

GCMTA NEWS

Notes From the President



Love Letter to a teacher.

Here is a note from a senior student. She will NOT seek a music degree and won only a few minor awards in all of her years as a piano student. She had many other interests due to her abilities & popularity so didn't/couldn't dedicate time for daily practice but averaged less than 3 hours a week.

We often don't know if we are being successful or making an impact on the people/families we teach, but I want to remind you that what we do has lasting value! But we must try to understand each individual and encourage them in their pursuit while imparting the joy of music. I share this note in its entirety as an encouragement to love your students well while you educate them. The results will be very satisfying!

*Dear *****...Thank you for being the world's greatest piano teacher (I'm only a little biased .. J) Your kind words and never-ending encouragement over the last nine years made me fall in love with the instrument that my eight-year-old self didn't really enjoy very much! I can only hope that I will be as fortunate in my future to have a job that makes me as happy as yours makes you. This year's Christmas recital was bittersweet, as I realized that it would probably be my last "Holiday Recital" as an official student of yours. But no worries, you have taught me well – there is no end to learning and even in college I am sure there will be a few pianos lying around begging to be played. – Love always, Cindy*

Spoken/implicit concepts in this student's short note include:

- gratefulness for/to the teacher for her efforts
- confidence in the teacher's abilities
- acceptance/love by the teacher
- encouragement/kindness helped her love the piano
- encouragement to go on in musical pursuits
- music makes people happy
- student enjoys making music on the piano
- teacher likes to teach music to students
- continued relationship with teacher after graduation
- student's sadness to move away from weekly lessons
- positive outlook to continued playing even though circumstances change

What she said was powerful as it shared more than just her thanks. What messages are you sending your students? What concepts are being nonverbally communicated? How are you impacting your students who are willing to continue lessons with you? I have been enjoying the fact that Gwinnett West & North Federated is occurring on Valentine's Day: "Because we love music." Your love WILL impact your students and my wish for you is to get a 'love' letter like the one above!

- Deb Hughes

Inside this issue:

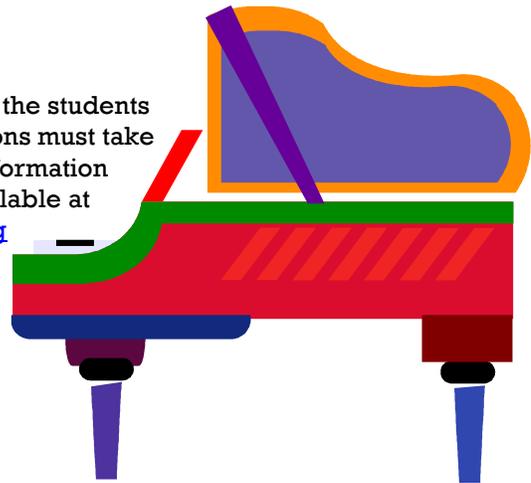
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GMTA Local Auditions

Local Auditions will be held on February 28 at Berean Baptist Church.

We have 33 students representing 9 teachers in the event. You will receive the schedule and all information by email. Please remember we must have the checks for the outstanding performers on February 28.

Starting this year, all the students who enter the auditions must take GATE theory test. Information on GATE tests is available at www.georgiamta.org



Calendar of Events

February 7:
Central Federated Festival,
Berean Baptist Church, Lilburn

February 14:
North Federated Festival,
First Baptist of Duluth

February 14:
West Federated Festival,
Berean Baptist Church, Lilburn

February 21:
Junior-Senior Scholarship Audition
Application Deadline

February 25:
GCMTA meeting,
Lawrenceville Church of God

February 28:
Local Auditions,
Berean Baptist Church, Lilburn

March 21:
Jr./Sr. Scholarship Auditions,
PianoWorks, Duluth

March 21-25:
MTNA Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada

March 25:
GCMTA meeting and Master Class,
Lawrenceville Church of God

March 25:
Registration deadline for Ensemble
Extravaganza Concert

March 28:
GMTA Regional Auditions,
Brenau University, Gainesville

April 11:
GMTA State Auditions for College,
Instrument, and Voice, University of
Georgia, Athens, GA

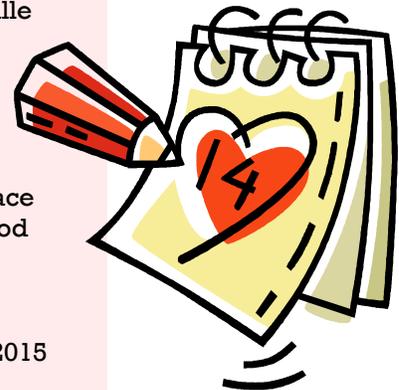
April 18:
GMTA State Auditions for Pre-College
and Concerto, University of Georgia,
Athens, GA

