

GWINNETT COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 27, 2022

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President – Cathy Thacker

Cathy called the meeting to order at 9:49a.m. and expressed her appreciation for all the hard work and dedication of the Executive Board.

President-Elect – Gloria Park

The next meeting, the May Luncheon at the 1123 House, is the final meeting for this association year. Lunch will be catered. Please let Gloria know if you are coming. The cost is \$16. Members may pay the day of the luncheon, however, please let Gloria know in advance if you plan to attend.

Gloria mentioned she would welcome suggestions for speakers for next year.

Secretary—Debbie Murphy

Minutes for the March meeting are posted on the website. They stand as submitted.

Deb Hughes made a request for an amendment; however, the needed correction came to light **after** the meeting adjourned, therefore the correction will be put in the membership report for today's meeting rather than amending the March minutes.

Treasurer – Robin Engleman

The 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

No report

Directory/Internet – Kimber Kwaitkowski

Cathy Thacker mentioned that Kimber will be leaving this position and taking a new position to assist with Music Day.

Federated Festivals – Judy Harper

After a year under Vivace, everyone learned a lot! Everything should go even more smoothly next year.

North – Beth Ann Wise

Beth shared this important information from Judy Harper:

Teachers, if you are due gold cups, I'm happy to report that they have arrived.

You can pick up the cups as well as certificates any time, just let me know.

Judy Harper, 3014 Seagull Dr., Duluth, 30096

West – Becky Bonam

No report

Central – Michelle Peck

No report

GMTA Auditions – Jiyeon Kwak

Jiyeon will secure a date for next year's Local Auditions soon. State Auditions were held, and the results were sent to the individual teachers.

GMTA/GATE Theory – Rie Hosoi

No report

Hospitality – Tina Darden

No report

Junior/Senior Scholarship Audition – Yumi Patterson

Junior Senior Scholarship was held on April 16, at PianoWorks Recital Hall.

7 students entered the competition for the scholarship.

A total of \$2000 in awards was given to the 6 students who performed.

The judge this year was Dr. Geoffrey Haydon from Georgia State University.

1st place \$800: Daniel Noelle, student of Marcia Rygh

2nd place \$600: Jeremiah Vang, student of Cathy Thacker

3rd place \$400: Michelle Ho, student of Joanna Kim

4th place \$200: Michael Salamat, student of Gloria Park

Honorable Mentions:

Jolyne Lam, student of Lisa Gaal

Ramon Lopez-Mora, student of Nora Martin

Congratulations to the students and their teachers!!

MED/PED Scholarship – Gloria Park

We have not received any applications for the Med/Ped Scholarship this year. If anyone has a senior that wishes to apply, please do it right away. The deadline is May 1st.

Member-at-large – Susan Andrews

No report

Membership – Deb Hughes

Deb Hughes would like to make a correction regarding new member Jungwon Shin. She is a piano instructor, not a strings instructor. This error happened because the membership notification came in the form of a receipt rather than through MTNA.

Deb Hughes also advised that Chis Morrow volunteered to be a mentor to Jungwon Shin at the March meeting.

Music Day – Patti Bennett

No report

Music Link – Nora Martin

MusicLink continues moderately strong for Georgia and Gwinnett County, just behind Florida in the Southeast region. We have ten active teachers (five of whom are members of GCMTA – thank you!) teaching a total of 26 students. If we were able to have more teachers and students, we would be able to host a Playathon that, in combination, would raise funds for both MusicLink Foundation and GCMTA while providing another, more relaxed interest and performance opportunity for all students. Minnesota just raised \$10,000 in their winter Playathon. This is on the back burner for us right now.

We still want to encourage those teachers who are already teaching a student on at least a 50% scholarship to sign up for the enhanced benefits that MusicLink offers such as up to \$500 Teacher Grass Roots Grant, an increased Teacher Reimbursement Grant, summer camp scholarships up to \$250 per MusicLink student, plus all the free/reduced resources from our many business partners.

And thank you to each generous MusicLink teacher who is making a difference in the life of a student who would otherwise miss out on the opportunity to grow his/her musical ability!

MTNA Foundation/GMTA Awards – Mary Ann McTier

No report

Newsletter – Diana Cleland

The deadline for submissions for the May newsletter is May 1st. This will be the last newsletter for this association year. The next newsletter will be sent in August.

