



GEORGIA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2022

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GMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2021

SONJA FOSTER

Sonja Foster, 2021 Georgia MTA Teacher of the Year, an alumna of The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School, is a distinguished American violinist and pedagogue. She has performed as a soloist extensively across the United States as well as in television appearances; she also performed regularly with her late brother, world-renowned cellist Lawrence Foster.

Sonja made her solo debut at age twelve with the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra in Illinois after winning their Concerto Competition. She was featured on the television program "Artist's Showcase" with the NBC Symphony. Sonja won the Concerto Competition of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and performed at Chicago's Orchestra Hall. She was a prize-winner at numerous competitions, including the NFMC Stillman Kelly Competition.

Mehli Mehta, the father of Zubin Mehta, featured Sonja in the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the American Youth Symphony in her Los Angeles debut. The Atlanta Music Club sponsored her Atlanta debut recital at the Woodruff Arts Center with concert pianist, Edith Schiff. She has been featured in recitals at the Atlanta Historical Society, The University of Georgia, High Museum of Art, DeKalb College, and Georgia Public Television.

Sonja was accepted to study at the Curtis Institute of Music at age fifteen





2021 TEACHER OF THE YEAR, SONJA FOSTER, CONTINUED

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BY CATHY THACKER, NCTM, GMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT

upon the personal invitation of Ivan Galamian. She studied at Curtis for three years on full scholarship before continuing her studies with Galamian at The Juilliard School on scholarship. Following her graduation from Juilliard, Sonja joined the violin faculty at Trinity College and Wheaton College-Conservatory of Music, where she served as head of strings until relocating to Atlanta, Georgia. In Atlanta, Sonja opened a nationally recognized studio for highly gifted young violinists and violists.

Her students have been admitted to every renowned music school in the U.S. including The Juilliard School, The Curtis Institute of Music, New England Conservatory of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, Northwestern University, Vanderbilt University, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, and NYU. She has given master classes throughout the United States. She was a guest lecturer on teaching gifted children at the 2001 MTNA Convention in Washington, D.C. Her students have been chosen for the National Youth Orchestra of the United States Tour of China, 2015, and NYO2.

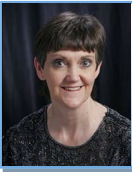
Sonja's students have won First Place in the MTNA National Junior Performance Competition, and Second and Third Place in the Senior Performance Competition. Several have won MTNA Southern Division Junior and Senior Performance Competitions. Many have been chosen Outstanding Performer- Conference Recitalist, GMTA, with as many as six chosen in one year. Seven have won the GMTA Instrumental Concerto Competition. Four students have won and soloed with the ASYO: ten were chosen Concertmaster; two were chosen Principal Viola. Students have also won the Atlanta Jewish Community Young Artists Competition, Southeastern Young Artists Competition, LaGrange Symphony Competition, Atlanta Musicians Union Scholarship, and Rising Stars Competition. Sonja's students have performed in Master Classes for such notables as Midori.

Many of her former students have gone on to major international careers. These include: Kristen Lee, international soloist, Avery Fisher Career Grant Winner and member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; Timothy, Janet and Phillip Ying of the Grammy Award winning Ying Quartet; and Joel Link, First Violin of the Dover String Quartet. Her students have won national and international competitions, soloed with major US orchestras, and have won positions in major orchestras throughout the United States.

Sonja continues to teach an exclusive studio of highly talented young violinists. In addition, Sonja now teaches and does consultations by Skype. She also makes a limited number of guest appearances as soloist, adjudicator and master class clinician.

You can read more about Sonja Foster at the [GMTA Teacher of the Year website](#).

Sonja's Teaching Tips appear on page 7 of this newsletter.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

JAN ADAMS, NCTM, GMTA PRESIDENT

The GMTA 2021 Conference at Piedmont University has to be one of my most memorable conferences. After missing an in-person conference in 2020, this one was especially meaningful. The weather and location were beautiful in the North Georgia mountains. Jeri-Mae Astolfi and the Piedmont University faculty and students were amazing hosts - always energetic and eager to accommodate us. Kristi Helfen, VP of Programs, planned a conference we will always remember. Her hours of planning made this weekend memorable for all of us. Thank you to all the members who helped make our conference the success it was.

