

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 3

FALL 2006

*MMTA 2006 Conference
November 2-4 Millsaps College*



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President's Report September 2006

Joanna Burnside, NCTM, President



- **Membership**

As of August 31, 2006, MMTA has 8 Local Associations and 190 members. National dues are \$59 and state dues are \$35, annually. Local associations each set their own dues, which range from \$10 to \$25.

- **Website**

The *Membership* roster and the *Teacher Search* page (along with a few other sections of the web site) are being updated. In early October final updates to the MMTA Pre-college syllabus will appear on the web site.

MMTA's web site, www.msmusicteachers.org, contains the following: links to MTNA, brief MMTA history, officer page, student activities page, certification page, confer-

ence page, teacher search, calendar page, conference page, news page, and a "members only" section. MMTA publishes spring, summer and fall versions of its magazine, the *MMT (Mississippi Music Teacher)* on the web site. It includes articles and reports submitted by members and officers, pictures and information about students and teachers, and more. The current issue, along with several previous issues can be found on the MMTA website in a PDF format. There are plans to include new sections to the web site, so keep looking at the site for the latest information!

- **Collegiate Competitions**

The state collegiate competitions (not MTNA) that have normally been held in the fall at our conference have been moved to the spring. They will be held on March 3, 2007, at Millsaps College. Moving the state collegiate competitions to the spring should eliminate many venue problems, allow more time during the fall conference for professional development workshops and recitals, as well as help teachers and new students with repertoire preparation.

College teachers who are members may enter students in piano, vocal, brass, guitar, strings, and woodwind categories including: Freshman/Sophomore Solo, Junior/Senior Solo, Concerto, and Chamber. Applications for these events are submitted through our web site.

- **Summary of recent MMTA Board Activities**

1. More donations have been received for our members affected by Hurricane Katrina over the past several months from all across the country. MMTA would like to again express its sincerest appreciation for the generosity of those who contributed music, instruments, and money over the past 12 months.
2. MMTA will offer a hotel and conference meal fee waiver to teachers from GCMTA who were severely affected by Hurricane Katrina.
3. A proposal has been drafted for updates and revisions to the MMTA Constitution. Both current and proposed versions are available online for members to compare. Pending approval of the proposed revisions: the nominating committee restructured the offices to divide the VP for Pre-college Activities into two positions.
4. Revisions were approved by the board to update the Pre-college auditions syllabus.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

5. Web Site updates: Calendar page with events and deadlines; Member Login area with forms and membership list; updated conference information; *MMT* newsletter; addition of several links.
6. Approval of an annual audit; purchase of a laptop for book-keeping – to be passed from treasurer to treasurer.
7. Two mailings to membership by president: fall 2005, fall 2006 – to help in communications during the transition to more web based activity and to address important issues vital to the organization.
8. The MMTA Nominating Committee has put together a slate of officers for the next term.

Voting for the following slate of officers will be at the general business meeting, Friday November 3, during the MMTA 2006 Conference:

President – Angela Willoughby
President-elect – Rachel Heard
Vice President for Membership and Web Management – Kristina Havard
Vice President for Public Relations—Barbara Tracy
Vice President for Collegiate and National Competitions – Sharon Lebsack
Vice President for Pre-College Auditions – Beth Parker
Vice President for Pre-College Performances – Janet Gray
Secretary – Kimberley Davis
Treasurer – Andrea Cheeseman
Immediate Past President – Joanna Burnside

• **MMTA 2006 Conference**

The 2006 Conference, supported in part by a grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission, will be held on November 2-4 at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS. Conference events include:

- The Fischer Duo: Norman Fischer, cello, and Jeanne Kierman, piano
- Lynn Rice-See: IMTF luncheon speaker
- Nancy Weems: "Shall We Dance" lecture
- Weekley & Arganbright: "History of the Piano Duet" and reading session
- Maurice Hinson: reading session and master class
- John Wesley Wright, Tenor, Conference Recital, accompanied by Theresa Sanchez
- 2006 Commissioned Composition: Sybil Cheeseman and Angie Willoughby perform "Irish Sketchbook" for flute and piano, by James Sclater
- John Paul: "Playing Harpsichord Music on the Piano"
- Rachel Heard: "Playing Fortepiano Music on the Piano"
- Biljac Burnside: "Piano Cla\$\$--Financial Concerns for the Independent Teacher"
- Michael Rushing & Annette Joe: "Pedagogical Trends, Technology & Group Piano"
- Barbara Tracy: "Computer First-Aid" workshop

