

GCMTA News



From the President

Is it just me or do the summers seem to get progressively faster?

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to having all your students back. Whether you got a nice vacation or worked straight through the summer, I hope you are excited as you look to a new year. My kids are older now, so the excitement of getting new school supplies and backpacks is gone and my youngest is facing his junior year in high school, but I don't want to lose the sense of anticipation about the possibilities ahead.

Without a doubt, there are many times that expectations can lead to disappointment. Eighteen years ago, my family moved here with three little ones and things did not go as expected. Pain, disappointment, difficult relationships, and unforeseen hardships can sometimes make us shy away from having expectations, even for our students. But when I look back, I am glad and thankful for the new trajectory and the new perspective that was only possible through the disappointment.

One of the many wonderful things that happened during this time was finding GCMTA through an encounter with Lois Simon at Music and Arts. Who knows what may happen this year? We have so many experienced teachers in our midst who have stories of unexpected things that turned out for good. I have gained so much from the wisdom of my colleagues in this organization, which is truly our greatest asset.

So, I hope you will look to the new year with a sense of anticipation -- for your students, for our organization, for your family and for yourself. And let GCMTA help you to learn new things, meet new people, gain new insights on teaching and yes, even living with a healthy sense of anticipation.

See you at our first meeting on September 27 at PianoWorks! (Thank you, Pam Asberry, for this unexpected and wonderful arrangement for our group!) You won't want to miss it.

Blessings as you start the new school year,

Gloria Park

IN THIS ISSUE

Teacher of the Year	2
Kevin Olson Workshop	2
Executive Board Meeting	2
Local Auditions	2
From the Treasurer	2
A Piano Study Group	3
MusicLink	3
Performance Day	3
Theory Exams	4
Digital Resources	4
Music Day	5
Monthly Meetings	6
A Note from GFMC	6
North Federated Festival	6
Central Gwinnett Federated Festival	6
Membership	6
Fall Conference Master Class	7



Teacher of the Year

December 31st is the deadline to make your nomination for GCMTA's 2024 Teacher of the Year! Nominees will be considered upon receipt of the nomination form (found online at <https://gcmta.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/TeacherOfYearNomination.pdf>) supported by letters of recommendation from colleagues and/or former students. The winner will be recognized at the annual May luncheon. Nomination forms, along with the appropriate documentation, should be sent to committee chair, Cathy Thacker, at csbt88@gmail.com.



Executive Board Meeting

Executive Board Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, August 23 at 10 AM

The Zoom link will be emailed to all officers and chairpersons.

Kevin Olson Workshop

WHAT: KEVIN OLSON WORKSHOP!

WHEN: Friday, October 13, 2023

WHERE: PianoWorks, 2805 Buford Highway, Duluth, Georgia

Kevin Olson is coming to PianoWorks! He will represent CCC Music Company, publisher of works created by a variety of contemporary composers around the globe - composers we know and love, such as Philip Keveren, Mary Leaf, Wynn-Anne Rossi, and many others. These compositions reflect the diversity of their experiences, conveying the passions, dreams, and quiet musings of these talented musicians.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

- 8:30am - Registration
- 9:00-10:15am - Workshop 1
- 10:15-10:30am - Break
- 10:30-11:45am - Workshop 2
- 11:45-12:00pm - Q&A



Light refreshments will be served, and everyone who pre-registers will receive a FREE piece of sheet music, courtesy of CCC Music Company. To pre-register for this FREE event, email pam@pianoworks.com with your name and email address.

Local Auditions

WHERE: Piano Works WHEN: February 3, 2024

Teachers may register students to participate in GCMTA's Local Auditions by going to GMTA.org from January 1 to January 15. GCMTA's Local Audition is the first preliminary for GMTA's Pre-College Piano competition grades 4-11 in April. Remember to register for theory at the same time as piano. Local Auditions are scheduled for February 3, 2024 at Piano Works. Local Audition winners who receive Outstanding Performer and also pass the theory test can then make a video recording of their literature to proceed to Regionals. This is due in March. The winners of Regionals proceed to an in-person adjudication at the State level. Literature requirements can be found at GMTA.org for the Pre-College Piano event. Any questions can be addressed to Deb Hughes at bndhughes@comcast.net.