Even with the pandemic, our numbers were strong with over 100 members in attendance. The organ concert by Dr. Mellinchamp was delightful. Hearing an organ recital on such a magnificent instrument is a rarity today. Dr. Arakawa's program of both traditional and new repertoire was a favorite. Martha Hilley's pedagogy sessions were very practical and filled with her humorous illustrations.



Lois Finlay & Jan Adams

GMTA 2021 Conference Banquet



Collegiate Members networking at the Conference Lunch

I think we had a record number of collegiate members this year. Thank you to their sponsors for providing and encouraging them to attend the conference. Our GMTA membership is steady with 538 members, 7 Collegiate Chapters and 20 Local Associations. We welcome 29 new members to GMTA as well as 12 new collegiate members. Beibei Lin, VP of Membership, has been busy recruiting new members. I hope you have listened to her weekly GMTA Podcasts. Her interviews with different GMTA members are encouraging to old and new members. I have enjoyed getting to know each member better. The future of GMTA looks very bright.

In October, the MTNA Competitions were held via video with Christina Toole, VP of Competitions, doing an excellent job of coordinating this event. We had 85 participants. Be sure to check the GMTA website for the winners who will be competing for the Southern Division soon. Congratulations to all the students and teachers who participated in this event.

Our 2021-22 Georgia Local Association is North Fulton MTA with Debra Dickensheets as President. Our 2021-22 Collegiate Chapter is University of Georgia. Congratulations to both of these chapters.

If you have ever worked with our Executive Director, Mandy Reynolds, you know what an asset she is to this organization. She knows about every aspect of GMTA and is so efficient in every detail. She is invaluable to our organization and we are blessed to have her. I would also like to express appreciation to my Executive Board members and chairs. They have each taken on the responsibilities of their office with excitement and determination to make GMTA a better organization. It is volunteers like these people who make being a part of GMTA such a joy.



It was touch-and-go for a while, but I'm extremely happy to report that we were able to hold an in-person conference at Piedmont University this year. And what a wonderful team I had to work with! Thank you, Executive Director Mandy Reynolds, for keeping me up-to-date with necessary tasks and carrying out the immense work of typing/laying out our 36-page conference program plus the countless other jobs you performed. Thank you, President Jan Adams, for your wise counsel during the planning process. Thank you, Dr. Jeri-Mae Astolfi, for handling the onsite logistics so beautifully and constantly coming up with creative ideas to make the conference a success, such as acquiring students to aid us with technology and other issues. (They were so helpful!) Thank you, Piedmont President Dr. James Mellichamp, for hosting our conference and making us feel very welcome. Also, many thanks to Cathy Thacker/Gwinnett County MTA and Joe Chapman/Northeast Georgia MTA for providing hospitality and Joy Poole for her lovely banquet decorations.

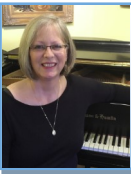
The following commentary was contributed by Cathy Thacker, GMTA President-Elect:



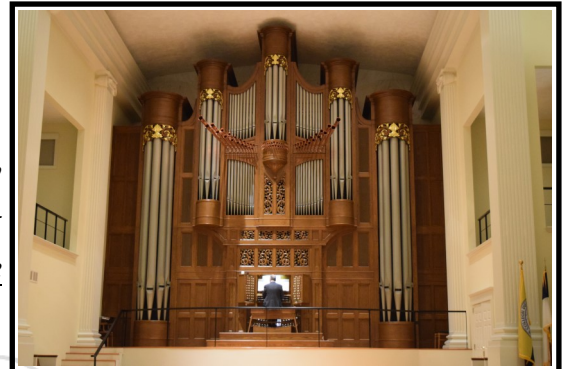
Dr. Martha Hilley, immediate MTNA Past President, was our Pedagogy Headliner, and her interactive sessions kept us all engaged. A favorite moment was when she divided our group into sections and had us clap/snap/tap different note values in a rhythm exercise. She stressed the importance of incorporating theory instruction and improvisation into our teaching and urged us to “Light Both Ends of the Candle” by expanding our horizons to teach preschoolers and senior citizens.