April 22:
Executive Board meeting , 9:45 a.m.,
2937 Moorings Parkway, Snellville

April 25:
Ensemble Extravaganza

May 13:
GCMTA Luncheon Meeting, Grace
Fellowship Church, 1400 Dogwood
Road, Snellville, GA 30078

June 30:
MTNA Dues Deadline for 2014-2015



February Program

"For Your Studio: The Rare and Beautiful Miniatures of Charles-Valentin Alkan" - presented by Charles Hutton

Come expand your knowledge of Romantic period piano repertoire as Charles Hutton introduces us to composer Charles-Valentin Alkan, a close friend, collaborator and neighbor to Chopin. His music was cherished by Debussy and championed by Busoni, his virtuosity intimidated Liszt-but now his music is mostly forgotten. Mr. Hutton will present a small gold mine of lyrical and approachable pieces that can be used to improve students' pedaling, hand span, balance and tone. With a Master of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Tennessee, Charles Hutton is an independent piano teacher and member of the Decatur MTA.

Join us February 25 for this educational program!

GCMTA Officers

The slate of officers who will serve GCMTA for the next term will be presented to the membership at the February meeting, and will be voted on at the March meeting.

May 13th Meeting and Luncheon/Officer Induction - Come celebrate another great year with your fellow teachers on **Wednesday, May 13** at 10:00 a.m. at the Grace 1123 House, the same location of our January Brunch. This event will be catered -price TBA- in the \$12-15 range.

Wonderful January Brunch

Thanks to all who joined us for our January Brunch at the Grace 1123 House, and a special note of thanks to our "panel of experts" (though each made it clear that she was not an expert) who shared their experiences with teaching music to special needs students. We received lots of great tips as well as motivation to meet the needs of these special students who enter our studios. The panel consisted of Debbie Murphy, Pam Asberry, Chris Morrow and Lois Simon. If you were unable to attend, you can still have access to some great resources as I will be emailing those very soon,

and they will be on our GCMTA website. Our fellowship, food and learning were rich.

Also, a big "Thanks!" to hospitality committee members who came early and stayed late to set up and clean up. We greatly appreciate **Music and Arts'** donation that allowed every attendee to leave with new music! Congratulations to our door prize winners, Janet Will, Judy Harper, Brooke Dunn and Chris Morrow!

March Master Class with Lois Finlay

Remember, March is Master Class month! We welcome Lois Finlay, master teacher and GCMTA friend, as our clinician. Our four student performers and the pieces being played are listed below. Please be aware that the Master Class begins promptly at 9:45. This will be a great time for us to learn from Lois!

Dr. Gradus ad Parnassum
by Debussy
Catherine Gemmell
- student of Jean Mann

Sonata in G Major III, Hob XVI/27
by Haydn
Wesley Rains - student of Eva Bone

Invention in F Major by Bach
Chatur Shivananda
- student of Lisa Gaal

Prelude in C# minor, Op. 3, #2
by Rachmaninoff
Michael Roman
- student of Stephanie Freeman



GMTA Theory Program

The GATE (Georgia Auditions Theory Exam) is a new requirement for all students who will be participating in Auditions. Level A is for Grades 4-6; Level B is for Grades 7-9; and Level C is Grades 10-12.

The students will take GATE the same day as Auditions.

A GATE registration form should be completed for each student. There will not be a fee to take the GATE this year (2014-2015). Beginning with the school year (2015-2016), there will be a fee. Go to the GMTA website for practice theory tests and for the registration form. <http://georgiamta.org/studentActivities-GATE.php>

Deadline: February 21st.

Please mail GATE registration forms to :
Robin Whitworth 337 Rhodes House Ct. Suwanee, Ga. 30024

For more information email Robin at robinluvsdogs@bellsouth.net



ENSEMBLE EXTRAVAGANZA CONCERT

April 25, 2015 at 2:00 PM

Johns Creek Baptist Church, 6910 McGinnis Ferry Road,
Alpharetta, GA 30005

The Ensemble Extravaganza Concert (EEC) is open to students of all ages and levels. Repertoire selections must be chosen from the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Bulletin for 2011-2013 or 2014-2016. This includes the Piano Duet Event (one piano, four hands), the Piano Trio Event (one piano, six hands), the Piano Duo Event (two pianos, four hands) and the Piano Quartet Event (two pianos, eight hands). Students from different teachers may perform together. Teachers may not play as part of junior ensembles. No conductors will be allowed. Appropriate costumes are optional, but this will not affect the judges' decisions. Adult students are invited to participate in the event but will not be eligible for competition. Adult repertoire selections are not required to be made from the NFMC Festival Bulletin. Teachers may play with adult students.