Performance Day – Lois Simon

No report

Publicity/Social Media – (Open)

Teacher of the Year – Pam Asberry
The big reveal will be at the May luncheon!

Unfinished Business –
None

New Business –

- **INCREASE IN DUES**

Robin Engleman stated that 76 of our members pay \$20 for regular GCMTA membership, 15 members pay \$15 (senior membership), 3 members pay \$0 (grandfathered), and one collegiate member pays \$15. This dues structure has been in effect since 2011, and Robin would like to propose an increase for 2023.

After discussion, Robin Engleman presented a **motion** to:
Increase all categories of dues by \$5 to take effect July 2023.

Susan Andrews seconded the motion.

The motion passes with a majority vote.

Let the record reflect that the wording in the Procedural Manual needs to be changed from a 25% reduction in dues, to a flat fee.

- **INCREASE IN PROGRAM HONORARIUMS**

Deb Hughes suggested (via email) that GCMTA increase Program Honorariums and give a flat fee and no mileage.

DISCUSSION:

Susan Andrews mentioned our current rate is \$100 plus mileage/capped @ \$100.

Robin Engleman suggested \$150 plus mileage (with a cap).

Robin Engleman suggests we strive for speakers close by to help defray the cost of mileage.

Cathy polled those in attendance to see where we stand. 12 of 12 were in favor of the increase but with a reduced cap for mileage.

Gloria Park made the **motion** to:
Increase the Program Honorarium to \$150 plus mileage capped at \$75.

Susan Andrews seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a majority vote.

- **INCREASE IN JUDGES' REMUNERATION**

Susan Andrews gave an overview of GCMTA's current payment structure for judges: \$35/hour from the time of the Orientation Meeting; this does not include lunch. Mileage is payable at \$.50/mile up to \$100/capped.

Susan suggests we increase the fee to \$40/hour and keep the mileage payment. She reminded the Festival Chairs to get judges who are local to help defray the cost.

DISCUSSION:

Gloria Park suggested we lower the mileage cap to align with what we pay for Program Honorariums.

Susan Andrews mentioned this change would not affect the Judges' Remuneration for JR/SR, which is a flat fee.

Susan Andrews presented the **motion** to:

Increase Judges' Remuneration to \$40/hour plus mileage rate of \$.50/mile capped at \$75.

Robin Engleman seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a majority vote.

- **ADDITIONAL FEDERATED SCHOLARSHIP**

Susan Andrews presented the following information:

The budget reflects a surplus of \$1,857 largely due to increased income from Federated festivals. Because of this surplus, the amount of money in GCMTA's checking account, and 501c3 guidelines, we the excess needs to be addressed.

DISCUSSION:

Robin Engleman and Gloria Park mentioned that the surplus is because certain items in the budget have not been used (conference fees, for example.)

Susan Andrews reviewed the current scholarship structure and proposed increases and presented the following **motion**:

A. This statement will be added to Rule #1 under High School Scholarships on the website: *Increased scholarship amounts and/or additional scholarships may be awarded, provided funds are available.*

B. Using a portion of the net gain in the 2021-2022 budget, four scholarships (\$600/\$400/\$200/\$100) will be awarded in 2023 in each Federated district's high school piano competition.

Gloria Park seconded the motion.

Motion passed with a majority vote.

Let the record reflect that the Federated rules on the website will need to be changed to reflect this motion.

- **2022-23 BUDGET**

Robin Engleman gave an overview of the proposed budget.

DISCUSSION:

- Should we keep the MailChimp service? Cathy Thacker will look into other free options. The decision was made to table this for later discussion.
- Gloria Park mentioned that Music & Arts (M&A) discontinued providing refreshments, and Tina has been doing it out of pocket. Whitney at M&A told Tina she plans to resume providing refreshments next fall. Tina will be reimbursed if M&A does not provide them.
- Gloria Park had a question about balancing the budget. Robin Engleman replied saying it is because of the Med/Ped Scholarship has not yet been paid for this fiscal year. Susan Andrews suggested adding a line for "Surplus" under Income to balance the budget.
- Robin Engleman mentioned there are no Certification candidates so the amount usually allocated for Certification has been moved to Miscellaneous.
- Susan Andrews requested an explanation of the money given for GMTA raffle and gift. Robin explained that the gift was actually a donation.
- Jiyeon Kwak asked Robin Engleman to review the budget for Local Auditions. Robin explained that the Awards category is "a wash" because each teacher pays for the trophy. Cathy Thacker suggested we rename that category "Trophies" instead of "Awards." Robin further stated there was also an increase in the judges' fees.

