

GCMTA News



From the President

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a joyful and restful holiday season. Mine was mixed with joy and sorrow as I enjoyed having all of my children and my new son-in-law with us for Christmas, but also attended a memorial service for my friend's husband who died at 55 from cancer. The service, attended by a representative of the governor of Virginia and the lieutenant governor herself, was a powerful reminder to me of how to live fully while we live. This man fought for the rights of the pre-born, particularly in the African-American community, but what everyone was left with was the manner in which he fought - with love, faith, dignity, humility, compassion, and integrity that influenced thousands of lives.

The new year is a good time to reset, whether you still make resolutions or not. What are your goals as a teacher as you look to the new year? While I hope to see much musical growth in my students, I also hope to set an example in the manner in which I pursue my goals, prioritizing the things that really matter.

I am looking forward to working with all of you for a brighter future for our students.

Be sure to read through the newsletter as we have some important deadlines approaching. See you on January 24 at the brunch!

Gloria Park

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Teacher of the Year

All nominations are in for the 2024 Teacher of the Year, so stay tuned for the announcement at the May meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the committee chair, Cathy Thacker, at <mailto:csbt88@gmail.com>.



Masterclass

Georgia Musicale Group presents Dr. Elena Dorozhkina Masterclass and Presentation on Saturday, January 13, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM, at PianoWorks, 2805 Buford Highway, Duluth, GA 30096.

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Masterclass (Music from Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras)

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: Presentation – “How to play expressively on piano? The three essential pivots of the art of expressive piano playing: beautiful “cultured” piano sound, legato technique, and phrase formation.”

Admission fee: Georgia Musicale Group members \$10, non-members \$20

Payment methods:

- Purchase tickets at mygmg.org at Event Ticket Purchase button
- Send a check to Julie Woodall, GMG Treasurer, 226 Oak Creek Drive, Dawsonville, GA 30534
- Pay at the door on January 13

Junior/Senior Scholarship

The Junior/Senior Scholarship event will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at PianoWorks in Duluth. The entry deadline is March 15, 2024, and registration is now online. Information and requirements are posted online at <https://gcmta.org/home/index/student-activities/juniorsenior-scholarship>. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Thacker, chair, at <mailto:csbt88@gmail.com>.

January Meeting

Please join us for our first meeting of 2024!

January Brunch

Wednesday, January 24 at 10:00 AM

1123 House

1123 Dogwood Road SW

Snellville, GA 30078

****Please note that this is not our regular location.****

Bring a dish to share and be encouraged as we start a new year of teaching. Games and prizes, too!

Theory Exams

Georgia Auditions Theory Examination: GATE

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



Date:	February 17, 2024
Exam Fee:	\$15 per student
Location:	PianoWorks, Duluth, GA
Registration Deadline (Online Only):	<u>January 15, 2024</u>
Auditions Chairman:	Deb Hughes 770-401-1978 bndhughes@comcast.net
Exam Administrator:	Rie Hosoi 678-596-0401 <u>riehosoi@yahoo.com</u>

Performance Day

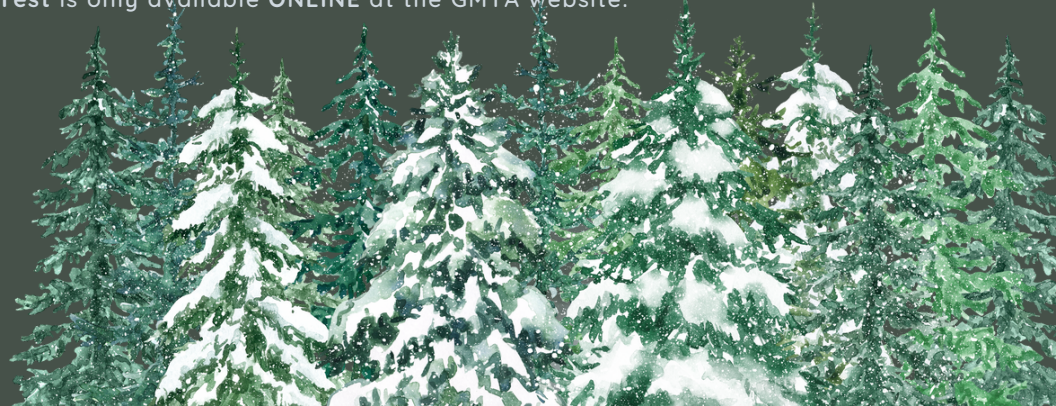
Performance Day had a total of 16 students participate from 3 teachers. It was held at Special Kneads Bakery. The students seemed to enjoy the casual atmosphere, but not many customers came in while they were playing, so a larger venue will most likely be sought for this year.

