

GCMTA News



From the President

Snow

February is one of the snowiest months in the United States, and one of my favorite pieces in the Piano Adventures 3B Lesson Book (1st edition) is Snowfall. Most of my students don't understand the quietness of a gentle snowfall. I grew up in northern Ohio, and one of my fondest childhood memories is going to bed hoping that it would snow and waking up the next morning to a very quiet world outside. I knew immediately that it had snowed all night; there is a hush that comes from being enveloped in a snowfall. The world looks beautiful in its pristine white blanket. It never lasts, though; a few days later, there is the inevitable mud and mess.

Living in Georgia takes the edge off the relentless winters that northern states experience, but sometimes I miss the snow. Shaking a snow globe is not quite the same thing. Years ago, we lived in the Dallas, Texas, area; one winter day it started snowing, and I ran out my front door like a small child, giggling and catching snowflakes on my tongue. The neighbors probably thought that I had lost my mind. In less than an hour you wouldn't have known that it had snowed at all.

At the holidays I decorate my house with snowmen, and a few always linger on into the new year. Cheerful snow people cookie jars still grace my kitchen counters. They will probably go back into the cupboard this month, but I do enjoy seeing them all winter.

During the pandemic I actually dreamed about waking up and finding snowmen placed all over my yard by my GCMTA friends, who were waiting on me to come outside and "play" in the snow with them. I'm not a person who remembers her dreams often, but this one emphasized to me how much I missed seeing my friends and colleagues during that time. I'm quite grateful that we are able to meet in person again.

Enjoy this short month, even though you may not get to make snow angels. I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on February 22.

Cathy Thacker, NCTM
GCMTA President

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Teacher of the Year

The nominations have been submitted and the votes are being tallied! Be sure to attend the May luncheon for the big reveal!

Pam Asberry

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Membership

CONGRATS to GCMTA for being the largest MTA group in Georgia with 97 members. Beginning in January until June, membership dues for MTNA are half of the usual price, making it an ideal time to ask a potential music teacher to join.

As always, please invite guests (who are potential new members) to join us in action at our monthly meetings. THANK YOU to Yumi Patterson for inviting and bringing to our January meeting a former student who is now teaching music. Yumi received a bag of teacher goodies. Perhaps you might win a prize next month?

Remember that when you invite someone to consider membership that we offer so much: Resources, ongoing Education, and Peer camaraderie (Remember R E P) for loads of personal encouragement, practical strategies for business & classroom, and student events for all levels. Carry those business card invitations so you are ready the next time you meet a music teacher who isn't a GCMTA member.

-Deb Hughes, Membership Chair

Junior/Senior Scholarship

GCMTA Junior Senior Scholarship is scheduled for April 22, 2023, at PianoWorks. For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.gcmta.org>.

Yumi Patterson, NCTM



MED/PED Scholarship

If you have a high school senior who will be pursuing a Bachelor in Music Education or Pedagogy, please have them look into our MED/PED scholarship.

All information is on our website.

Deadline is May 1.

Theory Exams

Georgia Auditions Theory Examination: GATE

THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE THE GATE IS AT LOCAL AUDITIONS.



Date:	February 18, 2023
Location:	PianoWorks, Duluth, GA
Auditions Chairman:	Jiyeon Kwak 661-305-9980 jiyeonatwell@me.com
Exam Administrator:	Rie Hosoi 678-596-0401 riehosoi@yahoo.com

February Meeting

Our next meeting will be back at Lawrenceville First Baptist Church on Wednesday, February 22. Jeri-Mae Astolfi will be giving a presentation on "The Brain on Piano."

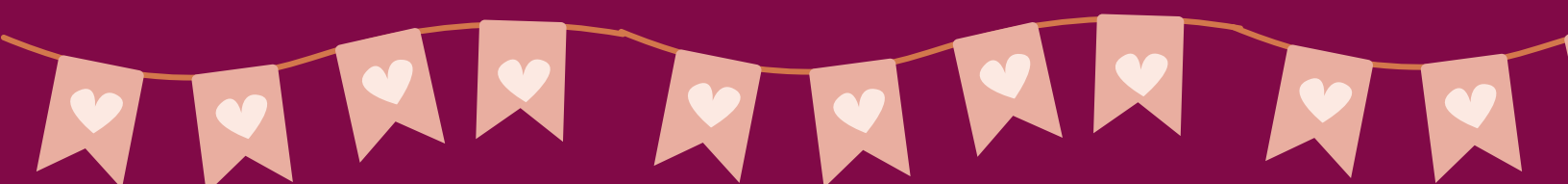
GENERAL INFORMATION:

Each pre-college piano or piano concerto participant in GMTA's local, regional, and state auditions is required to take and pass one of the three (3) theory exams ("GATEs") in order to advance beyond local auditions. Students may become EXEMPT from taking some or all of the GATEs. For exemption information, practice exams, and other important information regarding the GATE visit the GMTA website at: <http://georgiamta.org/>.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Registration for the GMTA Theory Test is only available ONLINE at the GMTA website: [Welcome - Georgia Music Teachers Association](#)

*Students may take the same test or the next level. Sample tests can be found on the GMTA Website.



Local Auditions Report

Date: February 18th, 2023

Location: Piano Works

We have 81 students and 22 teachers participating this year. \$1965.84 was received through PayPal - our treasurer should have the check by now. All the schedules have been sent out via email. Since we have 22 teachers total, I have decided that the teachers with only 1 student will not be working. I will be sending out teachers' work schedules soon. Also, it would really help if more teachers would bring refreshments. I will be sending an email out for the refreshment list shortly. I will be collecting \$17.00 per OPR student after the auditions for the trophies. Don't forget to write a check out to Gwinnett County MTA.

For any questions, please text Jiyeon Kwak at 661-305-9980.

For all GATE related questions, please contact Rie Hosoi at 678-596-0401 or riehosoi@yahoo.com.

Central Federated Festival

Everything is on track for the Central Gwinnett NFMC Festival. Please make sure to check your in box (and spam or junk folders) for communications from both Michelle Peck and Kathy Dawal. With registration closed, we are now beginning literature checks and scheduling. You should also be getting an email invoice showing your registration fees. Please mail your checks to:

Remit Payment To:
Make check payable to GCMTA
Mail your check to:
Robin Engleman
5518 Chimney Hollow
Norcross, GA 30093

Our GCMTA website has several pages of useful information. If you have any questions, please check there first, then contact me if you can't find the answer.

If you have entered students in the Virtual event, you will be receiving instructions soon. Please get copies of the music and rating sheets to me at the February meeting. If you will not be there, please deliver them to my home (address above) no later than February 21, 2023.

If your theory students would like to try some practice tests, Rie Hosoi has provided the following information:

Go to:
National Federation of Music Clubs (nfmc-music.org)

This is the NFMC website. Not the "Vivace" site.

(1) Click "Festivals" on the top. Don't select anything from the pull down menu - just click "Festivals."
(2) Go down to "Festival Year 2021 - 2024." You will see some example tests.

FESTIVAL YEAR 2021 - 2024	Test	Answers
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"Festival Year 2021 - 2024" is located between "Festival Forms" and "State Chairmen."



Festivals At a Glance

- West - February 25, 2023 - Berean Baptist Church
- Central - March 4, 2023 - Hebron Baptist Church
- North - March 11, 2023 - First Baptist Church Duluth



2023

Competitive
Piano

**Technithon
and
Hymnfest**

Saturday
April 22, 2023



**Berean Baptist
Music Academy**

1405 Hewatt Rd SW
Lilburn, GA 30047

Technithon

- Offers competitive opportunities at various levels of advancement
- Creates incentive to master scales, cadences, and arpeggios
- Ensures that technical forms are not neglected during piano study
- Promotes excellence through competition

The Technithon offers twelve distinct levels of competition, grouped into three sections. Each level is designed to require higher technical skill.

All participants will receive commemorative certificates along with judges' comments.

Hymnfest

- Increases confidence in solo playing for church services
- Encourages high levels of style and musicianship in offertories and other sacred solos
- Promotes excellence through competition

Students compete in one of three divisions according to their grade levels in school. First place winners in each division will be invited to play their winning selections in a special service at Berean Baptist Church on April 23rd.

More information & registration online at bbclilburn.org/technithon

Deadline for entry is April 7, 2023.

Registration Fees:

- One event: \$30
- Both events: \$40

Teachers will receive students' individual performance times via email.

Registration and requirements for the Technithon and Hymnfest are available at www.bbclilburn.org/technithon.

**Download your requirements
and register online today!**