Dr. Jasmin Arakawa, Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Florida, was our Conference Recitalist and Master Class Clinician. She brought tremendous energy and technical expertise to her performance Friday evening and worked closely with each student in the Master Class to fine-tune their performances.





Dr. James Mellichamp, an international performer and organ consultant in addition to his role as Piedmont University president, gave an outstanding organ recital Thursday evening in the Chapel on their custom-built Casavant Freres Limite pipe organ.



**Dr. James Mellichamp
Organ Recital**

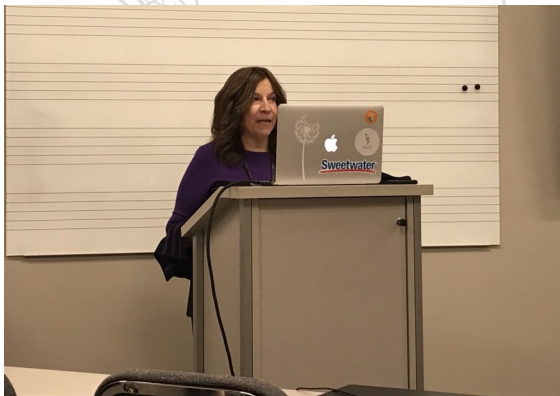
Our twelve sessions by Georgia's Own offered great variety in both subject matter and presenters. There was definitely something for everyone. Thank you to each presenter for your help in making the conference a success!



**Eun Seon Shin:
Two or More Heads Are Better Than One**



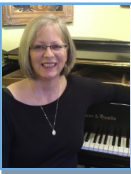
**Grace Huang, NCTM:
Not Playing Around: Toy Pianos and Their
Creative Potential in the Studio**



**Pam Asberry:
Fostering Creativity from Potential to Performance**



**Robert Henry, NCTM:
An Approach to Learning, Teaching, and
Performing Bach's Prelude in C**



Numerous talented students were highlighted in the MTNA and GMTA Winners' Recitals. Thank you to Huu Mai, NCTM and Christina Toole for organizing these recitals.



**2021 MTNA Competition
Winners Recital**



**GMTA 2021 Pre-College Auditions
Winners with Huu Mai**



**GMTA 2021 College Auditions
Winners with Huu Mai**

*At the Friday afternoon session, two Steinway Grants were awarded to Pam Asberry and You Ju Lee. Four GMTA Grants were given to Marie Blackmar, Rebekah Boles, Francis Leach, and Heawoon Skilling. This was followed by the premier of the Commissioned Composer piece, *Evaporating Echoes*, by Garrison Gerard, where the UGA Contemporary Chamber Orchestra enthralled us with their captivating rendition of his work. The college level GMTA Audition Winners' Recital followed, and we enjoyed amazing performances.*



World Premier: *Evaporating Echoes*



**GMTA 2021 Banquet:
Cathy Thacker (President-Elect), Sonja Foster (Teacher of the Year), Jan Adams (GMTA President)**

The Friday evening banquet included a delicious meal prepared by Piedmont University. Newly certified members and 50-year members were recognized.

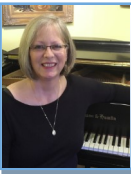


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And following are quotes from a review of the conference sent to us by attendee Fernando Ramos from Coweta-Fayette MTA:

The 2021 GMTA Conference has far surpassed my expectations, and I can't thank the good people at GMTA enough for doing such a marvelous job on every detail of this event. I left feeling incredibly inspired and am looking forward to next year's conference.

Regarding Pedagogy Headliner Martha Hilley: *She gave three different presentations, all spectacular, ranging from theory to simple improvisation tricks for beginners, classroom activities for the young ones, and rhythm development away from the instrument. She certainly knew how to work a crowd! There were some truly special moments when she put a room full of music teachers on the spot for an impromptu rhythm exercise.*

On the Conference Recital performed by Jasmin Arakawa: *She gave an exciting performance of Beethoven's E flat Sonata, Op. 27, No. 1 and a fiery Chopin Sonata in B flat minor, Op. 35. The second half of the concert was a complete surprise, fueled by lesser-known composers. The pieces were fun, virtuosic, and rhythmically intriguing!!! After Dr. Arakawa's performance that same evening, we were invited to the President's house on campus for a reception of wine, beer, and a beautiful array of finger foods that were absolutely delicious.*