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

- **Conference (cont.) :**

A general business meeting will be held and voting for new officers will take place. Also scheduled are: MTNA Certification testing, an executive committee meeting, a past-presidents luncheon, a conference banquet, and an IMTF luncheon. More information about the conference and lodging information can be found on the web site.

- **Pre-college Activities**

MMTA annual events for pre-college students include local area auditions, state special recognition recitals (SSRR), and concerto competitions. The local auditions include performance, sight reading, technical skills, theory tests, ensemble, sonata/sonatina, and theme/variations categories. Piano, vocal, woodwind, strings, brass and guitar students from 11 different audition centers around the state who place high enough on their level can go on to the SSRR. Pre-college concerto competitions are held at the annual conference in November.

MMTA Events Calendar

October 1, 2006: Deadline for Pre-college Concerto Competition entries

November 2-4, 2006: [MMTA Fall Conference](#), MTNA Collegiate Competitions, and MMTA Pre-College Concerto Competitions
Millsaps College, Jackson MS

January 12-15, 2007: MTNA Southern Division
FSU, Tallahassee, Florida

February 1, 2007: Deadline for MMTA State Collegiate Competition entries

March 3, 2007: MMTA State Collegiate Competitions
Millsaps College, Jackson, MS

March 23-27, 2007: MTNA National Conference Toronto, Canada

March 24, 2007: 2007 MMTA Pre-College Local Auditions-Ellisville, Gulf Coast, Columbus/Starkville, Oxford, Vicksburg, Wesson

March 31, 2007: MMTA Pre-College Local Auditions-
Cleveland, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian, Tupelo

May 5, 2007 Student Special Recognition Recitals (SSRR)
Ellisville, JCJC

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PRE-COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Jacquelyn Sullivan Thornell, NCTM



Isn't it exciting to begin a new school year? Beginners are excited with each success. High school students, exhausted in May, are enthusiastic about new pieces. This is the time to think of MMTA Auditions! Why not encourage every student to participate in Auditions?

We can educate parents about Auditions being a *non-competitive* event, designed to encourage teachers to prepare students for evaluation in written theory, sight reading, and technical skills, all of which contribute to greater success in performance. Wouldn't it be great if all parents recognized the benefits, even if their child didn't score 90 or above in all areas? Parents expect schools to test students and rate progress, and know that every child can't be a straight -A student. Likewise, all piano students can't be "90 or above" students.

A friend told me of the time her father, an educator, changed her life, telling her that the adage "Anything worth doing is worth doing well," doesn't mean "doing best," and in fact, he assured her, some things should be done for fun, and mediocre is "ok." It reminded me of the year I played basketball at Cleveland High under Coach Margaret Wade. To say I played is a bit of a stretch: I practiced with the team. I had a "half suit" which meant that Sharon and I shared a basketball uniform. Maybe Coach Wade saw that I "needed" my classmates to know me as more than a serious student and pianist when I tried out. Sharon and I never played, but we practiced every day, and alternate games we got to wear the uniform and sit on the bench. I worked hard, had fun and most importantly, learned that I didn't have to be "outstanding" to enjoy and benefit from an activity.

Then there is SSRR! Because they are linked, we sometimes forget that Auditions and SSRR serve two different purposes. State Special Recognition Recitals are designed to recognize outstanding students in recitals which serve as "state finals" for the more competitive -minded. In order to present many students in a recital format, we do not ask judges to provide written critiques. This format has served us well for many years as was reaffirmed by the Pre -college Committee this summer. Some teachers have expressed disappointment that we don't have almost 100% participation by qualifying students. As a teacher, I have sometimes wished that more of my students would play at SSRR, but I have to acknowledge that even as I believe it would be a great motivating experience for the student, there is a bit of selfishness on my part. As a mother of four, I also believe that some of the family activities that keep students away may be more important to the student than SSRR at that particular time in their life.

