

# GCMTA NEWS

## From the President

We are truly in a performance season!

As we enter this third month of the first quarter of 2016, we can already look at some GCMTA accomplishments of this calendar year. Two districts held Federated Festivals and we had Local Auditions. The Central Federated Festival will be Saturday March 5th. Following that will be Jr./Sr. Scholarship, regional and state auditions, Ensemble Extravaganza as well as many, many private studio recitals.

In judging a evaluation event last week as well as watching my own students at a recent performance, I was struck with the need for students to have a plan for the actual performance, not just the preparation of the pieces. None of us is unaware of this need, and many of you may already have a time-tested system for addressing the issue, but I'd like to share with you what I've recently presented to my students.

Kids are familiar with traffic lights as well as the phrase, "Ready-Set-Go". So, I've combined those two ideas to, hopefully, give them a system they can begin to use in preparation for each performance. It's not perfected nor comprehensive, but will serve as a reminder.

### PERFORMANCE TIPS

\*Adjust the bench so knees are just under the keyboard. If playing pedal, foot should be able to comfortably reach the pedal while heel remains on the floor. You may be able to warm up on the piano briefly, but before performing, remember these steps:

Ready - center your body in front of middle C, place your hands in your lap, feet planted on floor (or close to pedal, if needed)

Set - hands in position for first piece, hear the first few measures in your mind & set your tempo; take a deep breath

Go - Begin, always listening and concentrating from the first note to the last beat.

\* Place hands in lap. Repeat the steps for the next piece. End with hands in your lap.

These steps seem very simple, yet we wrongly assume students (of any age!) will think to do them. I printed out a sheet to give to each student this week, had the little ones color code the cue words, then had them read the steps. Here are some benefits I've seen already: improved starts to their pieces, better composure (physical and mental) & more controlled tempos. My plan is that each student will begin to 1.) Respond correctly when I say the cue word, then 2.) Automatically follow these steps without any prompt from me.

As always, I've love to hear from you. Email me if you have tips for teaching students to have a successful performance! I'll pass them along to the membership. I know we have a wealth of great ideas because GCMTA has a wealth of superior teachers!

The next three months will be full of beautiful music throughout Gwinnett County (and beyond). Best wishes to all who are competing in various events. May the music we share be a blessing to both performer and audience.

Musically,

*Mary Ann* mam0609@comcast.net



# Local Audition Winners

Student's Last Name, Students First Name, Teacher's Name

## Grade 4

Lee	Gavin	Junghee Lee
Peng	Grant	Elena Cholakova
Song	Emily	Min-Jung Jin
Xiong	Ella	Pamela Asberry

## Grade 5

Kim	Amie	Rie Hosoi
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## Grade 6

Gemmell	Catherine	Jean Mann
Kim	Daniel	Jean Mann
Peng	Grace	Cholakova
Sutandi	Caitlin	Junghee Lee
Yang	Katherine	Elena Cholakova

## Grade 7

Guo	Grace	Min-Jung Jin
Ho	Rebecca	Wai Yee Agnes Law
Huang	Hannah	Elena Cholakova
Nguyen	Ashley	Lois Simon
Luo	Kelly	Aza Boguslavskiy

## Grade 8

Chen	Chloe	Elena Cholakova
Fujikawa		Elisha Kathryn Dawal
Gwynn	Jackee	Catherine Thacker
Kim	Heeyeon	Pamela Asberry
Kumar	Ananya	Rie Hosoi
Lee	Junui	Yoonmi Choi
Shebs	Madeline-	Jean Mann
Shih	Catherine	Elena Cholakova

## Grade 9

Choi	Annie	Gloria Park
Compau	Brian	Catherine Thacker
Gao	Daniel	Min-Jung Jin
Park	Kevin	Min-Jung Jin
Kim	Bona	Mijung Kim
Tao	Julius	Aza Boguslavskiy

## Grade 10

Chen	Shannon	Elena Cholakova
Kim	Matthew	Mijung Kim
Kim	Nayu	Rie Hosoi
Yang	Christine	Elena Cholakova

## ENSEMBLE EXTRAVAGANZA CONCERT

Remember the registration deadline for GCMTA's Ensemble Extravaganza Concert is Wednesday, March 23rd. Details and registration forms are available on the GCMTA website. If you have questions please email Pam Asberry at [pam.asberry@gmail.com](mailto:pam.asberry@gmail.com).

## PUBLICITY



Keep in touch with your fellow GCMTA members between meetings by "liking" our Facebook page and joining or Facebook group. If you have questions contact Pam Asberry at [pam.asberry@gmail.com](mailto:pam.asberry@gmail.com).

## SECRETARY

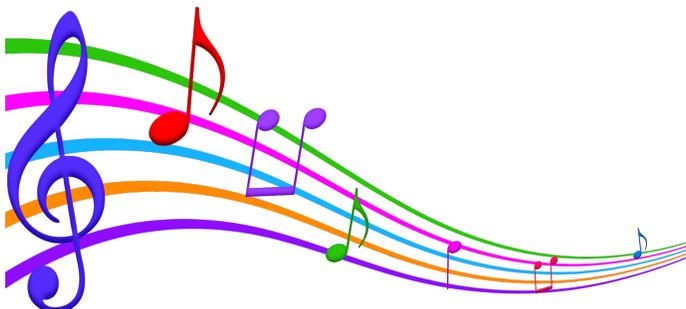
Committee chairpersons, please provide the secretary with a written copy of your monthly report to insure accuracy in the monthly minutes. Thank you!