Regarding the GMTA Auditions Winners' Recital: *[This event] ended the conference. They truly saved the best until last! As much as I love all the conference has to offer, including the amazing professionals and educated talents from which we get to learn so much, this is the moment that solidifies why we are all there to begin with: the students.*

And in regards to our GMTA family: *Private teachers, pre-school teachers, college professors – you name it – there are so many amazing teachers wanting to get to know you! It was such a welcoming atmosphere. The connections and friendships you make could prove to be invaluable.*

I couldn't have said it better, Fernando! We all hope you'll join us at next year's GMTA Conference. Plans are already in the making, and details will be coming soon!



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Debra Ramsey Dickensheets
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My love for teaching began after graduation when I combined my solo performing with teaching! What a wonderful adventure it is to have success in introducing young people to the joy of music! I love it because my priority is to concentrate on the student first and teaching violin second. Each student is unique to me and I approach them in specialized manner.

In these teaching tips, I am going to weave in my core values and principals that have worked for me.

This is the main thing for me: intensely love music, perform when you can and immerse yourself in finding ways to grow young artists!

- As Stephen Covey said "Begin with the end in mind." When I audition a prospective student, I have an immediate picture of what they are capable of long range. Everything I assign and do from then on is based on this. However, that being said, it is kept inside of me. I am careful to never give any student an expectation of being famous in the future on their instrument. I have seen first hand how doing that only brings crushing disappointment to the student. Instead, I tell them if they want a career in music, then learn how to do everything on their instrument: solo; perform chamber music; excel in orchestra; learn how to teach and even learn how to conduct!
- In private study, I believe in only teaching the students that really want to study with me. It is these students that will be the most diligent in becoming the best they can be.
- For me, lessons should be an exciting learning experience for the student. Some tell me it is the best hour of their week. To expedite that, I am always warmed up, am never tired when I teach and I am able to demonstrate whatever they are learning. I practice every day.
- I strongly believe that the lesson should be a safe place, a place where the student feels important, heard, understood, and encouraged. It is here that their creativity is nourished. Here they know they will get the unvarnished truth from me in a wholesome way. They know that I will carefully and thoroughly guide them.
- I believe in using praise honestly and wisely. I help my students discover that when I praise them, it means that they have done excellent practicing. I tell them to use that praise to guide their practice for the next week. When there are problems in the lesson, I analyze each problem individually and give them specific, workable solutions. For instance, any and all notes that are played out of tune are identified and corrected every time. This has helped my students develop an incredible sense of pitch quickly.
- I feel strongly about never using sweeping, generalized criticisms of a student or their playing. It is very destructive. For example: saying "that is all out of tune" or "You are not playing well today" will hinder the growth of any student.
- I believe in hearing everything I assign each week (without going over the lesson time). This keeps the student's muscle memory in the best shape.
- I love to teach students how to perform by memory all the repertoire they learn. It is one of my requirements before finishing repertoire. When an actual recital or public performance is not possible, I have them make a recording as a performance.
- I encourage all of my students to hear live concerts each year! It is a profound and often life changing opportunity to hear the great artists in person.
- For my colleagues: Julia Cameron, author of *The Artist's Way* wrote "Take care of your Artist" meaning the artist inside of you! This has had a strong impact on me. We can get depleted and need a reset. Find those activities that refresh you daily! Why? Because what we do as teachers is some of the most important work in the world!



CONFERENCE RAFFLE & GRANT WINNERS

MARY ANN MCTIER, GMTA AWARDS CHAIR

On behalf of Steinway Piano Galleries, Alice Tillman presented two educator grants during the business meeting at our state conference held at Piedmont University. Recipients were Pamela Asberry and Dr. You Ju Lee. State GMTA president, Jan Adams presented the four annual \$400 educator grants. Recipients are as follows: Heawood Skilling will use her grant to fund students attending a live concert. Francis Leach will also use his grant to give students an opportunity to attend a live concert. Marie Blackmor will use her grant to further studies at Reinhart College. Rebekah Boles will use her grant to study teaching students with autism by having sessions with regional expert, Scott Price.