MMTA Conference is just around the corner. Plan to hear the piano and strings students in the Pre-college Concerto competition. With MMTA competitions moved to a new date, President - Elect Angie Willoughby has scheduled more pedagogical sessions than we have had in recent years. Please let your families know that your attendance is important to your professional growth and come! I am confident you will be pleased, and want to come next year.

As I complete my term of office, I want to express my appreciation to all who helped me in so many ways. Special thanks to Carolina Whitfield-Smith for her many hours of work and all she taught me as we worked together. jsthornell@bellsouth.net



Angela Willoughby,
President-Elect

Final preparations are being made for the annual conference to be held at Millsaps College in November. Program highlights and hotel information has been posted on the MMTA website and hopefully, the new format will offer increased interest and inspiration for the membership. See this issue of the MMT for more details on the 2006 Conference.

The first installment of the grant has been received with the remainder to be sent from the Mississippi Arts Commission once the final report has been completed. Copies of the grant materials submitted this year are available for the perusal of the committee and will be given to the President-Elect for the next term's preparation.

Angela Willoughby, NCTM

*See you at Millsaps November 2-4,
2006.*



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MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL REPORT (condensed)

July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

Janet Gray, Treasurer



Income

Convention

Grants	3605
MMTA fees	2525
MTNA rebates. Awards	650
Teachers' registrations	1056

7,836

General Association Income

MTNA Dues rebates	8938
Other Income	836
Katrina Donations	32327

42,101

MMT Advertisements

825

Pre-College Auditions

15,152

Total Income

65,914

Expense

Convention Expense

Artists, Adjudicators	6891
Student Travel	800
Other	2931

10,622

Executive Committee Expense

4,050

General Operating Expense

Ad Hoc Committees	651
Affiliate Grants	400
Southern Division/MTNA	651
Katrina Relief	32,327

Other

748

34,777

MMT

Printing	108
Postage, etc.	117
Website	643

868

Pre-College Expense

Auditions	7126
SSRR	3263

10,389

Total Expense

60,706

Year End Surplus

5,208



Sharon Lebsack

UPDATE from VP for Competitions

MMTA State Collegiate Competitions will be held on March 3, 2007, at Millsaps College in Jackson. Check the MMTA Web site for all the information and forms necessary to register for the March competitions.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at:

sharon_lebsack@comcast.net or 601-543-7096.

Sharon Lebsack, NCTM

Lodging information: 2006 MMTA Conference November 2-4, at Millsaps College, Jackson, MS

1. **Millsaps Cabot Lodge** - \$80.00 (Group Code/type – 20C; Group rate deadline – Oct. 19, 2006)) Reserved rooms are available with a King-size bed or 2 double beds. This Hotel is basically on the Millsaps College campus located at the corner of North State St. and Woodrow Wilson Dr.

Reservations - (601) 948-8650 <http://www.cabotlodgemillsaps.com/>

2. **Hampton Inn and Suites**, located at the High Street exit off of Interstate 55 adjacent to the Coliseum (1.7 mi from Millsaps), has been recently renovated and has offered us the rate of \$89.00 for either a single or double occupancy room. Hampton Inn includes a deluxe continental breakfast. Reserved rooms are available with a King-size bed or 2 double beds. All rooms have indoor access with full security inside and in the parking lots. (Group Code – MMT; Group rate deadline – Oct. 19, 2006)

Reservations (601) 352-1700

<http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml;jsessionid=P5RFANRLVLI3GCSGBIU222QKIYFC3UUC?ctyhocn=JANHSHX>

3. **Holiday Day Inn Express** which is also located at the High Street exit off I-55 (1.7 mi from Millsaps) is just as nice as the Hampton Inn. Their price is \$89.95 for single and double occupancy plus the continental breakfast. Again, all rooms are indoors with full security.

Reservations (601) 948-4466 <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/hd/jangm>

4. **Days Inn** is a budget hotel located at the High St. Exit off I-55 (1.7 mi from Millsaps). It's more of a true motel with the rooms opening to the outside. They're offering rooms with a King-size bed for \$55.00 and two Queen-size beds for \$65.00. If you would like to take advantage of this budget motel, you should reserve as early as possible. They do not reserve rooms for groups but assured me that there are plenty of rooms available at this time.

