

## MINUTES

### GWINNETT COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

March 22, 2023

Lawrenceville First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA

#### OFFICER'S REPORTS:

**President** – Cathy Thacker welcomed the members and thanked them for coming. She reminded them that she will be at the MTNA conference in Reno March 26-29 representing both GMTA and GCMTA. There might be a delay responding to emails and texts during that time. She also reminded members that there is no general meeting in April, but an Executive Board meeting just for officers and chairs. It will be held at her house, and she will email the EB with details.

**President-Elect** – Gloria Park – No regular meeting next month. May meeting is May 10 at Alexander Park Pavilion. We will announce Teacher of the Year and install our 2023-2025 officers.

**Secretary**—Debbie Murphy – Minutes for the February meeting are posted on the website. They stand as posted.

**Treasurer** – Robin Engleman – Treasurer's Report was emailed to the membership. There was no discussion.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Advisory** – Pam Asberry – No report

**Anti-Trust** – Mary Ann McTier – No report

**Certification** – Robin Engleman – No report

**Digital Resources** – Kathy Dawal – If you anticipate needing changes to existing forms or want new online forms for next year, please contact her.

**Directory/Internet** – Open

**Federated Festivals** – Judy Harper – No report

**North** – Beth Ann Wise – Many thanks to all the teachers and students on a very successful Festival in North Federated on March 11, 2023. We had 243 students participating and 18 teachers helping. Of the 243 students participating 233 Superior ratings were awarded.

The scholarship winners are:

1st place - Chase Choi - Teacher, Gloria Park

2nd place - Hailey Culp - Teacher, Ping Xu

3rd place - Amber Chang - Teacher, Ping Xu

4<sup>th</sup> place - Ellie Yih - Teacher, Ping Xu

Honorable Mentions:

Daniel Hill - Teacher, Gloria Park  
Myriord Reigns Dajaja - Teacher, Lisa Gaal  
Vasisht Vissa - Teacher, Rwei Hao  
Ashan Suneth Galhena - Teacher, Stephanie Freeman  
Raghu Sarraf - Teacher, Rwei Hao

**West** – Becky Bonam - There were 200 students who participated in the West Gwinnett festival. All received Superior ratings, except for 8 students who received Excellent ratings. (This includes students who played in other districts).

The cup totals are:

75-point cup-1  
45-point cup-6  
30-point cup-8  
15-point cup-17

I am again grateful to all the teachers for their hard work and participation.

**Central** – Kathy Dawal – Hebron Baptist Church went above and beyond in hosting our event. The day went smoothly with nearly 330 separate events. Michelle Peck and Kathy want to thank all the hard-working teachers and give a special thanks to the student volunteers who walked miles on our behalf. We are waiting for a few final ratings to come in and will finalize our results.

**GMTA Auditions** – Jiyeon Kwak – Everyone should have picked up their trophies by now. Jiyeon does not have any other info on regional or state auditions other than what was sent by state as a group email, so please check this link <https://georgiamta.org/audition-staff.php> and contact whoever is in charge.

**GMTA/GATE Theory** – Rie Hosoi – No report

**Hospitality** – Tina Darden – Thanks to Kimber Kwiatkowski, Mary Marshall Dekkers, and Francis O. Leach for providing snacks and water bottles for today's meeting.

**Junior/Senior Scholarship Audition** – Yumi Patterson – GCMTA Junior Senior Scholarship is scheduled on Saturday, April 22 at PianoWorks.

We have a record-high number of 15 juniors and seniors (13 piano students, and 2 voice students) competing for the scholarship. They are students of 9 teachers.

The awards are \$800 for first place, \$600 for second place, \$400 for third place, and \$200 for fourth place.

Our judge this year is Dr. Geoffrey Haydon, from GA State University.

The performances are scheduled from 8:15 AM to 11:45 AM on April 22 and are open to anyone who would like to come and listen to them in the Recital Hall. No applause, please.

Good luck to everyone!

