WE WANT YOU!

Welcome to the 2014-2015 season of Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association programs, festivals, meetings and events! We are looking forward happily to a full slate of musically enriching teacher and student activities! It is our sincere hope that each member is actively engaged and participating in every event they would choose! Please feel personally invited to all of them because “We Want You”!

Our job as GCMTA officers is to facilitate and be helpful. Feel free to ask us to lend you a hand! If you don’t understand how a program works or the guidelines that govern it, please don’t hesitate to call on me or any of the Executive Board for answers. We stand ready to assist you! We are here to make you feel welcome, encouraged and able to participate. If there is something that you would like to participate in and up till now hesitated, please plan to do it this year! We want you! (I know I said that already but repetition is the key for us teachers, right?!?) You are an important part of our success story! We love it when new people join in. We want to build, encourage and rally!

Ben Franklin said, “A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small bundle.” Isn’t that true? GCMTA is one of the best because of its members’ commitment to cooperativeness! The Executive Board and Chairs of our programs are here to serve! And I must stop to say to all of them, “THANK YOU for your dedication to serving GCMTA well! I appreciate all of the hours of work you put in to make GCMTA superb!”

So with our invitation to everyone to join in and our leaders ready to serve, we look forward to another wonderful year! We do have some openings available for anyone wishing to jump in on the fun! We are still in need of Chairpersons for Fry’s Performance Day and the Ensemble Extravaganza. I will be glad to answer any questions about these spots of leadership that involve minimal work!

Kathy Dawal is also looking for an assistant to work with her on the website.

Plan on attending our first meeting on Wednesday, September 24 at 9:45 at Lawrenceville Church of God and remember that “WE WANT YOU!”

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

- Deb Hughes, President

On August 27, at 9:30, the Executive Board (Chairs, Officers and Advisory Committee) will meet at Deb Hughes’ home at 2937 Moorings Parkway, Snellville, 30039. Please have all of your dates and forms for your event. Remember that only one Chair is asked to attend this meeting; each event is asked to attend this meeting. If you can not attend, please notify Deb at 770-978-9680 or bndhughes@comcast.net. We will finish by noon.
The Atlanta Music Club (AMC) invites you to have up to three students participate in their project called Young Performers Concert (YPC). The first one will be held on Sunday, November 9, 2014 at 3 PM at Piano Distributors, 1736 Cobb Parkway, SE, Marietta, GA. The application deadline is October 31, 2014. You can contact the Chairperson, Nancy Edison via the AMC’s website, AtlantaMusicClub.org for registration details.

The next YPC date is Sunday, January 18 at Steinway Piano Galleries, Alpharetta.

If you have any questions please call Deb Hughes at 770-978-9680.

Atlanta Music Club’s mission is music education, music scholarship and music enjoyment. In keeping with this directive, our own Pam Asberry and Natalie Hardy, who are actually called the Asberry & Hardy Piano Duo, will be presenting a program on Sunday, August 17 for the Atlanta Music Club’s opening meeting at Steinway Galleries, 5950 North Point Parkway, Alpharetta.

Refreshments will begin at 2:45 with the Concert at 3:30. Please come and hear two of our finest GCMTA teachers present some fabulous music. Natalie has written one of the pieces that they will be performing. How wonderful is that!!
Teaching Opportunities

Ken Stanton Music’s Stone Mountain location is opening up a few new studios and are looking for piano teachers to help fill the rooms. If you are interested please email SaraS@kenstanton.com, call the store 678-672-6742 or my cell 678-517-9393.

Make your plans now to prepare and register your students for Music Day. Music Day is a competitive event for all instruments in grades 4-12, in which students play two original selections of contrasting style and period. Winners are awarded $30 cash prizes, and there are multiple winners per grade level based on the number of entrants. KS through 3rd grade students may also play, but for ratings only.

Last year’s event boasted a record number of contestants and teachers. Because of that, we will be utilizing eight rooms and judges this year so that the day will not be so long for all of the workers.

Music Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 15, 2014, and will be held at the First Baptist Church of Duluth. Registration deadline is Friday, October 10, and will be done online, but you will mail your check for fees to Cathy Thacker, 2603 Twilight View, Snellville, GA 30078. Kathy Dawal, Linda Walker, and I are looking forward to a great Music Day this November!

Gwinnett Discount Music is looking for piano teachers at both of their locations: Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville, and Braselton Hwy in Dacula. If you are interested, please call the store at 770-237-8001 and ask for Chris.

Univ. of N. Ga—Gainesville campus is looking for a part-time staff accompanist, starting this fall semester. Minimum degree requirement is a Master’s Degree, and strong sight-reading skills is a must. Please send resumes and inquiries to Benjamin.schoening@ung.edu.
Teachers who plan to participate in Federated Festivals in February should begin considering the students you plan to enter. You will need to pay the Federated Club dues for these Juniors (students) and Seniors (teacher/adults) to your Federated Chairman. The deadline for the dues and your number of students is the first meeting on SEPTEMBER 24. The form to fill out and turn in with your payment will be available in the September Newsletter and on the website. All required music must be chosen from the 2014-2016 NFMC Bulletin.

Judy Harper, 770-476-3950
judyharper@comcast.net

Federated Notes

Happy Birthday to You!

Kathryn Dawal, August 4
Pamela Asberry, August 15
Nora Martin, August 19
Kay Sauers, August 21
Alicia Chandler, August 24
David Peoples, August 27
Jennifer Groover, August 30

Programs

Do you teach rhythm? How about improvisation? Do you love great piano duo entertainment? Ever teach a student with ADD? If you said “yes” to any of these questions, then be sure to attend the 2014-2015 GCMTA meetings. We have programs lined up that are practical, fun, educational and will enrich your studio. You and your students will benefit from your participation in GCMTA this year!

We welcome Ipek Brooks in September as she demonstrates how using movement to teach rhythm is very effective with our students. October brings Kathy Morris to give us a very “do-able” method for teaching improvisation. We give thanks in November for the opportunity to hear our own Pam Asberry and Natalie Hardy in a duo piano concert held at PianoWorks! Don’t miss our January Brunch when we’ll have a panel discussion about teaching students with special needs. In February we will be introduced, many of us for the first time, to the music of Romantic composer Charles-Valentin Alkan. March is master class month when friend and well-respected teacher, Lois Finlay, works with several of our students. And, finally, May ushers in a new slate of GCMTA officers with our officer installation and luncheon.

We are grateful for the new faces that joined us last year, and we look forward to seeing GCMTA members new and old as our year gets off to a great start Wednesday, September 24, at 9:30. All meetings are held at Lawrenceville Church of God unless otherwise noted.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Mary Ann McTier
Music teacher certification through MTNA strengthens the music teaching profession by asserting the validity of teaching credentials in the public eye. What could be more important to preserve and announce...?

Jane Magrath, NCTM

www.mtnacertification.org/certification-overview/

Robin Engleman, NCTM

englemanr@bellsouth.net

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Random Stuff

Mary Marshall Dekkers has new phone numbers.
Home: 470-767-8578
Cell: 404-414-3165

PIANO FOR SALE
1952 Steinway console piano with bench. New hammers and damper felts
Price:$3900.00.
Color: mahagony
Finish: good
Contact Bob McMullen
770-381-8940

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Newsletter

If you have information that needs to go in the newsletter, please email it to gcmtamail@gmail.com. Label your email with “newsletter” in the subject line. You can also call me at 678-985-9302. Please send me your information as you want it worded in the newsletter, and have it to me by the 1st of the month. Please try not to do too much formatting on your information (spacing, tabs, etc.) Leave that up to me. Thank you!

Natalie Hardy