Reservations (601) 352-7387

http://www.daysinn.com/DaysInn/control/Booking/property_info?propertyId=02574&brandInfo=DI

5. **Best Western Executive Inn** located at the High St. exit off of IH 55 (1.7 mi from Millsaps) is the same style hotel as Hampton Inn and Holiday Day Inn Express. They will have single King-size beds and double Queen-size beds available for us as a group until Oct. 19th for \$79.00. All rooms are indoors with full security.

Reservations (601) 969-6555 <http://www.bestwesternjackson.com>

6. **Country Inns & Suites** is located just off Lakeland Dr., (about 5 miles from Millsaps College) in Flowood. Their rate for a room with a single King-size bed is \$85.00 and for a room with 2 Queen-size beds is \$89.00. When you call to make your reservation, mention MMTA for the group rate. Group rate deadline – Oct. 19, 2006

Reservations (601) 939-2676 http://www.countryinns.com/jacksonms_northeast

Conference Meals

Here is the menu including the prices for our meals during the annual conference:

FRIDAY NOV. 3, 2006- 6:00PM- BUFFET

SALMON W/CHEF'S SPECIAL SAUCE
 GRILLED CHICKEN
 VEGETARIAN LASAGNA
 BAHAMA BLEND VEGGIES
 ROASTED POTATOES
 GREEN SALAD
 LEMON CAKE
 TEA, COFFEE, WATER----\$ 18.00



SATURDAY NOV. 4, 2006-12:00PM - SALAD BUFFET

HAWAIIAN CHICKEN SALAD
 GREEN SALAD W/DRESSINGS
 PASTA SALAD
 ASSORTED BREAD, MILLSAPS BREAD STIX
 BROWNIES & ASSORTED COOKIES
 TEA, WATER, COFFEE--\$13.00

Meal reservations and pre-payment:

Rachel Heard heardr@millsaps.edu,

3821 Montrose Circle, Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 987-8414

OR **Angie Willoughby** willough@mc.edu

100 Murial St., Clinton, MS 39056 (601) 906-8040

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 Ellisville, Mississippi 39437
 (601) 477-4094

Susan A. Smith, Chair

Sammy Barr, Band

Mike Boyd, Guitar

Carrie Strickland, Brass

Susan A. Smith, Voice

Martha Tisdale, Piano

Meri Newell, Woodwinds

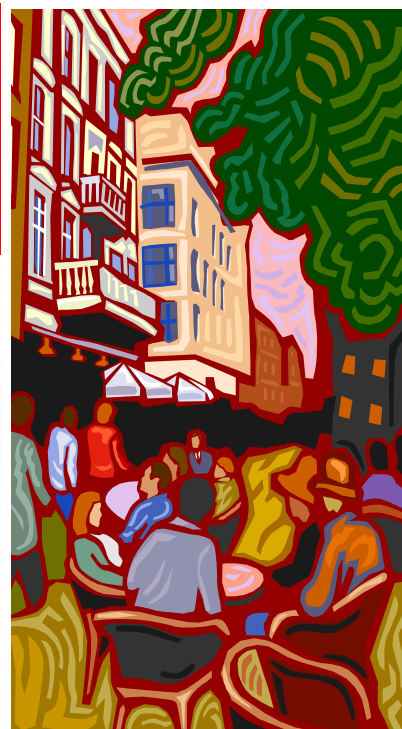
Kay Guiles, Piano

Theresa Sanchez, Piano

Greg Smith, Voice

Mark Taylor, Choir

Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band
www.jcjc.edu/depts/finearts



MMTA Fall Conference Schedule
Millsaps College, Jackson, MS
November 2-4, 2006

Please check conference program for final schedule and locations.

