

GCMTA NEWS

Notes From the President

Dreams!!

GCMTA's three Federated Festivals have been held in **February**. I think I hear a sigh of relief by many of you! Congratulations and thank you to our excellent chairs and all you teachers who were cheerful workers who made it possible!! I am so pleased for all of the many students who were able to participate in this encouraging performance activity. Each one reached the next milestone in their ladder of musical achievement. Some even received scholarship money to further their dreams!

Now we are looking forward to Auditions and Jr/Sr Auditions in **March**. Thank you to the Chairs of these two important events too! It is such a wonderful thing to have these opportunities for our students to participate. All surely dream of winning! March is also the month for our National Conference in Chicago!! If you can go, there will be many opportunities and sessions for personal inspiration and growth. Teachers dream too! Go to the MTNA website for information.

April is not just for Spring Break but is also the month for the finals for the GMTA piano auditions as well as, Vocal, Concerto and Brass/ WW and String/ Guitar finals at UGA. Check the GMTA

site for information on all of those dreamy opportunities.

Then in **May** is our Ensemble Extravaganza Concert (EEC). If you don't have any students participating in Auditions or Jr/ Sr perhaps you might decide to have two, three or four students work towards a performance at our EEC! We are planning a few surprises to add to the afternoon's delight!!

And please plan on attending our last meeting on May 14 where our first GCMTA Teacher of the Year will be presented to you. The story of this teacher's accomplishments are wonderfully inspiring. You could even call it visionary! My best to all of you!

- **Deb Hughes**

"There is nothing like a dream to create the future."-Victor Hugo

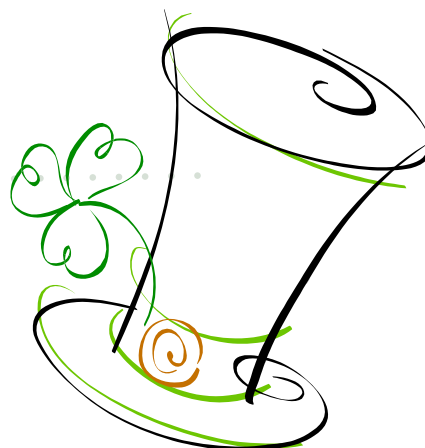
Inside this issue:

Federated Reports	2
Communications Update	4
March Master Class	5
May Luncheon	5
Certification	5
Calendar of Events	6

- Look at Page 3 to see the Winners from Local Auditions

Executive Board Meeting

No April meeting There will be an Executive Board meeting at Deb Hughes' home on April 23rd for all officers and committee chairs.



North District Festival

Many thanks to the fantastic teachers and judges at the North Federated Festival on February 1 at First Baptist Duluth. We had almost 300 students participating in 4 different events, resulting in many wonderful performances. I want to thank the North teachers who did a great job before and during the event in helping everything to run almost flawlessly.



Our High School Scholarship winners and teachers are:

- 1st Tigerwin Yang - Ping Xu
- 2nd Richard Pei - Ping Xu
- 3rd Alice Tang - Ping Xu
- 1st Alt. Carolyn Aufleger - Lisa Gaal
- 2nd Alt. Kevin Tao - Ping Xu
- 3rd Alt. Linda Zhou - Ping Xu
- HM Shannon Ke - Ping Xu

Central District Festival

The Central Gwinnett Federated Festival was held on February 1st at Berean Baptist Church in Lilburn. 290 students in piano, concerto, duet and guitar performed. Of these there were 3 Satisfactories, 15 Excellents, and 269 Superiors. 14 students took the theory test.

David Watkins was the high school adjudicator and these are the winners from that competition:

- 1st place - \$500 - Eric Park - student of Jean Mann
- 2nd place - \$300 - Christian Reynolds - student of Jenny McCormick
- 3rd place - \$200 - Liam Butler-Lawrence - student of Pam Asberry

- 1st alternate - Arthur Martin - student of Valencia Giles
- 2nd alternate- Caroline Vaughan - student of Melissa Gann
- 3rd alternate - Kallyn Glasser - student of Jenny McCormick
- 4th alternate- Aileen Li - student of Maisy Pritchard
- 5th alternate - Kashi Sinha - student of Jenny McCormick

Honorable Mentions:

- Kristin Burton - student of Lois Simon
- Jackie Bonilla - student of Michelle Peck
- Amanda Crites - student of Harriett Woodward
- Jake Williams - student of Jean Mann
- Corrie Tarbutton - student of Marion Compton

West District Festival

The West Gwinnett Federated District had our Festival at Berean Baptist Church on February 15. We had 320 students who participated with 309 superior ratings, 10 excellent and 1 satisfactory. Thank you teachers for a job well done!

