



GCMTA NEWS

VOLUME 2014, ISSUE 9

NOVEMBER 2014



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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SUCCESS! Everyone wants to be successful in what they do. Successful people are identified with some very clear attitudes and habits:

- Have a sense of gratitude
- Compliment others
- Forgive others
- Accept responsibility for their failures
- Keep a journal
- Want others to succeed
- Keep a to-be list
- Set goals and develop life plans
- Continuously learn
- Operate from a transformational perspective
- Keep a to-do project list
- Embrace change
- Exude joy
- Share information and data
- Talk about ideas
- Read everyday
- Give other people credit for their victories

I see in this list how MTNA, GMTA and GCMTA help us be a success. We belong to solid organizations with transformational possibility. I would challenge everyone to participate more so as to make the most of what they have to offer! Last weekend, (November 6-8) GMTA had its annual State Conference where we members got three days of concentrated self-improvement time! Thank you to Robin Engleman who was installed as the next State President! She is embracing responsibility, change and challenge!

In the next few weeks the following activities are available to GCMTA members:

November 15 is Music Day. Thank you to Cathy Thacker who has done so much to make this event work. Thank you to all participating teachers who enter students. You are setting goals for others to succeed. Brava!

November 19 is our scheduled meeting where Natalie Hardy and Pam Asberry will perform. How kind of them to network and share information! Thank you to them and to Mary Ann McTier who has lined up a whole year of fantastic events for us to enjoy and in which to grow!

December 1 is the submission deadline for TOTY recommendations. We have excellent teachers in GCMTA. Nominate one for this award! Check online for the information.

December 13 is Fry's Performance Day. If you haven't participated before, try something new and enter students. Thank you to Lois Simon for coordinating this. It really is a Fun Day!

January 10 is Federated Festival application deadline. Thank you Judy Harper for coordinating all three of our Festivals for many years. We also thank Jenny McCormick and Eva Bone, the other Chairs. These Festivals engage over 1000 students every year. What a force we are in Gwinnett County for good music! Thank you all for making a difference in the lives of your students.

These events are all in one way or another important for the teacher who wants to be successful. Set goals. Make a plan. Be committed. You can do it! GCMTA is here to help you be a SUCCESS!

- Deb Hughes



A TRIBUTE TO JOHN SUTHERLAND

It is with sadness that I announce to you the passing of a key figure in many lives. Renowned guitar pedagogue, John Sutherland died this past Saturday (Oct. 4, 2014). There were many who sat in front of John Sutherland and tried with great effort to absorb all they could from his teachings. Students of John (as he would have you call him) are scattered all over the place. There are many who were lucky enough to know him for much longer than I did. In honor of a man that helped shape my sound and my character and pushed me to see and hear the world with a wider pallet of color. To call him a "guitar teacher" seems limiting; what he was to his students seemed to go beyond such a title. Yes, John taught many guitarists throughout his teaching career, which lasted nearly until the very end of his life. (I was even grateful to receive some of his wisdom and coaching only a couple of months before his passing.) But what he gave his students was more than lessons on how to better play the guitar. To me, he was like a life coach, helping me find myself as much as he was helping me find the music. He would say, "You have to fix yourself before you fix the guitar." Often his life lessons were disguised, cloaked in stories and memories that would, at the very least, entertain; and, at least in my case, I sometimes wouldn't even realize how significant or relevant our conversation was until I had some time to process the lesson and appreciate it in its entirety.



CALENDAR REMINDERS

November 15: GCMTA Music Day (formerly Fall Festival), First Baptist Church of Duluth

November 19: GCMTA meeting, 9:45 a.m., PianoWorks

December 1: Deadline for TOTY nominations

December: No meeting or newsletter

December 13: Fry's Performance Day

2015

January 10: Federated Festival Application Deadline

January 28: GCMTA Brunch meeting, 1123 Dogwood Rd, Snellville, GA ; GCMTA Local Auditions Application Deadline

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 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 28: GMTA Regional Auditions, Brenau University, Gainesville

April 4: Registration deadline for Ensemble Extravaganza Concert

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

August: Executive Board Meeting TBA

September 1: GCMTA Directory Information Deadline



MUSIC DAY

Music Day is set for Saturday, November 15, 2014, at First Baptist Church of Duluth.

Teachers have been emailed their student performance schedule and their own work schedule for the day. The morning shift should arrive by 8:15am; Kathy Dawal will meet with all workers at 8:30am to clarify job responsibilities. The afternoon shift should arrive by 12:30pm and should be prepared to stay afterward to help with cleanup.