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/>



Local Auditions

The firm deadline is JANUARY 15. You must use GMTA's new registration website TENUTO. If you check your January 1st email from GMTA there are direct links. If you go to GeorgiaMTA.org you can also find the links to TENUTO.

-Remember to also register for the GATE theory test if the student is not exempt.-

NOTE: Notice of the scheduling for students will occur in early February. All teachers are required to work February 17th at PianoWorks. Scheduling will come via email from bndhughes@comcast.net (Debra Hughes) for each teacher, as well.

Membership

****IT IS HALF PRICE TIME!**** If you know potential new members that you can invite to join, the new year is the perfect time to introduce prospective members to MTNA! Beginning January 1, 2024, and through June 30, anyone joining for the first time as an active member will receive 50% off national dues! Here are some PERKS:

1. Discounted member rates for events like the MTNA Conference in Atlanta (March 16-20), as well as discounts on services like copying, car rental, insurance, etc..
2. Professional development of all sorts - journals, webinars, meetings, etc.
3. Networking with peers - GCMTA is the best!!

NFMC's Angie Greer Poetry Award

NFMC's Angie Greer Poetry Award is a National competition for ALL students. Deadline is February 1st. Please encourage your students to write something about music and enter at NFMC-music.org. If you have questions ask Debra Hughes at bdnhughes@comcast GA had no entries last year. I would guess there might be some Georgia music students that might try their hand at this event! So what's POETRY have to do with MUSIC? There are LOTS of correlations and useful similarities...

- RHYTHM
- METER
- INFLECTION
- MOOD
- EMOTION
- ARTISTRY
- MESSAGING
- INSPIRATION
- PERSONAL
- LISTENING
- INTERPRETATION
- PATTERN
- FORM
- DYNAMICS
- SPEED
- PERFORMANCE
- PITCH
- SOUND
- REPETITION
- PLEASURE
- UNIVERSALITY
- VOICE
- MOVEMENT
- SILENCES



MusicLink

Do you want to give the gift of music to an underprivileged student? Become a MusicLink teacher! Message Chris at twomorrrows93@gmail.com for more information.

Let's help our students to be better musicians by also engaging them in poetry. It is a way to enhance their interpretive skills and artistry. Poetry and music are connotative experiences. Reading poetry sets the tone for artistic music study.

Central Federated Festival

March 2nd, 2024 at Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula

Submission deadline for registration through Vivace is January 27th. Checks must be postmarked by February 3 and mailed to the GCMTA Treasurer, Christina Waldren.

Entrance fee of \$28.00 per student, \$15.00 each additional event, payable in a SINGLE CHECK to GCMTA. No late registrations accepted. Cash or individual checks will not be accepted.

For assistance with Vivace, please contact Kathy Dawal (text preferred) at 404-583-9769. For all other questions involving literature, payment, class/level assignments, point stacking, gold cups, etc, please contact Michelle Peck at 404-735-0092 or michellenews@hotmail.com.



Festivals at a Glance

West - February 24, 2024 Berean Baptist Church

Central - March 2, 2024 Hebron Baptist Church

North - March 9, 2024 First Baptist Church Duluth

Registration Deadline: January 27, 2024 at festivals.nfmc-music.org

Add new students to your existing roster or notify your chairman if you have any transfer students. Refer to the November Newsletter and the GCMTA website for important rules and procedures.

Student Fees: \$28 for 1st event + \$15 for each additional event.

Mail or hand-deliver check made to "GCMTA" to the GCMTA Treasurer:

Christina Waldren
679 Avonley Creek Trace
Sugar Hill, GA 30518

2023 GMTA Conference Overview

The 2023 GMTA State Conference was wonderful, thanks to VP of Programs Dr. Jeri-Mae Astolfi, her committee, and Executive Director Mandy Reynolds! Shorter University, Dr. Jerico Vasquez, Professor Amy Neal, and the Shorter collegiate MTA chapter were very hospitable and accommodating.