Piano Winners

- 1st Karl Patram - (Bonham)
- 2nd Anna Clack - (Andrews)
- 3rd Shawn Wong - (Patterson)

Alternates:

- 1st Noah Thompson - (Bonham)
- 2nd Brett Mitchell - (Andrews)

Honorable Mentions:

- Olivia Hofer - (Andrews)
- Miles Clayton - (J.M. Smith)
- Kylie Lloyd - (Patterson)

Woodwinds

- 1st - Hanna Buckland (Rhygg)
- 2nd - Shawn Zhu (Hughes)
- 3rd - Grace Xu (Hughes)
- Alternate: Allison Parks (Rhygg)

Vocal

- 1st Connor Gonzalez (Hughes)
- 2nd Hannah Sims (Murphy)
- 3rd McKenna Brandenburg (Murphy)

Alternates:

- Alyssa Ivon (Murphy)
- Madison Maxwell (Hughes)
- Honorable Mentions:
 - David Bui (Hughes)
 - Caroline Dorr (Murphy)
 - Olivia Greenbury (Murphy)
 - Nathan Carlton (Murphy)
 - Samantha Rodriguez (Hughes)



2014 GCMTA Local Auditions Winners

Outstanding Performers 2014

4th Grade

Victoria Choe	Chunghee Park
Catherine Gemmel	Jean Mann
Daniel Kim	Jean Mann
Grace Kim	Elena Cholakova
Grace Peng	Elena Cholakova
Raissa Wong	Yumi Patterson

5th Grade

Somee An	Chunghee Park
Rebecca Ho	Agnes Law
Hannah Huang	Elena Cholakova
Hye Kim	Chunghee Park
Dmitry Kozhanov	Lusia Glagoleva
Kelly Luo	Aza Boguslavskiy

6th Grade

Jason Guo	Elena Cholakova
Kaitlyn Jung	Mijung Kim
Jinsun Kim	Jean Mann
Jennifer Kim	Mijung Kim
Justin Ok	Chunghee Park
Madeline Shebs	Jean Mann
Catherine Shih	Elena Cholakova
Vicky Yu	Gloria Park

7th Grade

Katelyn Choe	Chunghee Park
Alexander Ly	Kathryn Dawal
Kevin Park	Min-Jung Jin
Elise Park	Gloria Park
Ken Wong	Yumi Patterson

8th Grade

Daeoong An	Chunghee Park
Matthew Kim	Mijung Kim
Maggie Simmons	Yumi Patterson
Erika Yamazaki	Agnes Law

9th Grade

Diana Yu	Gloria Park
Yasheen Gao	Elena Cholakova
Felicia Guo	Elena Cholakova
Eric Park	Jean Mann
Kylie Lloyd	Yumi Patterson

10th Grade

Marion Cassim	Lusia Glagoleva
Sherry Luo	Aza Boguslavskiy
Max Xu	Elena Cholakova
David Zhao	Elena Cholakova

11th Grade

Laboni Hoque	Jean Mann
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Communications Update

We have been making a few changes lately to centralize our communications and make it easier to quickly contact one another.

Facebook: We now are on Facebook. Julie Mitchell Smith has been instrumental in getting that set up and is the administrator for it. If you have not already done so, please 'like' our Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association Facebook page. This is the place to post job offers, personal and studio events, other performance opportunities, and photos. Note: always make sure you have the permission of those involved. You do not need permission to post to our Facebook page. However, if you see anything inappropriate, please bring it to Julie's attention.

Member email list: We now have a group email address. A secure list is maintained through our hosting package. Every member of GCMTA is on this email list. This will be our primary means of providing financial updates, meeting minutes, newsletters, and association information. The email address is member@gcmta.org. Anyone may send an email to this address. The email will go to every confirmed email address on the list. To protect our association from spam, etc., we are keeping this as a moderated list. That means that before actually going out to our members, a moderator must approve the message. This also means if you accidentally reply to a member@gcmta.org email, your reply will not go back to every recipient unless it should. Currently, Kathy Dawal is the moderator. To add or remove your name from this list, go to our home page and scroll down until you see the heading "Membership to the Member Mailing List." Please contact Kathy if you have any questions about using this email address.

Executive Board email list: We also have an email list for Executive Board members. If you are on the Executive Board, please make sure you have signed up for this list. If you are no longer on the board, please take your name off the list. To email the Executive Board, send an email to: Executive_Board@gcmta.org. This is also a moderated list. To add or remove your name from this list, go to our home page and scroll down until you see the heading "Membership to the Executive Board Mailing List." Contact Kathy Dawal if you have any questions.

Treasury information: We are working on putting all treasury information on our secure directory. This will include basic information and forms. An email will be sent to everyone (using member@gcmta.org) when all is ready. In the meantime, for Treasury information, or to contact our Treasurer, David Peoples, please email him at: treasurer@gcmta.org. This email address forwards directly to David.