Immediately after the conference master class on Saturday, teachers gathered to hear the results of this year's raffle! Local associations were very generous in donating lots of fun prizes including a large basket of spa products, print & recorded music composed by one of our own, a piano foot stool, yummy local goodies, gift cards, opera tickets and much more. There were many excited teachers whose names were drawn and got to choose a special gift. Proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets totaled \$460.00 and support the GMTA Awards Fund. The big prize was the drawing for the hydraulic bench donated by Piano Works. Diane Boyd was the lucky winner! Proceeds from the sale of those tickets was \$310.00 and goes to support MTNA Foundation. We have also received \$175.00 towards the GMTA General Awards Fund since July 1.



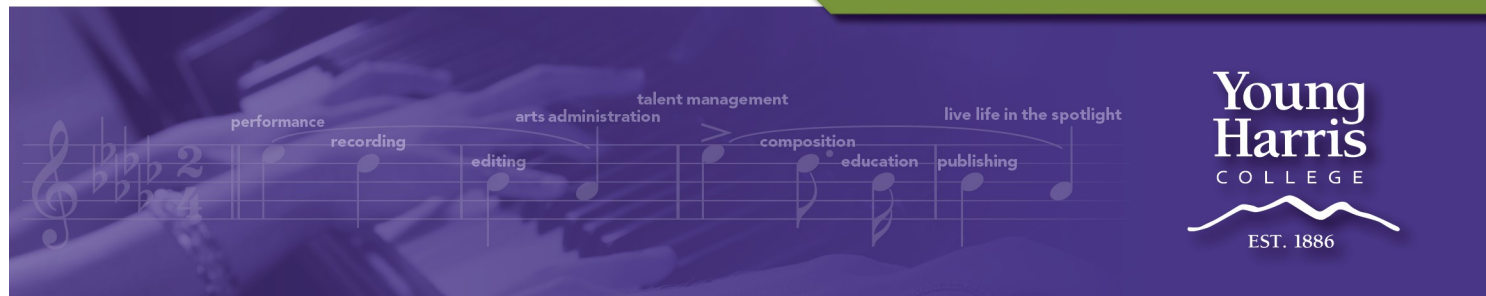
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FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION, CONTACT:

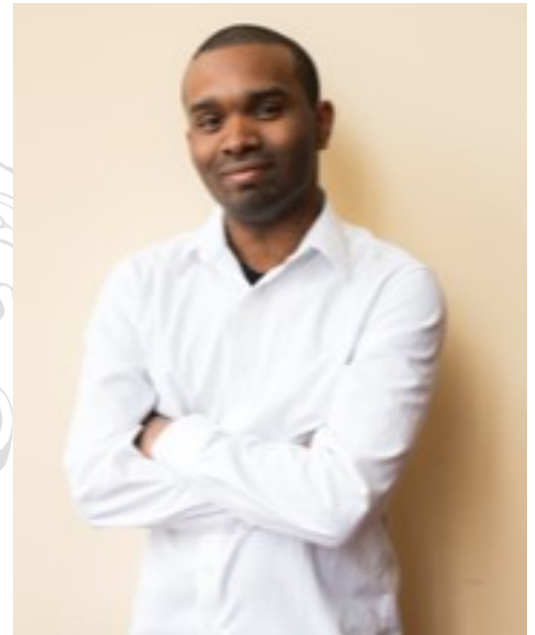
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GMTA is excited to welcome Brandon K. Smith as the 2022 GMTA Commissioned Composer.

Brandon K. Smith (b. 1994) is an Atlanta based composer and arranger currently studying for his master's degree at the Georgia State University School of Music. He has had several pieces performed at Georgia State, including instrumental pieces and a set of art songs, one of which was selected for the 2019 Midwest Music Symposium. In April 2020, he received first place in the musical composition category of the Georgia State Undergraduate Conference, for a presentation and composition dedicated to mathematical techniques in traditional flamenco music. In November 2019, He was commissioned to write a choral/orchestral composition for Coro Vocati, a professional choir based in Atlanta. The piece "Starry Night" was premiered February 2020 and was also featured on NPR "City Lights". Brandon is very happy to be GMTA's commissioned composer for 2022!