NOTE: Senior students who wish to proceed directly to State MUST also take the GATE (theory) exam on February 3 unless exempt. The registration deadline for theory is the same as 4-11 graders: January 15.

From the Treasurer

Reminder - All members who need a reimbursement should submit a Funds Request Form, which is found in the Forms section of the website:
<https://gcmta.org/home/index/forms>

Guidelines for Teachers Performing Group

A Piano Study Group

Purpose

The Teachers Performing Group provides a forum for piano teachers to improve their skills as musicians and teachers through self-directed study and group support. Each member will plan his/her personal musical goals and will have the opportunity to present something to the group at meetings regularly.

Examples of Presentations

- Performance of piano repertoire, any style
- A section, movement, or (time permitting) a complete work
- “Performance ready” or “in progress”
- Solo or duet repertoire; accompaniment (preferably with soloist present; improvisation; original composition)

Generally speaking, each presentation may last up to 10 minutes, depending upon the number of participants that day. If any member has an upcoming performance and needs extra time, he/she should tell the coordinator before the meeting.

No critiques will be given after a performance unless requested by the performer. However, since this is a teachers group, discussions about related teaching issues (technique, style, editions, etc.) can be a valuable part of our meetings.

Membership

Membership is open to any pianist/teacher who will commit to the goals of the group and who will participate regularly (but not necessarily at each meeting).

When, Where, Etc.

The group will meet every month, year round, at PianoWorks in Duluth. Meetings will generally be held on the third Friday of each month, although the date is subject to change in case of conflict with other events at PianoWorks. Doors will open at 10:00AM; meetings will begin promptly at 10:15 AM and conclude by noon. The first meeting will be held on Friday, August 16, 2023.

It is not practical for children to attend.

Communication will be done via e-mail. To sign up for the e-mail list, contact pam@pianoworks.com.

MusicLink

I am pleased to be taking Nora's place as the new MusicLink coordinator for GCMTA. If you have an interest in becoming a MusicLink teacher, or have students to whom this program would be a benefit, please let me know!
Chris Morrow (twomorrows93@gmail.com)

Performance Day

Performance Day is coming back! Chris Morrow is the new chairperson and will be seeking a place to hold this event. Any ideas are appreciated! Contact her at twomorrows93@gmail.com.

Theory Exams

GMTA THEORY TEST

THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE THE GMTA THEORY TEST IS AT THE GCMTA MUSIC DAY EVENT.



Date: November 11, 2023
Exam Fee: \$10 per student
Location: Duluth First Baptist Church, Duluth, GA
Application Deadline (Online Only): October 7, 2023
Music Day Chairman: TBD

Test Administrator: Rie Hosoi
678-596-0401
riehosoi@yahoo.com



APPLICATION INFORMATION:

*Registration for the GMTA Theory Test is only available **ONLINE** at the GMTA website
<http://georgiamta.org/>

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

Georgia Auditions Theory Examination: GATE

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



Date: February 3, 2024
Exam Fee: \$15 per student
Location: PianoWorks, Duluth, GA
Registration Deadline (Online Only): January 13, 2024
Auditions Chairman: TBD

Exam Administrator: Rie Hosoi
678-596-0401
riehosoi@yahoo.com

Digital Resources

This year we are working to get all of our events set up with online registration. This will make it easier for the event chairs to schedule the students, and will eliminate teachers having to drive across the county to deliver a registration on time. If your event has not yet created an online registration form, please contact Kathy Dawal.

Contact Kathy Dawal by phone or text at 404-583-9769, or email: kdawal81@gmail.com.

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:
<http://georgiamta.org/>

MUSIC DAY

We are looking forward to starting our performance year in GCMTA with Music Day. It will be held November 11, 2023, at the First Baptist Church in Duluth. Registration will open in September. Please check our website for updates later this month.