Website: We all share responsibility for the information we make available on our website. If you are an event chair, please check your event pages and forms for accuracy. Please also check calendar dates on our site. Our calendar is a separate, embedded document, so you will only need to check one page. All will be the same. When adding or changing information on a web page, please provide the following information:

URL of web page (this is the www.gcmta.org . . . address in the browser bar at the top of your screen.

Text to remove

Text to add (exact wording)

Documents to upload

Exact links to create.

If you have any questions on any of the above, please feel free to contact Kathy Dawal.



March Master Class

This month we welcome Patti Dinkins-Matthews, a fellow GCMTA member, as our master class clinician. Dr. Dinkins-Matthews is on the faculty of Emory University Department of Music. She has been a member of the piano faculties at the University of Florida, Baylor University, the American Institute of Music Studies (Graz, Austria), and McLennan College. A native of Knoxville, Tennessee, Dr. Dinkins-Matthews holds her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee and both the Master of Music degree in Piano Performance and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance from the University of Colorado.

Please join us as we hear some fine students perform and benefit from Patti's work with them.

2014 Master Class Program

Knight Rupert by Schumann

performed by **Alexander Ly**
student of Kathy Dawal

Sonatina in A Minor by Handel

performed by **Annie Greene**
student of Patti Bennett

Sonata Hob 16:10 Presto by Haydn

performed by **Catherine Baron**
student of Susan Andrews

May Meeting

Come celebrate another great year with your fellow GCMTA teachers on **Wednesday, May 14 (note the corrected date!)** 10:00 a.m. at the scenic Bright Water clubhouse. **Sweet Tomatoes** will cater our luncheon with four different types of salads, a variety of muffins and dessert. The price will be approximately \$12. Bring your summer teaching tips to share!

Certification

Certification Pins Anyone?

I know I had my certification pin on at a recent meeting, but for the life of me I can't find it anywhere! I've looked on every piece of clothing in my closet!

So, when I go to Chicago later this month I will pick up a new certification pin for myself. If you have misplaced yours or have never had one, I'd be glad to pick one up for you as well. They're in the range of \$10.00. Just email and let me know

Robin Engleman
GCMTA Certification Chair
englemanr@bellsouth.net

After years of considering certification, I finally began the journey last summer. I thought the process was going to be easier than it is--I got discouraged early on and almost gave up. Then I decided to focus on one thing at a time so I wouldn't get overwhelmed.

Last June I started taking lessons from David Watkins to get ready for the performance project. He agreed to mentor me in the certification process. In fall 2013 I completed the three teaching videos, wrote the synopses and self-evaluations, and had him review all of those for me. In November GMTA awarded me a grant for the lessons, and that was a huge encouragement. (Every year GMTA awards \$400 grants to teachers.)

Finally I applied to MTNA in early December and received my link for the teaching pieces. Now I'm working through those essays, and David is reviewing them in my lessons.

December 9, 2014, is my deadline to upload all of the projects. I just want you to know that this whole process has changed my universe! I am learning so much, and it is helping me to become a better teacher. Even if I don't pass MTNA's requirements, I am grateful for taking the time to work through the projects. If you aren't already certified, I hope that you will visit the MTNA website for more information, and perhaps begin your own journey.

Cathy Thacker

NEEDED: Door greeter for March meeting: We need one volunteer to greet members from 9:20-9:40. Thank you to Mary Frances Katz for greeting from 9:40-10:00. A big "Thank you" to Tina Darden for being the smiling face that greeted us at the February meeting!

Please email Mary Ann at mam0609@comcast.net if you're able to help. Thanks so much!

GCMTA NEWS

www.gcmta.org
www.georgiamta.org

Deb Hughes, President
bndhughes@comcast.net



Calendar of Events

- March 15 - JR/SR Scholarship Contest at Piano Works
22-26 MTNA National Conference in Chicago
GCMTA meeting - Lawrenceville Church of God
29 - GMTA Regional auditions - Brenau University
31 - Application deadline for GMTA non-piano - UGA
- April 4 - Application deadline for
GCMTA Ensemble Extravaganza
12-GMTA Auditions for non-piano - UGA
23- Executive Board meeting - Deb Hughes'
26 GMTA Final Auditions for piano - UGA
- May 3 - Ensemble Extravaganza - Harmony Grove Church
14- GCMTA - Luncheon

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

Atlanta Music Club's Young Performers Concert is April 6. It is held at Piano Distributors, Cobb Parkway, Marietta. Each teacher may enter three students. If interested for this free opportunity, please contact Deb Hughes - [770-978-9680](tel:770-978-9680).

Vocal, Instrumental (WW/Brass & Strings/Classical guitar) and Piano Concerto Auditions for GMTA will be held on April 12. There are no preliminary auditions for these events. Their application deadline is March 31. See GMTA's website for applications and more information.

Save the date! Music Day is set for Saturday, November 15, 2014.