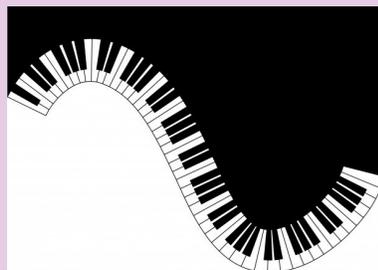
Except to facilitate page turns, no photocopied music will be allowed. A published score with measures numbered must be provided for the judge on concert day. One comment sheet will be given to each ensemble.

The format for the competition is an open audition. Parents and friends are welcome to attend. To defray costs, donations will be accepted at the door. There will be no rehearsals for the EEC. Attire will be dressy.

Paper registration only. Please submit one form for each performing group. The registration fee is \$10 per student with a maximum of \$25 per family. Individual students may compete in only one category. The application deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2015. First and second place medals will be awarded in four different categories, as follows: PP-P4; EI-E4; MED-MD3; D1-MA2. The judges' decisions are final. Winners will be announced at the conclusion of the Ensemble Extravaganza Concert.

Questions?

Contact Pam Asberry at
pam.asberry@gmail.com
or Nora Martin at
wolf1193@charter.net.



GMTA Conference 2015 presenters

are being sought. Types of presentations enjoyed and requested include pedagogy, studio management, performance practice, technology, comparison of methods, digital and acoustic considerations, teaching online, social media applications, panel discussions, Georgia's own recitals, musicality and creative engagement, teaching the special needs child, performance health maintenance, historical issues, performance anxiety, and repertoire selections. This list summarizes more specific requests, and should pique your areas of interest and should inspire you to share your interests and experience. The deadline to submit your proposal is April 1, 2015. Go now to GMTA's website to start preparing your session proposal. When selecting topics, every effort is made to have variety in the schedule. If you have submitted in the past and the topic has not been accepted, please submit again!

REGISTRATION FORM
GCMTA ENSEMBLE EXTRAVAGANZA CONCERT

April 25, 2015

2:00 PM

Johns Creek Baptist Church

6910 McGinnis Ferry Road

Alpharetta, GA 30005

Registration deadline: Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

Please complete one form for each performing group and send to

Pam Asberry, 1737 Mountain Fort Way, Dacula, GA, 30019.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS CLASS _____

EVENT (Circle one):

PIANO DUET

PIANO TRIO

PIANO DUO

PIANO QUARTET

CATEGORY (Circle one):

JUNIOR

ADULT

Student Name _____

Student Name _____

Student Name _____

Student Name _____

Title _____

Composer _____

GCMTA NEWS

February 2015



Debra Hughes, President
bndhughes@comcast.net

Georgia Music Teachers Association
www.georgiamta.org

Music Teachers National Association
www.mtna.org

Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association
www.gcmta.org

Have you been to our website lately?
Take a look!

If you have information that needs to go in the newsletter, please email it to gcmtamail@gmail.com. Label your email with “newsletter” in the subject line. You can also call me at 678-985-9302. Please send me your information as you want it worded in the newsletter, and have it to me by the 1st of the month. Please try not to do too much formatting on your information (spacing, tabs, etc.) Leave that up to me. Thank you!

Natalie Hardy

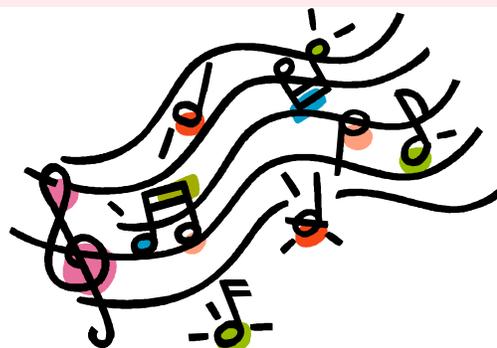
Odds & Ends

GCMTA would like to send our best wishes to Mary and Bill Parsons. They were recently in an accident and we hope they get well soon!

FREE BABY GRAND

1920s New York Ludwig—needs work. Located in Marietta, GA. For details call Bob McMullen at 770-381-8940.

1920 5'8" Knabe Grand For Sale as-is \$1200
needs work—located in Norcross, GA
For details call Bob McMullen at 770-381-8940.



Door greeters:

February: 9:20 Deb Hughes, 9:40 Cathy Thacker

March: 9:20 Janet Will, 9:40 Susan Andrews

NOTE: If you arrive to the meeting after 10:00, please tap on the choir room window and someone will come let you in. The church has asked that we not ring the bell to be let in through the church office.