Noa Kageyama was our Pedagogy Headliner, and his sessions were quite different compared to previous pedagogues' presentations. He is on faculty at Juilliard, where he earned his MM in Violin Performance. He received a BA in Psychology from Oberlin and MS and PhD degrees in Counseling and Counseling Psychology from Indiana University. His programs centered on practice strategies, becoming more pressure-proof, and beating performance anxiety, topics helpful to both teachers and students.

Simone Dinnerstein was our Conference Recitalist and Master Class Clinician. She is known for her commitment to give concerts to audiences who do not often hear classical music. She gave an amazing concert Friday evening with music by Couperin, Schumann, Glass and Satie. She was very insightful with the Master Class participants the following morning.

Our Georgia's Own presentations offered great variety in both subject matter and presenters; some sessions were pedagogical in nature, and others focused on repertoire or composers. Some of my favorite programs included Huu Mai's Unveiling Beethoven's Soul and Dr. Yingzhou Hu's and Dr. Della Tonia's collaborative presentation on African-American Women Composers.

At the Friday afternoon business session, four GMTA Grants were given, and one was awarded to our GCMTA president, Gloria Park! These grants have an easy application process, so please consider applying for one next year. The business meeting was followed by the premiere of the commissioned work, *Stages, A Student's Journey*, by Brandon Walker, scored for saxophone and string trio. Numerous talented students were highlighted in the various MTNA and GMTA Winners' Recitals.

Sixty collegiate members attended the conference, and we all loved their enthusiasm. The Friday evening banquet was held in the Price Learning Center on Shorter's campus, and we enjoyed a delicious meal. One newly certified member was recognized, as well as two 50-year members. Dr. Joe Chapman received the much-prized GMTA Teacher of the Year Award for 2023. Joseph "Joey" Hokayem and David Watkins were honored as upcoming 2024 MTNA Foundation Fellows.

The 2024 GMTA Conference is tentatively planned for November 7-9, 2024, venue TBA. Make plans now to attend!





Music Day Winners and Honorable Mentions 2023



Grade 12 Piano Solo

Winners

George Frilot IV (Mann)

Honorable Mentions

Khoi Hoang (J. Kim)

Ian Irkhin (Andrews)

Willie Chi (Walldren)

Grade 12 Voice Solo: Art Song

Winner

Meredith Manlove-Simmons (Hughes)

Grade 11 Piano Solo

Winners

Chizua Ndukwe (Andrews)

Daniel Hill (Park)

Robyn Gray (Walldren)

Vincent Rao (Chan)

Dilan Shingadia (Park)

Kaundinya Challa (Peck)

Honorable Mentions

Abigail Marley (Park)

Ellis Johnson (Bennett)

Grade 10 Piano Solo

Winners

Benjamin Vasquez (Andrews)

Shiloh Neal (Park)

Chase Choi (Park)

Neil Patel (J. Lee)

Brooke Robinson (McTier)

Taylor Ferguson (Dawal)

Honorable Mentions

Noah An (Mitchell)

Sarah Lackey (McTier)

Grade 10 Piano Ensemble

Winners

Sarah Lackey (McTier)

Haylee Tamas (McTier)

Grade 9 Piano Solo

Winners

Jasmine Thomas (Asberry)

Christa Hillstrand (Bennett)

Victoria Mahecha (Thacker)

Dariana Henriquez (McTier)

Vivian McCulloch (S.H. Kim)

Aislin Burke (Dawal)

Honorable Mentions

Alex Han (J. Lee)

Levi Pomuti (S.H. Kim)

Charlotte Capel (Asberry)

Grade 8 Piano Solo

Winners

David Lomashvili (Andrews)

Eli An (Mitchell)

Elissa Ko (Mann)

Seth Feci (Compton)

Angelleena Vo (J. Lee)

Alicia Kizza (McTier)

Rocco Rosenberg (Dawal)

Honorable Mentions

Eileen Yu (Gaal)

