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GCMTA NEWS

Promoting Music Education



**Notes from
the
President**

Dear GCMTA,

This month I have been struck with the thought that GCMTA is so much more...We are more than an avenue of musical adjudication. We are more than monthly meetings. We are more than a website. We are more than a legally proficient procedural manual. We are more than committees...

We are a unified group of teachers and educators who are passionate about sharing the empowerment of music. We are dedicated to be the best at what we do through personal study and furthering our own education. We are pioneers in learning how to relate to today's student. We are tellers of history, passing on to this generation the rich heritage of music that has been entrusted to us. We are giving students a voice to speak to themselves and others when words are not enough. **We are stronger because we choose to do this together through GCMTA.**

So I encourage you to get involved in all things mentioned in the first paragraph because those activities are the ships that allow us to visit the "ports" that encourage musical excellence in our students and help us to discover "new lands" to become better than we were the day before.

Your "Tour Guide" (for a few short years),

Eva Bone

Here are a few master teachers that I love to listen to...

dianehidy.com

88pianokeys.me (Leila Viss)

fromthetop.org (I am always inspired by today's top performers)

teachpianotoday.com

Please post your favorite We Are....statement or favorite master teacher on our Facebook Page!

Music Day 2017

All is coming together for a fantastic event on November 11th!

Look for the Winners and Honorable Mentions to be announced in the upcoming newsletters!



Welcome to GCMTA, Maggie Frick. Maggie is a GCMTA teacher's former student who is now in college. Such a wonderful legacy! Maggie will be mentored by Marion Compton, her former teacher. Congratulations to our newest and youngest member, and of course, warmest WELCOME to Maggie Frick!!

Remahlia Kormalos & Kaylyn Manlove-Simmons, 10th grade students of Debra Hughes, have been accepted as finalists for the 2018 High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall & Sydney Opera House. Audition via a CD recording is used to audition potential students. Teachers may continue to nominate students for this upcoming program for 2018 by visiting their website: Honorsperformance.org. "Through the past few years I have had seven other students be accepted into this program and every one of them return with renewed interest and vigor in studying and performing good music. I would encourage all teachers who have students in vocal or instrumental pursuits to look into this program to excite & enthuse them musically," said Hughes.

GMTA Theory Tests

We have 30 students registered to take the **GMTA Achievement Test** at Music Day.

Hopefully, by the time you read this the testing schedule has been emailed! Thank you for your patience as the performance schedule must be finalized before the theory scheduling can begin.

The following people have agreed to lend a CD player: Jean M., Ginger T., Deb H., and Chris M.

We need ONE MORE person to loan a CD player. Make sure it has a head phone jack and will play a "copied" CD. Please email Debbie Murphy @ murf2227@bellsouth.net or call her at 770-614-1258 if you can loan one.

Please plan to deliver your CD player **no later than 8:15** on Music Day, however, if you want to bring it on Friday while we are setting up, please bring it to the church by 10:30am.

At this time, we have enough head phones -- thank you Nora Martin!!

Make sure your equipment has your name on it. Also, please pick up your equipment at the end of Music Day (or ask someone to get it for you) because I will not be able to attend the November meeting.

TEST SCORES will be available **May 1, 2018.**

GMTA Teacher of the Year

Susan Andrews, NCTM, has been awarded the 2017 GMTA Teacher of the Year! Susan exemplifies the highest level of professionalism in her teaching and in her commitments to Georgia Music Teachers Association and Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association. Her students earn top awards in GCMTA events, such as Music Day, Federated Festival, and Jr./Sr. Scholarship. She is teaching the children of former students, which shows that her former students hold her in high esteem. She has served as church organist and choir accompanist at two area Methodist churches for over 30 years. She regularly adjudicates throughout Georgia for different festivals and competitions, and accompanies flute students at annual recitals. She attends music conferences and workshops regularly, always striving to improve her teaching.