Brandon is also an avid performer, teacher, and director in the Atlanta area. In 2019 he founded *Leading Tone*, Georgia State's first chamber choir and he currently serves as the group's artistic director and primary vocal arranger. Brandon is currently executive producing a virtual choir album for the group. Performing credits include concerts with acclaimed composers Eric Whitacre and Caroline Shaw, and acclaimed ensembles Georgia State University Singers, the University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club, and the GMEA All State Senior Mixed Choir. Teaching credits include piano and voice lessons with Play More Music in Atlanta, Bach to Rock Music School in Alpharetta, and Community Music Centers in Decatur. He currently serves as the tenor section leader at St. Paul's Episcopal Church and on the advisory board of the Peach State Opera. Upcoming projects include an album of original art songs and his graduate composition recital.

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The *NEW* addition of the "Performance Grade Exam" with video submission has become very popular since its launch in January 2021, as well as the online music theory exam which started in May 2021.

We are in partnership with the four Royal Schools of Music in UK.

Margaret Liu, ABRSM Representative, Georgia, Florida & South Carolina, USA
(678) 523-6703 abrmsga@gmail.com
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The 2021 MTNA State Competitions were held via an online format in October. Special thanks to our Composition Coordinator Jeri-Mae Astolfi, and to Jan Adams, Cathy Thacker and Joy Poole for their help and support.

There were 85 entrants participating in total this year. GMTA will be represented by 14 State Performance Winners at the Southern Division Competitions.

Our State Composition also had 4 winners this year: Grady McSpadden, student of Deanna Zack, is our state representative for Elementary Composition, while Phoebe Pylant, student of Karen Zgonc won the Junior Composition category. Annika Joshi, student of Sunha Kim, won the Senior Composition category and Aurora Kenison, student of Martin Jones, is our state representative for Young Artist Composition.

The 2021-22 MTNA Southern Division Competitions will be held through an online video round as well.

The 2021-22 MTNA National Competitions will be held March 26-29th, at the MTNA Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



MTNA Winners perform at the 2021 GMTA Conference at Piedmont University

**BRENAU
UNIVERSITY**

Ben Leaptrott
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COLLABORATIVE PIANO





Congratulations to the teachers and students who participated in last year’s GMTA State Auditions! We heard magnificent conference recitals and masterclasses from all of our performers at Piedmont University this past November.

The upcoming GMTA State auditions will be held in person at Piedmont University in Demorest, Georgia on April 22 and 23rd, 2022. Regional auditions will be held virtually while local auditions are at the discretion of each local association.

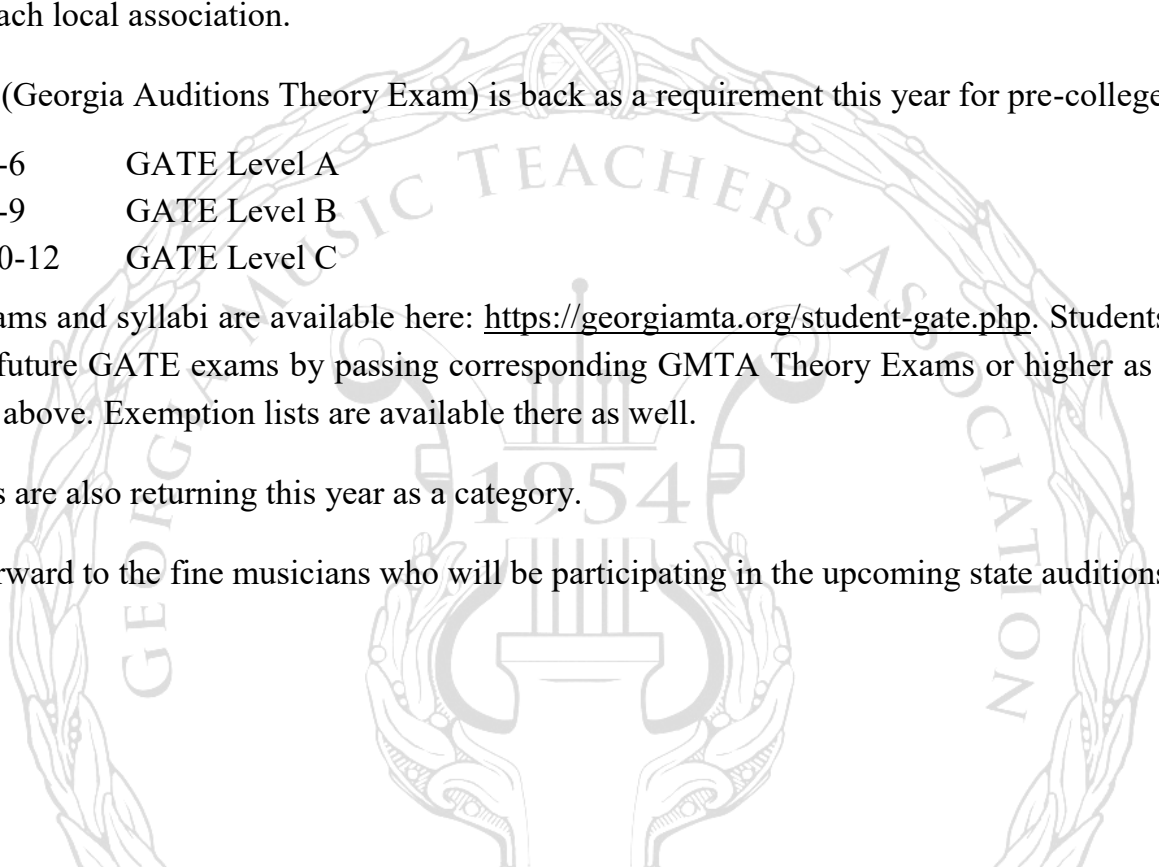
The GATE (Georgia Auditions Theory Exam) is back as a requirement this year for pre-college piano:

- Grades 4-6 GATE Level A
- Grades 7-9 GATE Level B
- Grades 10-12 GATE Level C

Practice exams and syllabi are available here: <https://georgiamta.org/student-gate.php>. Students can be exempt from future GATE exams by passing corresponding GMTA Theory Exams or higher as outlined on the website above. Exemption lists are available there as well.

Piano Duets are also returning this year as a category.

We look forward to the fine musicians who will be participating in the upcoming state auditions.



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CERTIFICATION REPORT

ROBIN ENGLEMAN, NCTM, GMTA CERTIFICATION CHAIR

As of November 30, 2021, GMTA has a membership of 550 and of those, 86 are nationally certified.



Congratulations to Amy Neal, of Rome for successfully completing the requirements for the MTNA National Certification in Piano. Amy has a Masters Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance. She teaches class piano, piano pedagogy, and secondary piano at Shorter University and currently serves as the VP of Newsletters for GMTA. Amy has maintained a private studio for over 20 years—first in Texas, then California, and now in Georgia. She chose to complete the MTNA Certification though Administrative Verification, knowing it would indicate a nationally-recognized standard of teaching.

I encourage you, if you are not nationally certified, to explore the possibility of becoming certified, either by doing the Teacher Profile Projects or through Administrative Verification.

Click on the green button to get started, and then click on “Apply.” Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



**Greater Marietta
Music Teachers**

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For more information, visit
www.gmmta.us



Local association theory chairmen please send your completed GMTA Theory tests to Trudi Norman, GMTA Theory Test Administrator. Her address is 2457 Harris Rd., Ellerslie, GA 31807. Tests should be mailed by March 15.

GATE scores should be reported to Colette Keogh, GATE Test Administrator, before students participate in Auditions. Email scores to cakeogh16@gmail.com.



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



PIANO FACULTY:

- Dr. David Murray, Piano Area Head
- Dr. Karla Rocker, Coordinator of Collaborative Piano
- Dr. Pierce Dickens
- Mr. Jonathan Murphy
- Dr Tom Pearsall
- Dr. Benjamin Warsaw



National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Grants for Arts Projects support projects that use the arts to unite and heal in response to current events, celebrate our creativity and cultural heritage, invite mutual respect for differing beliefs and values, and enrich humanity. Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Designated local arts agencies eligible to subgrant may request from \$10,000 to \$150,000 for subgranting programs in the Local Arts Agencies discipline. A minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount is required. There are multiple deadlines for the application process in January and February 2022. Visit the NEA **Grants for Arts Projects** website for additional details.