Joy Gheorghies (Bennett)

Zayd Laiwalla (J. Lee)

Ella Opp (Asberry)

Seeyoung Lee (Park)

Shivam Patel (Gaal)

Joy Cao (Walldren)

Grade 7 Piano Solo

Winners

Eva Huynh (Thacker)

Amarin Stevens (Compton)

Danyellen Myndresku (Bennett)

Sophia Hu (J. Kim)

Isaac Hong (Thacker)

Jooyoung Kim (E.Y. Lee)

Honorable Mentions

Michael Zheng (McTier)

Noah Tran (S.H. Kim)

Jashn Kumar (Kwiatkowski)

Dominic Ford (Park)

Jakob Cheban (Bennett)

Hudson Daws (Walldren)

Elli Chi (Walldren)

Grade 7 Voice Solo: Musical Theater

Honorable Mention

Zeta Hilley (Hughes)

We had a very successful Music Day. We were very happy with the facility and the support from their Building Manager, Sherry. We also appreciate the excellent support from the teachers on-site and our eight wonderful volunteer students: without the student volunteers we could not have had a successful festival. They did a great job, especially at helping the younger students enjoy their experience and feel relaxed.

We had 285 in-person participants and 20 virtual, for a combined total of 305. Of those, 296 received a Superior. 62 cash prizes were awarded along with 58 Honorable Mentions. We have had a number of favorable comments about the quality of the judges comments as well. Thank you everyone who had a share in making this day go smoothly and successfully.

If you need to pick up your folders or other items, please contact Kathy Dawal. (kdawal81@gmail.com)



Music Day Winners and Honorable Mentions 2023

Grade 6 Piano Solo

Winners

- Liana Grigoryan (Soboleva)
- Emily Han (J. Lee)
- Luka Meschaniuk (Soboleva)
- Eric Oh (J. Lee)
- Luochen Li (Chan)
- William Evora (Dawal)
- Dylan Phan (Hughes)
- Ethan Pak (Park)

Honorable Mentions

- Monica Yu (Gaal)
- Ethan Nguyen (E.Y. Lee)
- Rihaan Kalra (Freeman)
- Leo Huang (Thacker)
- Tyler Lyu (Darden)
- Bennett Free (McTier)
- Charlie Fowler (McTier)
- Evan Park (Park)
- Nicole Para (Dawal)
- Austin Lam (Gaal)
- Jaylan Tran (J. Lee)

Grade 5 Piano Solo

Winners

- Amin Morales (Andrews)
- Nhien Vo (H. Kim)
- Lillian Lee (S.H. Kim)
- Sandra Sitanggang (S.H. Kim)
- Gabriel Katchourine (Soboleva)
- Emma Chen (Thacker)
- Ruby Li (Chan)
- Richard Lu (E.Y. Lee)
- Chaeyeong Park (S. Kim)

Honorable Mentions

- Anna Bekele (Thacker)
- Ariana Ford (Park)
- Iliya Harrell (Dawal)
- Noah Song (Park)

Grade 4 Piano Solo

Winners

- Rayna Sitanggang (S.H. Kim)
- Kristy Tsai (J. Lee)
- William Chung (S.H. Kim)
- Theodore Lomashvili (Andrews)
- Wesley Tsai (J. Lee)
- Winston Tsai (J. Lee)
- Salome Gabor (Bennett)
- Francesca Vieriu (Bennett)
- John Loggins (Bennett)
- Bowon Choi (J. Lee)

Honorable Mentions

- Edward Gavriluc (Asberry)
- Calvin Shin (Gaal)
- Lyen Dong (Hosoi)
- Caleb Liu (Chan)
- Zayn Laiwalla (J. Lee)
- Ryan Huang (Thacker)
- Elizabeth Shubert (Thacker)
- Cathleen Zheng (Walldren)
- Nicolas Palmieri (Bennett)
- Monica Wu (Chan)
- Frank Li (Thacker)
- Anabelle Cheban (Bennett)
- Ethan Daws (Walldren)
- Maynor Jiao (Chan)
- Amelia Prohor (Bennett)
- Michael Zhang (Chan)
- Vivian Liu (Chan)
- Mishka Lakhani (Simon)