Entry is \$25 per student, and \$10 for each additional event entered. Events include piano solo, duets, trios, and ensembles. Voice categories are Art Song and Musical Theater. Guitar categories include solo, duets, trios, and ensembles. Flute, Clarinet, and other instruments are also welcome. If you wish to enter a student in a category or instrument not mentioned above, or have any other questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Dawal.

Make sure to check repertoire requirements on the website before assigning literature to your students. And if you have any questions on literature, check first. Each instrument has slightly different requirements. Even for beginning students, two different composers are required. For piano solo, arrangements and folksongs are not allowed. Please, please, please, check first, then assign. We want this event to be a successful one for students and their teachers.

As usual, we will try to schedule siblings as close to each other as possible. Make sure to specify students needing to be scheduled close together in the space provided on the online registration form. Other scheduling requests should be kept to what is necessary. This is an all day event. Virtual participation will again be an option. If a student knows of a conflict with the date, this might be the best choice. Our virtual judge is selected to be able to judge a wide range of grades and skill levels. Students who are sick the week of Music Day are welcome to switch to Virtual Performance so as not to miss out.

This year we are dividing up many of the tasks leading up to Music Day to lighten the load of those running it. Over the years, many of the teachers participating have become specialists in certain event activities. We hope to take advantage of your experience and skills in making Music Day a success. If there is an area you particularly would like to help in, please contact Kathy Dawal.

All Music Day questions, concerns, or anything else should be sent to Kathy Dawal, who will forward them to the correct person. That way no one's problem will fall through the cracks—or at least you will know who to blame! Contact Kathy Dawal by phone or text at 404-583-9769, or email: kdawal81@gmail.com.

Hospitality and Lunch for Music Day will be coordinated by Michelle Peck. Lunch will be box subs/wraps or salads provided by Publix.

All lunches will be individually boxed and packaged. The box lunch includes a half Publix sub sandwich or wrap, a bag of chips, 2 cookies, and drink. The cost is \$9.00. The box salad is Strawberry Glazed Pecan (leafy greens, strawberries, pecans, feta cheese, and brown sugar Balsamic Vinaigrette on the side) which includes an apple, a bag of chips, and a drink. The cost is \$12.00.

Please check the GCMTA website to make your selection (form will be active closer to the date). Upon ordering, please mail a check to Michelle Peck at 2669 Snowshoe Bend, Bethlehem, GA 30620. Please make your check payable to Michelle Peck. Venmo and Zelle are also accepted. Please contact Michelle Peck at michellenews@hotmail.com to make a virtual payment. The deadline for ordering and payment is Saturday, November 4th, 2023.

Monthly Meetings

Please join us for our monthly Wednesday meetings! Here is our schedule.

Where:
PianoWorks
2805 Buford Highway
Duluth, GA. 30096

September 27: Cathy Thacker, NCTM
“GMTA Auditions: An Overview”

October 25: Dr. Francis Leach
“Practice Strategies that Lead to
Performance Confidence “

November 15: Dr. Vicente Della Tonia,
Jr.
“Effective Practice: A Shorter Road to
Stronger Results”

January 24: Luncheon

February 28: Dr. Alan Woo
Title of presentation TBA

March 27: Masterclass with Dr. Joe
Chapman

May 22: Luncheon and TOTY



North Federated Festival

North Federated Festival will be
held on Sat., March 9, 2024 at
First Baptist Church Duluth.

Membership

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, go online to MTNA.org and be sure to designate GMTA and GCMTA and then remit the amount so that you might be a member in good standing. Remember, individuals over age 70 qualify for the Senior MTNA Membership rate of \$72.75 instead of \$97. Also, PLEASE INVITE prospective new members to join and also to attend our meetings!