Thursday, November 2, 2006

- 6:00PM Executive Board Meeting (Academic Complex 152)
7:30PM Bell Concert Series/MMTA Recital: The Fischer Duo
9:00PM Reception following recital sponsored by Mississippi Music (Lobby of Recital Hall)



Millsaps Academic Complex

Friday, November 3, 2006

- 8:00AM Registration.General Business Meeting (AC Lobby and Recital Hall)
9:00AM MTNA Competitions (AC Recital Hall)
10:00AM Session: "Computer First-Aid" Barbara Tracy (Computer Lab)
10:00AM Certification testing (Location TBA)
11:00AM Past President's Luncheon (Bravo's: I-55 North—order from menu)
12:30PM Session: "Playing Fortepiano Music on the Piano" Rachel Heard (AC 215)
1:30PM Session: "Playing Harpsichord Music on the Piano" John Paul (AC 215)
1:30PM Reading Session: Duets (Kjos) with Weekley & Arganbright (AC 137)
Hosted by: Morrison Brothers Music, Debbie Upchurch, Sales Representative (come and go)
2:30PM Break: Hospitality Table in Lobby
3:00PM Session: "Pedagogical Trends, Technology and Group Piano"
Michael Rushing and Annette Joe (AC 137)
4:00PM Session: "The History of the Piano Duet" Weekley & Arganbright (AC 137)
5:30PM Commissioned Composition: "Irish Sketchbook" by James Sclater with artists:
Sybil Cheesman, flute, and Angela Willoughby, Piano (Leggett Center)
6:00PM Conference Banquet (Leggett Center)
7:30PM Conference Recital: John Wesley Wright, tenor, and Theresa Sanchez, piano
(AC Recital Hall)
9:00PM Reception sponsored by Music Forum of Jackson (Lobby of Recital Hall)

MMTA Fall Conference Schedule continued**Saturday, November 4, 2006**

- 8:00AM Session: "Piano Cla\$\$—Financial Concerns for the Independent Teacher"
Biljac Burnside (AC Recital Hall)
- 9:00AM Reading Session: Maurice Hinson (Alfred) (AC Recital Hall)
Sponsored by Morrison Brothers Music, Debbie Upchurch, Sales Representative
- 10:00AM Lecture Recital: "Shall We Dance?" Nancy Weems, piano (AC Recital Hall)
- 10:00AM Vocalist Masterclass (AC 215)
- 11:00AM Masterclass: Maurice Hinson (AC Recital Hall)
- 12:00PM IMTF Luncheon with Lynn Rice-See (Leggett Center)
- 1:00PM Registration for Pre-College Concerto (Lobby of AC)
- 1:30PM Pre-College Concerto Competition (AC Recital Hall)
- 3:30PM Masterclass with Lynn Rice-See for Pre-College participants
MTNA Certification Testing (Time and Location TBA)



President - Annette Joe NCTM
Sonata-Sonatina Festival—November 18 at
Millsaps College
Bach Festival—February 3 at Hinds CC

Music Forum of Jackson was founded April, 1968,
and is affiliated with MMTA and MTNA

Conference Personalities



Bell Concert Series/MMTA Recital Artists **Norman Fischer, cello and Jeanne Kierman, piano**

Celebrating their 26th anniversary during this season, the **FISCHER DUO** continues to explore the rich repertoire for cello and piano. The Washington Post has described the **FISCHER DUO** 's all-French programming as "intense and totally committed, with a solid understanding of the subtleties of the French style"; the New York Times has commented on "a real sense of dialogue in this duo's ensemble" as well as "a salon-like intimacy and warmth"; and the Boston Globe has heralded Norman Fischer's "boldly imaginative and technically assured skills" and Jeanne Kierman as "equally impressive." In addition to featuring works by the masters, the **FISCHER DUO** has become known for their thematic approach to programming, have performed neglected pieces by composers such as Franz Liszt, Victor Herbert, Nadia Boulanger and Ferruccio Busoni, and have commissioned new works by American composers George Rochberg, [Augusta Read Thomas](#), Robert Sirota, David Stock, Samuel Jones, and Richard Lavenda among others. Their CD of French masters on the Northeastern label (NR 238-CD) has received rave reviews. The members of Fischer Duo were selected as Artistic Ambassadors for the United States Information Agency and toured South America in the Fall of 1996; in October of 1997, the Fischer Duo has been asked to tour in South Africa.

