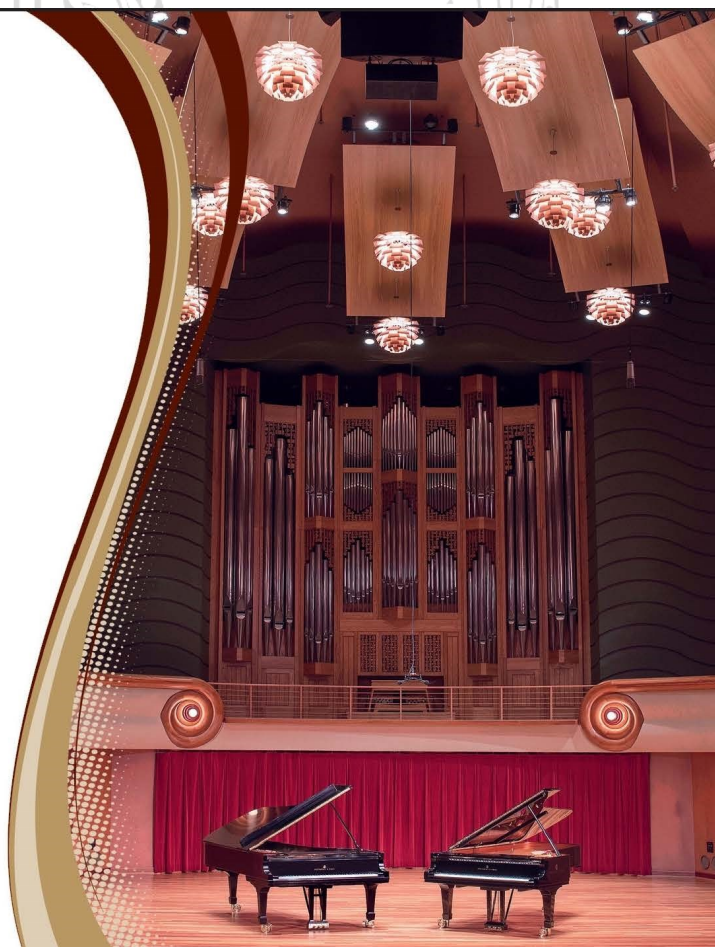


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Professor of Music
University Organist

For additional information, visit www.ColumbusState.edu/Music
or call 706-507-8419



GMTA CONFERENCE PRESENTER PROPOSAL FORM

Berry College – Mount Berry, GA

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2017

Proposals must arrive by April 1, 2017

Please submit this form by April 1, 2017 to be considered for the 2017 GMTA Conference to be held at Berry College on Thursday through Saturday, November 2-4.

Questions? Contact Chenny Gan, VP Programs, at cgan@wesleyancollege.edu.

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

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL _____ TELEPHONE _____

TITLE OF PERFORMANCE/SESSION (this is the title that will appear in the program.)

ATTACH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. DESCRIPTION OF PERFORMANCE/SESSION—This is the description that will appear in the program and may not exceed 75 words.

2. DIGITAL/ELECTRONIC PHOTOGRAPH—jpeg preferred

BIOGRAPHY (IES)—**May not exceed 50 words**

INSTRUMENTS and/or AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED: *Check all that apply.*

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>NEEDED</i>	<i>QUANTITY or COMMENTS</i>
Piano	Yes No	
Lectern	Yes No	
Music Stand(s)	Yes No	
LCD Projector	Yes No	
Wi-Fi (if available)	Yes No	
Other	Yes No	
Other	Yes No	

AVAILABLE TIMES AND SCHEDULING REQUESTS: *Indicate 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice:*

Indicate your preferences and conflicts below (optional)

<i>Day and Time</i>	1 st Choice	2 nd Choice	3 rd Choice	Conflict
Thursday afternoon, November 2				
Friday morning, November 3				
Friday afternoon, November 3				

Submit form, session description, photo, and biography by April 1, 2017 to cgan@wesleyancollege.edu.

I understand that in addition to providing complete proposal information, GMTA members must register and pay the registration fee for the conference during preregistration. All presenters must be members of GMTA.