Cathy Thacker mentioned that we were very fortunate that Derek Vann offered to come in and open PianoWorks early.

**MED/PED Scholarship** – Gloria Park – The deadline is May 1. Everything is on the website.

**Member-at-large** – Susan Andrews – No report

**Membership** – Deb Hughes – We get to welcome two new members who joined in February. Both live in Suwanee: **Yoonkyung Jang** and **Kim Sunduck**. I understand that Yoonkyung entered students in local Auditions so she has already begin participating in GCMTA!

If either would like to have a mentor, we would like an experienced GCMTA teacher to please volunteer to help one of them learn the ropes of our organization.

These two members bring our total to 99 members, which reminds me of the parable that speaks of the Shepherd leaving 99 sheep to search for a lost lamb so that he could once again have his entire flock of 100 intact! Although the analogy doesn't entirely match our situation it does bring to mind intentionality in looking for opportunities to share about GCMTA. Deb encouraged everyone to always carry the calling cards that invite potential new members to our meetings. She was able to hand one out two weeks ago while waiting in line at a pharmacy. You just never know when the conversation will turn in such a way that you can invite a music teacher to a meeting! If you are ready and open to finding new members, you may indeed find them! Please continue to carry your GCMTA cards this through the coming summer months. Deb remembers passing a GCMTA card in an airport while waiting for a flight. She had a couple of cards with her since they take up negligible space.

**Music Day** – Cathy Thacker/Kimber Kwaitkowski – Cathy has reached out to First Baptist in Duluth to see if the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in November is available.

**Music Link** – Nora Martin – Chris Morrow is going to step up and be the representative for GCMTA and is considering the State Level. Nora plans to continue being the regional rep. Nora mentioned students who are looking for teachers.

**MTNA Foundation/GMTA Awards** – Mary Ann McTier – No report

**Newsletter** – Diana Cleland – Cathy Thacker reminded the deadline is first of the month, but there is no April newsletter.

**Performance Day** – Lois Simon – No report

**Publicity/Social Media** – (Open)

**Teacher of the Year** – Pam Asberry

**Unfinished Business** – Senior Certificates will be available at April and May meetings.

**New Business** – Gloria Park presented the 2023-2025 Slate of Officers. Debra Hughes made a motion that we accept the slate and Susan Andrews seconded the motion. The slate was approved.

**Good of Order** –

**WHAT: ROOMFUL OF PIANOS COMES TO ATLANTA!**

**WHEN: June 21, 2023, 3-5PM**

WHERE: PianoWorks, 2805 Buford Highway, Duluth, Georgia

*Make Music Day* began in France in 1982, and takes place on the summer solstice, on June 21st. Since then, the holiday has spread throughout the world and is now celebrated in more than 1,000 cities in 120 different countries.

This year, *Roomful of Pianos Comes* to Atlanta! Brought to you by NAMM and affiliated with the *Make Music Alliance*, our local event will be a piano ensemble concert featuring duets, duos, trios, quartets, and more! Pianists of all ages and levels of ability are invited to participate; please email [pam.asberry@gmail.com](mailto:pam.asberry@gmail.com) for an application. And whether you choose to perform, plan to attend and be a part of this international musical event!

Debra Hughes mentioned that everyone needs Federated Certificates as validation of their score in case there is ever any discrepancy.

**Motion to Adjourn** – Cathy Thacker/11:25 am

**Attendees:**

Susan Andrews  
 Debbie Brady  
 Tina Darden  
 Mary Marshall Dekkers  
 Robin Engleman  
 Rei Hosoi  
 Deb Hughes  
 Kimber Kwiatkowski  
 Nora Martin  
 Nancy Morris  
 Francis O. Leach  
 Gloria Park  
 Yulia Soboleva  
 Mallory Stillwell  
 Cathy Thacker  
 Christina Walldren

*All actions for this Business Meeting were taken in accordance with the stated purpose of the organization and in accordance with the Bylaws.*