Lynn Rice-See, IMTF Luncheon Since her 1982 Carnegie Recital Hall debut, Lynn Rice-See has appeared as recitalist, concerto soloist, and chamber musician in the United States and in Europe. She has appeared three times with the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra in Ostrava, Czech Republic. In the United States she has appeared as soloist with the Gulf Coast Symphony, the Huntsville Symphony, the Johnson City Symphony, and the Kingsport Symphony. In 1992, she appeared in recital in Brussels, sponsored by the Ministère de la Communauté Française, and her 1993 recital tour of Germany was sponsored by the German-American Institute in Saarbrücken. She was a member of the Tennessee Arts Commission touring roster from 1991 through 1994.

Rice-See holds the Bachelor of Music degree from Peabody Conservatory, where she studied with Walter Hautzig, the Master of Music from The Juilliard School where she studied with Beveridge Webster, and the Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Southern California, where she studied with John Perry. She is also a member of the faculties of the [Adamant Music School](#) in Vermont and the [Piano Wellness Seminar](#).

Prior to coming to MTSU, Rice-See worked as an opera coach/assistant conductor at the opera houses of Münster and Essen, Germany as well as at Michigan Opera and Dayton Opera in the United States. She has also taught at the Manhattan School of Music in New York, East Tennessee State University, and William Carey College.

In celebration of the Tennessee bicentennial she and mezzosoprano Sharon Mabry issued a compact disk on the Heartdance label of works by Tennessee composers. This disk contains world premiere recordings of works for solo piano and mezzo-soprano and piano by Kenton Coe of Johnson City, Michael Alec Rose of Nashville, Jeffrey Wood of Clarksville, and Michael Linton of Murfreesboro.




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Conference Recital Artist

Tenor John Wesley Wright is known for his artistic and soulful interpretations of music from classical to Broadway. He has performed in opera houses, concert halls, and festivals throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan.

With a host of opera and oratorio roles, art songs, spirituals, and cabaret music in his repertoire, Wright's 2004-2005 season includes performances of the Evangelist in Bach's *St. John Passion* with the Dayton Bach Society; holiday concerts with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra; Handel's *Messiah* with the Ensemble Corund of Switzerland; and concert and festival appearances in Cape Cod (Eventide Arts Festival), Chicago, Dallas, and Savannah.

Other special engagements include the title role in Britten's *St. Nicholas* at the Metropolitan Choral Festival of Detroit and the

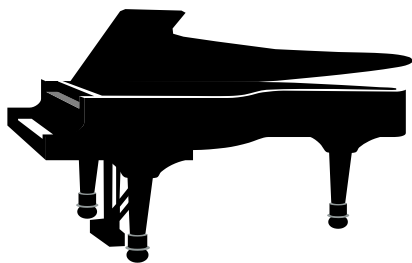
Cincinnati premiere of Donald McCullough's spiritual cantata *Let My People Go*, performed with the Vocal Arts Ensemble of Cincinnati in conjunction with the opening of the National Underground Railroad Museum. Mr. Wright also joins forces with Cincinnati's premier early music ensemble, the Catacoustic Consort and makes his New York debut this season with the acclaimed Gay Gotham Chorus, followed by his Town Hall debut at the Gay Valentine Music Celebration.

On recording, Wright's live concert CD entitled *Wade in the Water: Songs of the River, the Lakes, and the Sea* was released in March 2004 and has sold several hundred copies. John received critical acclaim in Europe for his work on the compact disc *Christmas Time is Here*, made with the award-winning Belgian children's choir Scala. The success of the recording led to many concert tours of Belgium and an invitation to sing a nationally televised Christmas Eve concert in 2000 at the Royal Palace for the Belgian Royal Family.

Gold medalist and top prize winner of the Savannah Music Festival American Traditions Vocal Competition 2000, Wright has also claimed top prizes from the National Federation of Music Clubs, Metropolitan Opera National Council, Bel Canto Regional Artists, Ohio's Vocal Resource Network Art Song Competition, and the International Schubert Competition in Vienna, Austria.