Signature

March 2017

- 15 Postmark Deadline for completed GMTA Theory Tests to be mailed to Diane Boyd
- 18 -22 MTNA Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
- 18 GMTA Regional Auditions
- 20 Postmark Deadline for GMTA State Auditions Applications

April 2017

- 3 Officer reports due to Secretary for upcoming Executive Board Meeting
- 8 GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens
- 8 GMTA State Auditions for College Piano, Instrumental, Voice and Instrumental Concerto, College Piano Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens
- 15 GMTA State Auditions for Pre-College Piano and Piano Concerto, University of Georgia, Athens

May 2017

- 1 Graded GMTA Theory Achievement Tests (not GATE) & certificates mailed to participating teachers
- 1 Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Summer Newsletter. Articles should be submitted to Nancy Riley at nancy.riley@gmail.com.

June 2017

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

July 2017

- 5 GMTA FAC Meeting

August 2017

- 1 Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Fall Newsletter. Articles should be submitted to Nancy Riley at nancy.riley@gmail.com.
- 14 Officer reports due to Secretary for upcoming Executive Board Meeting
- 19 GMTA Council of Local Association Presidents Meeting and GMTA Executive Board Meeting, Clayton State University, Morrow

September 2017

- 11 Application deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year, Steinway Teacher Awards, GMTA Teacher Grants (Deadline always on second Monday of September)
- 13 Online application deadline (3:00 p.m. Eastern Time) for MTNA Competitions
- 30 Student Membership Renewal Deadline. Student membership year runs from October 1 thru September 30.

October 2017

- 1 GMTA Theory Achievement Tests (not GATE) mailed to Local Associations
- 9 Pre-registration Deadline for GMTA Conference
- 20-21 MTNA Competitions, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA

November 2017

- 2 - 4 GMTA State Conference, Berry College, Rome, GA

December 2017

- 1 Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Winter Newsletter. Articles should be submitted to Nancy Riley at nancy.riley@gmail.com.

Executive Board:

President: Rebekah Healan rebekahhealan@yahoo.com
 President-Elect: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com
 Vice President of Programs: Chenny Gan cgan@wesleyancollege.edu
 Vice President of Membership: Jerico Vasquez jerico_vasquez@sbcglobal.net
 Vice President of Newsletters: Nancy Riley nancy.riley@gmail.com
 Vice President of GMTA Auditions: Cathy Thacker, NCTM cbt88@bellsouth.net
 Vice President of MTNA Competitions: Joanna Kim Doyle, NCTM joanna.kim@ung.edu
 Secretary: Jan Adams, NCTM jadams9800@bellsouth.net
 Member-at-Large: Ping-Yun Hsu ruruhsu99@gmail.com
 Member-at-Large: Glen Eckman gleneckman@yahoo.com
 Immediate Past President: Robin Engleman, NCTM englemanr@bellsouth.net
 Executive Director: Mandy Reynolds georgiamta@gmail.com

Committee Chairs:

Chair-Arts Awareness & Advocacy: Pam Asberry pam.asberry@gmail.com
 Chair-Certification: Cynthia DeFoor cdefoor@yhc.edu
 Chair-College Faculty: Owen Lovell, NCTM owen.lovell@gcsu.edu
 Chair-Collegiate Chapters: Soohyun Yun, NCTM syun1@kennesaw.edu
 Chair-Finance/Advisory: Robin Engleman, NCTM englemanr@bellsouth.net
 Chair-GMTA Awards: Kendra Gannaway, NCTM kendrag555@gmail.com
 Chair-Independent Music Teachers Forum:
 Chair-MTNA Foundation:
 Chair-Piano Judges List: Jana Ritchie janaritchie@yahoo.com
 Chair-Technology:
 Chair-Theory: Jason Bennett BennettMusicStudio@gmail.com

Local Association Presidents:

Athens MTA: Jack Bamford jbamford@athenschristian.com
 Atlanta MTA: Carol Payne canticle80@gmail.com
 Augusta MTA: Sarah Moore sevans583@gmail.com
 Cherokee MTA: Laura Lozier laura@lozierstudio.com
 Cobb County MTA: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com
 Columbus MTA: Martha Aguirre AguirreMV@aol.com
 Coweta-Fayette MTA: Eric Clay ericcranstonclay@gmail.com
 Decatur MTA: Charles Hutton chpianostudio@bellsouth.net
 Golden Isles MTA: Donna Nilsson nilsson.music@att.net
 Greater Marietta MTA: Ruth Ann Clark cfracClark@earthlink.net
 Gwinnett County MTA: Mary Ann McTier mam0609@comcast.net
 Macon MTA: Sheryl Wilkinson sherylwilkinson@cox.net
 North DeKalb: Laurel Harrell harrell7@bellsouth.net
 North Fulton: Serene Lee smlig1348@gmail.com
 Northeast Georgia: You Ju Lee, NCTM Partita@juno.com
 Rome: Kyla Cummins Zollitsch kylacummins@hotmail.com
 Savannah: Donna Dasher, NCTM dsdasher39@comcast.net
 South Georgia: Kendra Gannaway, NCTM kendrag555@gmail.com
 South Metro Atlanta MTA: Michiko Otaki michikootaki@clayton.edu
 Western Georgia: George Mann, NCTM georgemannga@aol.com

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 Concerto, Strings, Guitar: Mirna Dinovic mogrizovic@hotmail.com
 Auditions Chair Woodwinds & Brass: Cathy Thacker, NCTM cbt88@bellsouth.net
 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: Robin Engleman, NCTM englemanr@bellsouth.net

Auditions Chair Piano 8 & 9: Pam Asberry pam.asberry@gmail.com
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
Gwinnett, North DeKalb, Northeast Georgia
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 4 & 5: Jean Mann mann428@charter.net
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 6 & 7: Glen Eckman gleneckman@yahoo.com
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 8 & 9: Viola Tan violach.tan@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region I Piano Grades 10 & 11: Ping Xu feliciapingxu@yahoo.com
Auditions Coordinator Region II: Colette Keogh cakeogh16@gmail.com
Athens, Augusta, Golden Isles, Savannah
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 4 & 5: Edith Sweatman ejs@sweatman.us
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 6 & 7: Sarah Moore sevans583@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 8 & 9: Nancy Riley nancy.riley@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region II Piano Grades 10 & 11: Colette Keogh cakeogh16@gmail.com
Auditions Coordinator Region III: Chenny Gan cgan@wesleyancollege.edu
Columbus, Coweta-Fayette, Macon, South Georgia, South Metro Atlanta
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 4 & 5: Susan Mincey susanmincey@cox.net
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 6 & 7: Susan Mincey susanmincey@cox.net
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 8 & 9:
Auditions Organizer Region III Piano Grades 10 & 11:
Auditions Coordinator Region IV: Kristi Helfen pkhelfen@yahoo.com
Decatur, North Fulton, Atlanta
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 4 & 5: Rachel Medley rachel9497@aol.com
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 6 & 7: Hwee Boon Ng hweeboon.ng@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 8 & 9: Serene Lee sm1ig1348@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region IV Piano Grades 10 & 11: Keiko Ransom keikoransom@hotmail.com
Auditions Coordinator Region V: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com
Cherokee, Cobb, Greater Marietta, Rome, West Georgia
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 4 & 5: Joe Camillo, NCTM jfcamillojr@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 6 & 7: Deanne Ohman deanne.ohman@gmail.com
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 8 & 9: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com
Auditions Organizer Region V Piano Grades 10 & 11: Joy Poole jpoole@burnthickory.com
Theory Staff: Theory Chair: Jason Bennett BennettMusicStudio@gmail.com
GMTA Theory Tests: Diane Boyd, NCTM dianelboyd@comcast.net
GATE Administrator: Colette Keogh, NCTM cakeogh16@gmail.com

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)

Editors

Nancy Riley, VP of Newsletters nancy.riley@gmail.com

Rebekah Healan, President rebekahhealan@yahoo.com

Proofreaders

Robin Engleman, NCTM, FAC Chair

Mandy Reynolds, GMTA Executive Director