## MUSIC DAY

is officially on the calendar for Saturday, November 12th. It will be held at FBC Duluth. Please mark your calendars now and stay "tuned" for more updates!

**Grade 11**

Park	Eric	Jean Mann
Park	Jeena	Yoonmi Choi
Yu	Diana	Gloria Park



**SENIOR CERTIFICATES**

GCMTA members, please email me the number of senior certificates you need for your graduates . I must have these totals to our state director this month. These are GMTA certificates that are awarded to those graduating seniors of a member teacher.

[mam0609@comcast.net](mailto:mam0609@comcast.net)

# North Gwinnett Federated Festival

FIRST BAPTIST DULUTH, FEBRUARY 13, 2016

The North Gwinnett Festival was a successful event with excellence from our students and teachers. We had fewer teachers, but everyone pitched in and things went very smoothly.

The following is our report: Teachers: 15, Students: 200

Hymn: 1, Concerto: 11, Theory: 4

Superior: 192, Excellent: 7, Comments: 1

**WINNERS:**

1ST - Rebekah Gheorghies: Lisa Gaal

2ND - Elise Park: Gloria Park

3RD - Wendy Zheng: Rwei Hao,

HM - Sydney Loverde: Gloria Park

Keshav Kalathaor: Baunita Rose

Natalie Dutton: Lisa Gaal

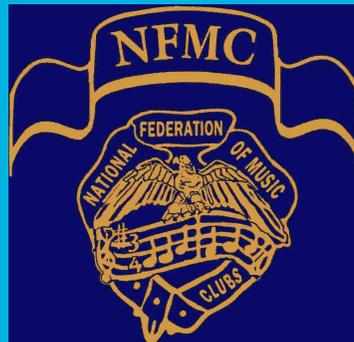
Annie Choi: Gloria ParkMarch

Diana Yu: Gloria Park

Christina Fu: Rwei Hao

Chatur Shivananda: Lisa Gaal

Mikayla Dorman, senior student of Debra Hughes, was awarded \$1000 for further music education by Atlanta Music Club at their recent 2016 Scholarship Auditions. She has already been accepted at Oklahoma State's vocal department but is auditioning further before deciding on which music school she will attend. Mikayla was a glad recipient of one of GCMTA's Jr/Sr 2015 Awards that helped her to attend a summer opera project where she was selected over college singers to sing a solo role for the 2nd year a row. Her goal is to one day be an opera performer.



NFMC headquarters is accepting pre-orders for the 2017-2020 NFMC Federation Festivals Bulletin. They will be shipped beginning April 8 OR sooner, and the cost will be \$10.00 plus shipping. The new Bulletin will go into effect July 1. Please call 317-882-4003 or email [info@nfmcc-music.org](mailto:info@nfmcc-music.org) to place your order.

# West Gwinnett Federated Festival

There were 281 events in the West Gwinnett Federated festival on Feb. 13. There were 269 superiors, 11 excellents and 1 satisfactory. 26 students are scheduled to play in other festivals.

Woodwind Scholarship Winner: Shawn Zhu (Hughes)

Honorable Mention: Allison Parks (Wilson), Michael May (Rygh)

Vocal Scholarship Winner: Rebekah Sims (Murphy)

Honorable Mention: Alyssa Cornelius (Murphy), Mikayla Dorman (Hughes)

Piano Scholarship:

1st Place: Panyi Liu (Bonam)

2nd Place: James Still (Bonam)

3rd Place: Nathan Dwire (Bonam)

1st Alternate: Ken Wong (Patterson)

2nd Alternate: Patrick Ziegler (Patterson)

3rd Alternate: Andrew Hughes (Hughes)

Honorable Mention: Catherine Baron (Andrews),

Kelley Burnette (Andrews), Wesley Rains (Bone), John Rollins (Andrews),

Daniel Webb (Bonam)



## March Master Class

I am looking forward to the upcoming Master Class on March 23. David Watkins will be our presenter. Please arrive at 9:30 for a prompt start at 9:45! Please make every effort to attend this very special meeting to support the amazing students who will be playing (they deserve a great audience). If you happen to arrive after 9:45 please wait outside the door and enter between performances.

Annie Choi – Student of Gloria Park: Valse Melancolique by Rebikoff

Sophia Claymore – Student of Marion Compton: Prelude in B Minor – Chopin

Brian Compau – Student of Cathy Thacker: Gitanerias by Ernesto Lecuona

Emily Grossman – Student of Pam Asberry: Storm & Stress Op. 140 #20 by Gurlitt

### I PLAY FOR FOOD

Several of you requested information regarding the I Play for Food program where students commit to a practice goal and ask family and friends to sponsor them by I a canned good for each hour practiced. Typically, the program lasts for one month. My students started this at the beginning of February, so their 30 days is almost up. If your students are participating, keep track of the total number of canned goods you collect, then let me know. The results will be published in the May newsletter! Happy practicing!

- Mary Ann McTier mam0609@comcast.net