Lunch will be catered by Butch's All-American BBQ, and will include your choice of chicken or pork, baked beans, cole slaw, and potato salad. If you plan to participate, please mail your check for \$9.00 (payable to GCMTA) to Cathy Thacker, 2603 Twilight View, Snellville, GA 30078.

VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER:
You must type each entrant's Student Comment and Rating Sheet, and send with your student the day of Music Day. Students should bring these Comment and Rating Sheets along with their original music with measures numbered, and should arrive 15 minutes prior to their performance time to check in.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Thacker at cbt88@bellsouth.net or by phone at (770)978-3708.



ENSEMBLE EXTRAVAGANZA

The Ensemble Extravaganza Concert WILL go on! Scheduled for Saturday April 25, 2015 at 2PM at Johns Creek Baptist Church, the EEC is open to students of all ages and levels. The format for the competition is an open audition and first and second place medals will be awarded in four different categories. Guidelines, rules and registration information are now available on the website. There is nothing like playing in an ensemble to help piano students develop musicianship, so please consider becoming a part of this exciting event!

FEDERATED FESTIVALS



The deadline for submitting your applications for Federated Festivals is January 10, 2015. You need to choose your required pieces from the 2014-2016 Federated Festivals Bulletin, and read the rules for considering choice pieces. All applications are to be submitted online at the gcmta.org website. Be sure to print out the Federated Applicant List and fill in before entering your students, so you will have a hard copy of your entrants and information to refer to. A filled in rating sheet must be brought to the Festival site by each student.

Remember that no literature choices can be changed after the deadline, except by notifying, and approval of, your festival chairman.

Please refer back to the Federated article in the OCTOBER NEWSLETTER, as a reminder of some rules and regulations that we sometimes overlook. For any questions not included in the Bulletin or the October Newsletter, feel free to contact myself or your chairman.

Judy Harper judybharper@icloud.com
 770-476-3950

NOVEMBER MEETING

Mary Ann McTier, program chair

Different location...different week!! Remember, our November meeting will be at **Piano Works** in **Duluth** on **November 19th**, one week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Join us for our a very exciting and entertaining program featuring our very own dynamic duo, Pam Asberry and Natalie Hardy in a concert you don't want to miss!



Asberry & Hardy will perform an eclectic assortment of duo piano repertoire--and NOT the same program presented at the GMTA conference earlier this month! Assisted by guest artist Yumi Patterson, they will play everything from Bach to Bernstein and an original composition by Natalie Hardy as well as share a summary of tips for teaching ensemble music in your own piano studio. Bring a friend!



So, join us on the 19th at 9:30 for coffee, meeting at 9:45, followed by the Asberry/Hardy Piano Duo recital at 10:45. Plan to be with us for this superb program! PianoWorks will, of course, offer their 20% off of print music for teachers. They have recently expanded their classical music inventory, so you'll want to check this out as well as their Federated Festival music for any last minute changes/additions. We look forward to seeing many of you there! Piano Works, 2805 Buford Hwy., Duluth, Ga 30096



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Charles Hutton presents
"The Rare and Beautiful Miniatures
of Charles-Valentin Alkan"

MARCH PROGRAM

Master Class with Lois Finlay

MAY PROGRAM

Luncheon and officer installation

Attendance at GCMTA meetings is now a part of the recorded minutes. An attendance sheet will be passed at each meeting and then will be posted up front until the conclusion of each business meeting. Make your presence count by making sure to SIGN THE ATTENDANCE SHEET. I will NOT add names to the list after the fact. Thank you for your cooperation!

Pam Asberry, Secretary

GMTA CONFERENCE



The GMTA conference was well attended this year. We had great weather and beautiful scenery to accompany all the wonderful recitals and presentations. Please be on the lookout for the GMTA Winter Newsletter coming out in January. Included will be a full conference review and photo showcase. You can see a few snapshots on page 6 & 7 of this Newsletter.

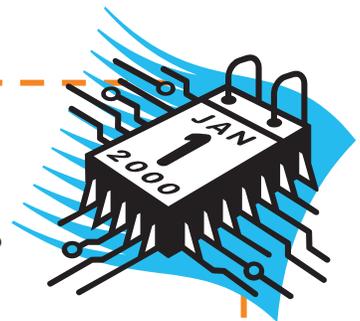
JANUARY BRUNCH

Wednesday, January 28 may prove to be cold outside (though, one can never be sure here in Georgia), but we'll be warming up with fellow music teacher friends as we gather for our annual Brunch. This year we can look forward to a treat as we learn from colleagues who will share their experiences and wisdom gleaned from teaching special needs students. I have heard from several of you who have taught these special students, but would love to hear from a few more. If you have experience in this area and would be willing to share either in brief written outline form or as part of the panel, please contact me at mam0609@comcast.net. Also, we will be taking a

vote at our November meeting as to whether to do covered dish, as we've done for years, or to have brunch catered by Sweet Tomatoes.