Susan graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance. She is a past President of GMTA, GCMTA, and the Greater Atlanta Music Alliance. She is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, an international music fraternity. She is nationally certified through MTNA and was awarded an MTNA Foundation Fellow in 2011. In 2016, she was awarded the GCMTA Teacher of the Year. She could take on less responsibility, but chose instead to chair the Gwinnett County West Federation Club, comprised of 300+ students.

Susan always graciously shares her knowledge and expertise with any colleague who asks. She has mentored many other teachers. In all respects Susan represents what is noble and best as a music teacher.

GCMTA Teacher of the Year

The GCMTA TOTY Award is given to encourage and reward excellence and effectiveness in teaching, to give honor and recognition for service to GCMTA and to increase GCMTA's visibility to the general public through media promotion. Any member except current officers may be nominated. The officers and the Immediate Past President serve as the selection committee.

Nominations must be submitted by December 31, 2017. The award will be presented at the May luncheon.

Please refer to <http://gcmta.org/home/index/teacher-of-the-year> for eligibility criteria and forms. GCMTA has many teachers deserving of this honor, so I look forward to receiving your recommendations. You may scan and email them to mam069@comcast.net, or mail them to 1955 Shrader Ct. Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Mary Ann McTier, TOTY chair



GCMTA Programs

Our next meeting will begin promptly at 9:45AM (refreshments at 9:30) on November 15th in the choir room of First Baptist Church of Duluth, 2908 Duluth Highway 120, Duluth, GA, 30096. Following the business meeting, Russell Galman will present a program entitled **"Nothing Is A Surprise If You Plan On It: Things You Should Know About Your Piano,"** sharing things we should know about the most important tool we use in our teaching: our piano! If you would like to volunteer to open the meeting with a musical selection, please let me know. It is always inspiring to hear what others are working on. See you there!

Also, remember our annual brunch will be held on Wednesday morning, January 24th at the 1123 House, 1123 Dogwood Road, Snellville, GA, 30078. Stay tuned for details!

~Pam Asberry, Program Chair
404-434-8004
pam.asberry@gmail.com



Organizational Meeting: Gillock Society USA, Atlanta Chapter

Most of us are well acquainted with the music of William Gillock. Called "the Schubert of children's composers" in tribute to his melodic gift, Gillock composed numerous solos for students of all levels and ensemble music for students and their teachers to play together. He summed up his guiding compositional principle by saying that "melody and rhythmic vitality are essential to compositions that students want to learn." This and others of his thoughts were transmitted to thousands of teachers and students through the hundreds of workshops he conducted over the years throughout the USA.

William Gillock was honored on five occasions by the National Federation of Music Clubs with the Award of Merit for Service to American Music, and his biography appears in the *Dictionary of International Biography-Men of Achievement* and in the *International Who's Who of Musicians*. Perhaps his greatest honor, though, is the continued and frequent appearance of his pieces on repertoire lists for piano festivals everywhere. Although he died in September 1993, his music continues to enjoy great popularity in Japan, Germany and elsewhere.

Please join Yumi Patterson and Pam Asberry at the organizational meeting of the Atlanta chapter of the Gillock Society USA. We will gather before the monthly GCMTA meeting on 8AM on Wednesday, November 15th at the Duluth Rexall Grill, 3165 Buford Highway, Duluth, GA, 30096. Bring your collection of Gillock sheet music and music books along with your ideas for activities we might pursue as a chapter. RSVP to Pam Asberry (404-434-8004 or pam.asberry@gmail.com) or Yumi Patterson (404)386-5536 or yumisan2k@bellsouth.net) by noon Monday, November 13th so we can reserve a table. See you there!



**Highlights from
the GMTA
Conference at
Berry College
November 2-4**





Crystal Wu - Teaching Adults



Rebekah Healan delivering the President's Report



Benjamin Chin - Concerto Winner



Benjamin Warsaw - Commissioned Composer



Rebekah Willard - Concerto Winner

Master Class Participants and Clinician Phillip Bush



Dr. Robert Henry -
Practice Like a Pro



College Winners' Recital



Precollege Winners' Recital