Hello teacher friend, what's that you say?
You are busy in the mornings on Wednesday?
But we only once a month have a meeting,
we'd love you to join our musical proceedings!
Yes, we are all independent teachers who
like to learn, share, and try to
develop students musically to perform.
Plus, we too get superbly informed
of techniques and business' best
as we pursue our studio quest.
So, please show up, we want you to come.
We are intent on friendship and wisdom!

A Note from GFMC

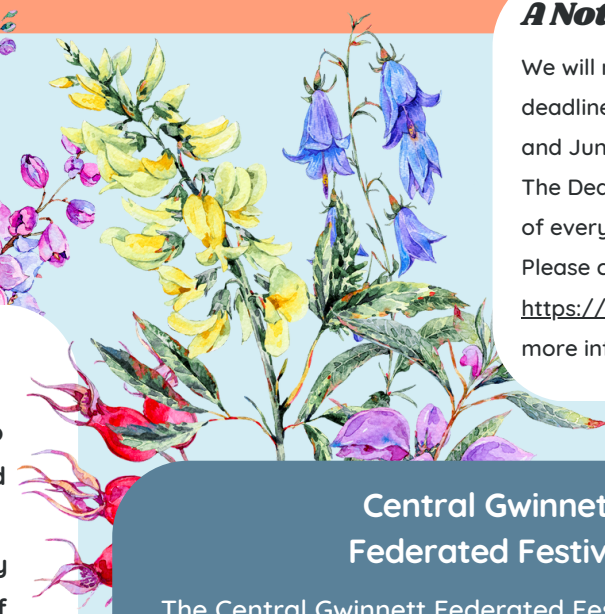
We will now have only 1 (one)
deadline for all Senior Club Dues
and Junior Club Dues!
The Deadline will be October 15th
of every year henceforward.
Please check the GFMC website at
<https://georgianfmc.org/> for
more information

Central Gwinnett Federated Festival

The Central Gwinnett Federated Festival will be held
on March 2nd, 2024 at Hebron Baptist Church (202
Hebron Church Rd, Dacula, GA 30019).

Co-Chairman/Vivace coordinator: Kathy Dawal
Contact information:
cell: 404-583-9769
email: kdawal81@gmail.com

Co-Chairman: Michelle Peck
Contact information:
cell: 404-735-0092 (call or text)
email: michellenews@hotmail.com



Georgia Federation of Music Clubs (GFMC) Fall Conference 2023

Catherine Rollin Master Class

GFMC, along with N.Fulton MTA, and N.DeKalb MTA, are excited to present Catherine Rollin as Headliner for GFMC Fall Conference Sept. 16, 2023.



Location for Event

Northbrook United Methodist Church
11225 Crabapple Rd, Roswell, GA 30075
Ms. Rollin will present 2 workshops and a Master Class.

Workshop #1 – The Magic of Imagery

Catherine will demonstrate with examples from Chopin, Beethoven, Rollin and many others, to show how storytelling, singing, dancing, and artwork imagery can lead to magical results and inspired performances from our students.

Workshop #2 – Creativity and Composing – The States of Mind and Means of Inspiration

In this session Catherine will explore four well received series of her music: "The Bean Bag Zoo Collector's Series," "Lyric Moments," "Sounds of Spain," and "Museum Masterpieces" and how each series evolved. Each of these series involved very different processes of writing, but at the foundation is the desire to explore how we can all find our creativity. The goal is to inspire creativity in all aspects of our work as musicians – to understand the composers' approach – helps us all to be more creative interpreters and teachers.

Master Class

There will be 6 students chosen by committee to participate in this Master Class.

**Register
Now!**

**Free
Workshop!**



Presented to you
by:
GFMC, NFMTA,
NDMTA,
AMTA, and
Piano Works

When:

Saturday,
September 16, 2023
9:00 - 3:00pm

Where:

Northbrook United
Methodist Church
11225 Crabapple Rd
Roswell, GA 30075

Catherine Rollin!

9:00 am Workshop 1
10:30am Workshop 2
12:00pm Catered Lunch
1:00pm Master Class

Reservation Required
Email Marcena Kinney:
mkinney555@gmail.com