Please join us January 28 at 1123 Dogwood Dr. Snellville, Ga. This house, next to Brookwood High School, is a very warm and inviting place for us to enjoy this fun time of fellowship and learning which we all look forward to. See you there!

Mary Ann McTier, program chair



LOCAL AUDITIONS



2015 Local Auditions will be held on February 28 at Berean Baptist Church. The registration deadline is January 28. Please read the information in the Directory and if you have any questions contact Yumi Patterson. yumisan2k@bellsouth.net



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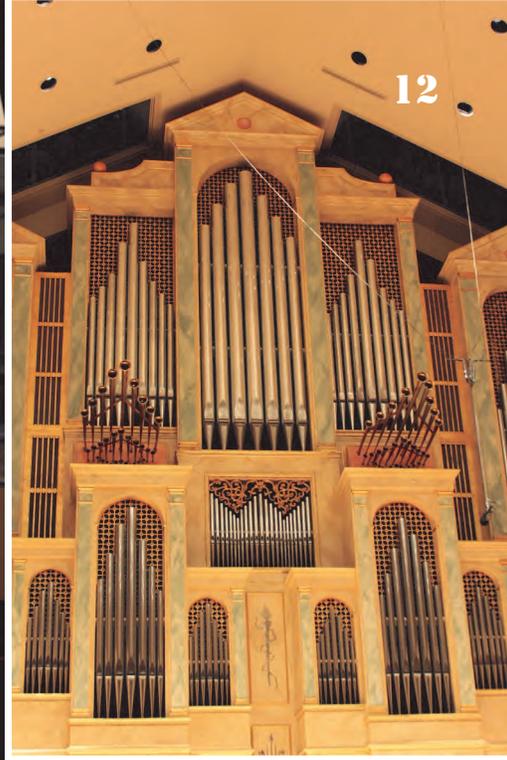
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GCMTA NEWS

Deb Hughes, President
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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?
There have been some changes!

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

Carol Albert has suddenly and unexpectedly lost her husband, Roger Ackerman, while he was participating in a triathlon and had a heart attack. Our deepest sympathies, thoughts, prayers and condolences are extended to our GCMTA friend during this time.

George Lucktenberg passed away in mid-October of a massive heart attack. He was well known for his knowledge and collection of historical instruments and shared this freely with our GMTA membership.

Piano Teachers.....Looking for a few extra hours?! Music Time Learning Center is hiring more piano teachers for afternoon and Saturday time slots. Our teachers are employees of the company and can make their own hours! Our time slots are currently full and we need to increase our capacity. If you would like more information, please contact Mary Beth Frasier at [404-353-8621](tel:404-353-8621) or info@MusicTimeLearning.org.

Mary Beth Frasier

Executive Director

Music Time Learning Center, Inc.

www.MusicTimeLearning.org

[404-353-8621](tel:404-353-8621) cell

[770-682-8112](tel:770-682-8112) fax



BOOM BOXES AND HEADPHONES NEEDED!

Please email Debbie Murphy at murf2227@bellsouth.net right away if you can loan these equipment needs for Music Day Theory Testing.

Conference Photos:

1. David Peoples receiving a Grant
2. Piano Concerto Winner, Ingrid Cai
3. Georgia Young Artist Voice Winner, Ashley Seldon
4. Presenters, Martha Thomas and Stephanie Tingle
5. Georgia Junior String Winner, Phoebe Liu
6. Susan Andrews and Jean Mann
7. Paula Thomas-Lee goofing off with Asberry & Hardy
8. Headliner, Jennifer Linn
9. GMTA Reflections on 60 years
10. The magnificent organ at Spivey Hall
11. Benjamin Bertin presenting the music of Nikolai Medtner
12. The breathtaking organ pipes at Spivey Hall
13. Ken Christensen, MTNA President
14. Middle College Strings Winner, Andy Mines
15. Susan Naylor, GMTA Teacher of the Year
16. Aurelia Campbell & Patti Bennett
17. Winner, Luka Marinkovic with Headliner, Richard Goode
18. New MNTA Fellow, Martha Thomas
19. Pre-College Vocal Winner, Mikayla Dorman with her teacher, Deb Hughes
20. The "VIP" table at the GMTA Banquet: Jennifer Linn (Conference Headliner,) Robin Engleman (GMTA President,) Dawn McCord (GMTA Past President,) Ken Christensen (MTNA President,) Marc Hebda (MTNA Southern Division Director,) and David George (MNTA Competitions VP.)