Robin Engleman made a **motion** that **the Proposed Budget be accepted and presented to the membership at the May Luncheon.**

Kimber Kwiatkowski seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a majority vote.

- **REWORDING OF FEDERATED VOICE AND WINDS WINNERS' RULES**

Deb Hughes submitted the following proposal via email for consideration:

"An adult was given an Honorable Mention award this past West Festival. I protested to Cathy that adults were never to be considered in competition with juniors for the instrumental/vocal awards but that the rule was written to include worthy non-high school students in the non-piano events. Cathy said that the rule as stated/listed doesn't eliminate adults, let it stand and the award was published in our newsletter. I feel the clause, "*No adult may compete for Festival cash awards or designated honors*" should be added."

For the record, the current rule reads as follows:

*In the **Central** District, a \$100 award will be given to the top string student, and in the **West** District a \$100 award will be given to each of the top voice and wind students. These awards may be given at the discretion of the judge, with no age restriction or minimum number of entrants. It will be up to the judge's discretion whether to make the award. The award will be made payable to the student. A student can win a maximum of two times, but not consecutively, and will thereafter be ineligible to win again.*

DISCUSSION:

Susan Andrews suggested the Federated rule be reworded so as to be clear that adults would not be eligible for monetary awards.

Debbie Murphy agreed that adults should not receive cash awards. However, since no one was harmed by the judge's decision, and no student was overlooked for recognition by the judge, why should "other recognition" for adult students be prohibited? Why would we not want to encourage adult students as well? Through encouragement via adjudication, teachers and adult students can achieve the purpose outlined in GCMTA's BYLAWS, ARTICLE II – PURPOSE, which states:

- b. To ensure that every student has access to a balanced, comprehensive, and high-quality program of music instruction;*
- c. To improve the quality of teaching, research, and scholarship in music;*
- d. To promote the involvement of persons of all ages in learning music;*

The general feeling in additional discussion was that adults should be allowed to receive "Honorable Mention," and that it will be left to the judge's discretion whether or not to do so.

Susan Andrews presented the following **motion**:

In the Central district, a \$100 scholarship may be awarded to the most outstanding string student. In the West district, \$100 scholarships may be awarded to the most outstanding voice student and the most outstanding wind student. These scholarships will be awarded at the discretion of the judge. There is no minimum number of entrants, and there is no age restriction for junior students. Adult students (age 19 and above) are ineligible to receive scholarships. The scholarships will be made payable to the student. A student may receive a maximum of two scholarships, but not in consecutive years, and will thereafter be ineligible to win again.

Debbie Murphy seconded the motion

Motion passed with a majority vote.

• OTHER ITEMS

Deb Hughes submitted the following proposal via email for consideration:

"Another point (I thought we had discussed in the past) was how non-piano students are eligible to win Festival money awards when they are performing primary or elementary level music. I feel that there should be a level minimum of intermediate for instrumentalists/vocalists to be able to win a cash award at our Festivals:

Vocal: Junior Class or higher

Strings: Medium Class or higher

Guitar: Intermediate/Medium Class or higher

Wind/Brass: Medium Class or higher."

DISCUSSION:

Kathy Dawal and Debbie Murphy offered agreement with the minimum level requirements suggested for cash awards.

Students excelling in elementary levels could still receive an “Honorable Mention” to encourage them to continue excellence.

Susan Andrews presented Deb Hughes’ **motion:**

The level minimum for non-piano students to be eligible for a scholarship is as follows:

Vocal: Junior Class or higher

Strings: Medium Class or higher

Guitar: Intermediate/Medium Class or higher

Wind/Brass: Medium Class or higher

Kathy Dawal seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Good of Order

Cathy thanked everyone for their attendance today.

Motion to Adjourn (person/time) – Cathy @ 11:38a.m.

Attendees: (13)

Susan Andrews

Tina Darden

Kathy Dawal

Robin Engleman

Judy Harper

Rie Hosoi

Jiyeon Kwak

Kimber Kwiatkowski

Mary Ann McTier

Debbie Murphy

Gloria Park

Cathy Thacker

Beth Ann Wise