

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION RECEIVES  
MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION GRANT***

(Jackson, Miss)—The Mississippi Music Teachers Association has been awarded a \$4100 grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC). This grant is a portion of the nearly \$1.4 million in grants the Commission will award in 2018-2019 and will be used to support the 64th annual MMTA state conference to be held November 2-3, 2018, and Collegiate Competitions to be held March 2, 2019. MMTA's state conference will be held at William Carey University in Hattiesburg, while the Collegiate Competitions will take place at Belhaven University in Jackson.

"The Mississippi Arts Commission supports arts activities in nearly every corner of the state through grants to arts organizations, schools, communities, and units of governments," said Malcolm White, executive director of MAC. "The projects and programming these organizations produce with MAC funds helps enrich our state's communities. This funding helps organizations provide arts experiences and educational opportunities to people who may not otherwise have access to the arts."

Mississippi Music Teachers Association is a non-profit, statewide organization whose purpose is to promote music education and professional development of music teachers, music students, and all people of Mississippi. MMTA's annual conference provides Mississippians a venue to come together to experience performances, workshops, and newly composed music, in addition to competitions to develop both student and teacher skills. All performances and competitions held at the annual conference and March competitions are free and open to the public.

The Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, serves the residents of the state by providing grants that support programs to enhance communities; assist artists and arts organizations; promote the arts in education, and celebrate Mississippi's cultural heritage. Established in 1968, the Mississippi Arts Commission is funded by the Mississippi Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mississippi Endowment for the Arts at the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson, and other private sources. The agency serves as an active supporter and promoter of arts in community life and in arts education.

For information from the Mississippi Arts Commission, contact Anna Ehr Gott, Communications Director, (601) 359-6546 or [aehergott@arts.ms.gov](mailto:aehergott@arts.ms.gov).