Georgia Council for the Arts FY23 Partner, Project, and Arts Education Grant guidelines will soon be available on GCA's website for grants that will fund activities taking place from July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023. The deadline for Project and Partner Grant applications will be in early February 2022. The deadline for Arts Education Program Grant applications will be in early March 2022.

Online workshops will be held in January to review the requirements for each grant program, along with tips for submitting a successful application. For questions and additional information about Partner Grants, contact Allen Bell, Director of Grants and Research, at abell@gaarts.org or 404-962-4839. For questions about Project or Arts Education Program Grants, contact Katie Domurat, Grants and Programs Manager, at kdomurat@gaarts.org or 404-962-4015.

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Presenter proposals for the 2022 GMTA Conference are now being accepted. Please submit the online form by April 1, 2022, to be considered for the 2022 GMTA Conference. The conference will be held Thursday-Saturday, November 3-5 at Kennesaw State University.

Questions? Contact the VP of Programs, Kristi Helfen at programs.georgiamta@gmail.com

To submit a proposal, click [here](#).

2022 GMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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 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:

- 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(s) of support
- Professional colleague letter(s) of support
- Nominating letter from the state organization

Nominations must be submitted by **Monday, September 12, 2022**. The online form is available [here](#). The winner will be acknowledged at the 2022 GMTA Conference Banquet. With so many excellent teachers in Georgia, please consider nominating one of your favorites!

Nomination questions? presidentelect.georgiamta@gmail.com

For a list of past Teachers of the Year, and to read their Teaching Tips, visit the [GMTA Website](#).



GMTA AWARD FUNDS

MARY ANN MCTIER, GMTA AWARDS

The Nolting Award in Composition 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 Broadhurst Award in Piano was established in 1992 by the Broadhurst family in commemoration of Joan Broadhurst. This award is presented annually at the GMTA conference to the winners of the MTNA Junior and Senior Piano Performance Competition.

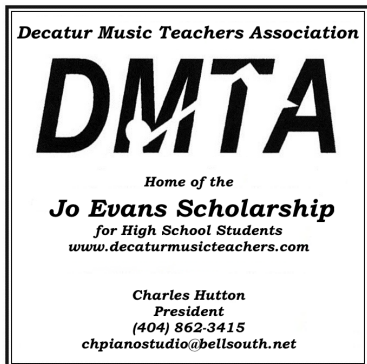
The GMTA General Award Fund, established in 1993, includes honorary and memorial gifts and is awarded at the discretion of the GMTA Finance Advisory Committee. Awards from this fund are given to senior string, vocal, and brass/woodwind winners of GMTA auditions and MTNA Competitions. Donations not designated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

The Betty H. White Award Fund was established in 2019 by the White family in commemoration of Betty H. White. This award is presented annually at the GMTA Conference to one of the GMTA Teacher Grant recipients for a student in financial need.



*Where teachers come together
to encourage and build*

President: Cathy Thacker, NCTM
770-978-3708
Membership: Debra Hughes
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gcmta.org



February 2022

28 Deadline to register for Regional Auditions. Local Audition ratings due. GATE scores due.

March 2022

15 Deadline for completed GMTA Theory Tests to be mailed to Trudi Norman (jwnorman@att.net)

19 GMTA Regional Auditions Video Submission Deadline

21 Registration Deadline for GMTA State Auditions

26-30 MTNA Conference 2022: Minneapolis, Minnesota

April 2022

22-23 GMTA State Auditions at Piedmont University

30 Local Area President's Meeting (10 AM) and Executive Board Meeting (11 AM)

May 2022

1 Graded theory assessments (not GATE) & certificates mailed to participating teachers

1 Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Summer Newsletter. Email articles to VP of Newsletters
(newsletters.georgiamta@gmail.com)

June 2022

1 Deadline for GMTA Expense Reports to be submitted to the GMTA Executive Director for Reimbursement
(georgiamta@gmail.com)

30 Membership renewal deadline (membership runs July 1-June 30)

August 2022

1 Deadline for articles to be included in the GMTA Fall Newsletter. Email articles to VP of Newsletters
(newsletters.georgiamta@gmail.com)

September 2022

1 Deadline to apply for GMTA Commissioned Composer Award

12 Application deadline for GMTA Teacher of the Year

12 Application deadline for Steinway Teacher Grants and GMTA Teacher Grants

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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 institution's 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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