John Wright is a native of Rome, Georgia, and holds degrees from Maryville College (TN) and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (OH). He is an active vocal consultant, clinician, and leader of workshops on "Singing in the African American Tradition" in schools, churches, and colleges. An artist faculty member at the Berkshire Choral Festival (MA) in the summers, John is in his seventh year as Artist-in-Residence at the University of Dayton (OH) where he teaches private voice and co-directs the Opera Workshop program.





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Maurice Hinson is one of America's most respected authorities on piano literature. Among his outstanding achievements, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Music Teachers National Association at its Washington, D.C. convention in the spring of 1994, the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Florida in 1990, and the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Michigan in the fall of 1995. Dr. Hinson has performed, lectured and given master classes worldwide. His books and editions have become classic standards in the studios of serious piano teachers and students the world over. He was awarded the Franz Liszt Medal by the Hungarian Government in 1986. Hailed as a specialist in American piano music, some of his most recent articles appear in the *New Grove Dictionary of American Music in the United States*. Education: Piano study at Sherwood Music School in Chicago and The Julliard School in New York; B.A. from University of Florida, M. Mus. And D.M.A. from University of Michigan.



Maurice Hinson



Nancy Weems, Professor of Piano at University of Houston's Moore School of Music, received her B.M. from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, an M.M. from University of Texas at Austin and did advanced studies at the University of Houston. She was the winner of the 1983 U.S. Artistic Ambassador Auditions, a winner of the Bach performance for the International Piano Recording Competition in 1979, 1990 Grammy Award nominee, Texas MTA Collegiate teacher of the year in 1991, and University of Houston Enron Teaching Excellence Award 1994-95. She has performed in numerous solo recitals and orchestral appearances throughout the US and twelve foreign countries. She made her solo debut in 1988 at the Kennedy Center in Washington and has been a featured artist at many state MTNA conventions and appeared at the MTNA national convention in 1991. She was a lecturer at the World Piano Pedagogy Conference in 1999. Current and former students have won prizes at state, national, and international competitions and several are under professional artist management. Many students are successful private and collegiate teachers in the US and abroad.



Nancy Weems

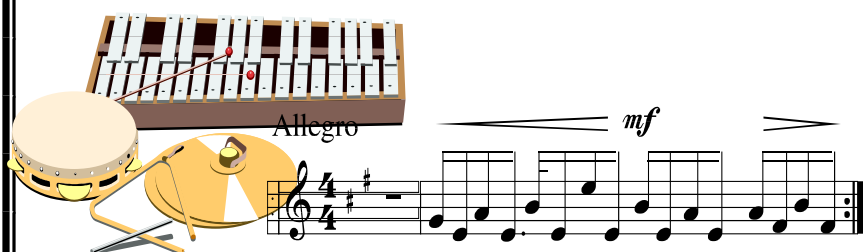


For forty years, **Weekley and Arganbright** have made concert tours of the USA for Community Concerts (a division of Columbia Artists Management, New York), Allied Concerts (Minneapolis), and various other managers. They perform entirely from memory. Concert tours abroad have included the major cities of England, Ireland, Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Russia, Korea, China, and Taiwan. Their orchestral engagements have included the Minnesota Orchestra, the Dublin Symphony, the Orlando Symphony, and various orchestras in the Chicago, Detroit, and Washington areas. They have given concerts in Carnegie Recital Hall in New York, and in the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, among other great halls. The Weekleys, honor graduates of the Indiana University School of Music, taught for 28 years at the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse, and were given the permanent title "Treasures of the University" upon their departure from that institution. As a part of their interest in the music education of young people, they made several appearances on the "Captain Kangaroo" television program, and continue to present workshops and master classes in the art of duet playing throughout the world. They have held an international "Four-Hand Fest" for duet enthusiasts every summer since 1980.



Dallas Weekley and Nancy Arganbright

Dallas Weekley and Nancy Arganbright are largely responsible for the revival of interest in one-piano, four-hand performance, an art which began in the eighteenth century and flourished in the Romantic era, the nineteenth century. Largely ignored as a concert medium in the early twentieth century, it was revived in great part by Weekley and Arganbright (husband and wife), who made concert tours throughout the USA and the world from 1960 to 2000. They have presented more piano duet concerts than any other four-hand artists in the history of the medium, and are credited with being "America's premier one-piano, four-hand team." - Clavier



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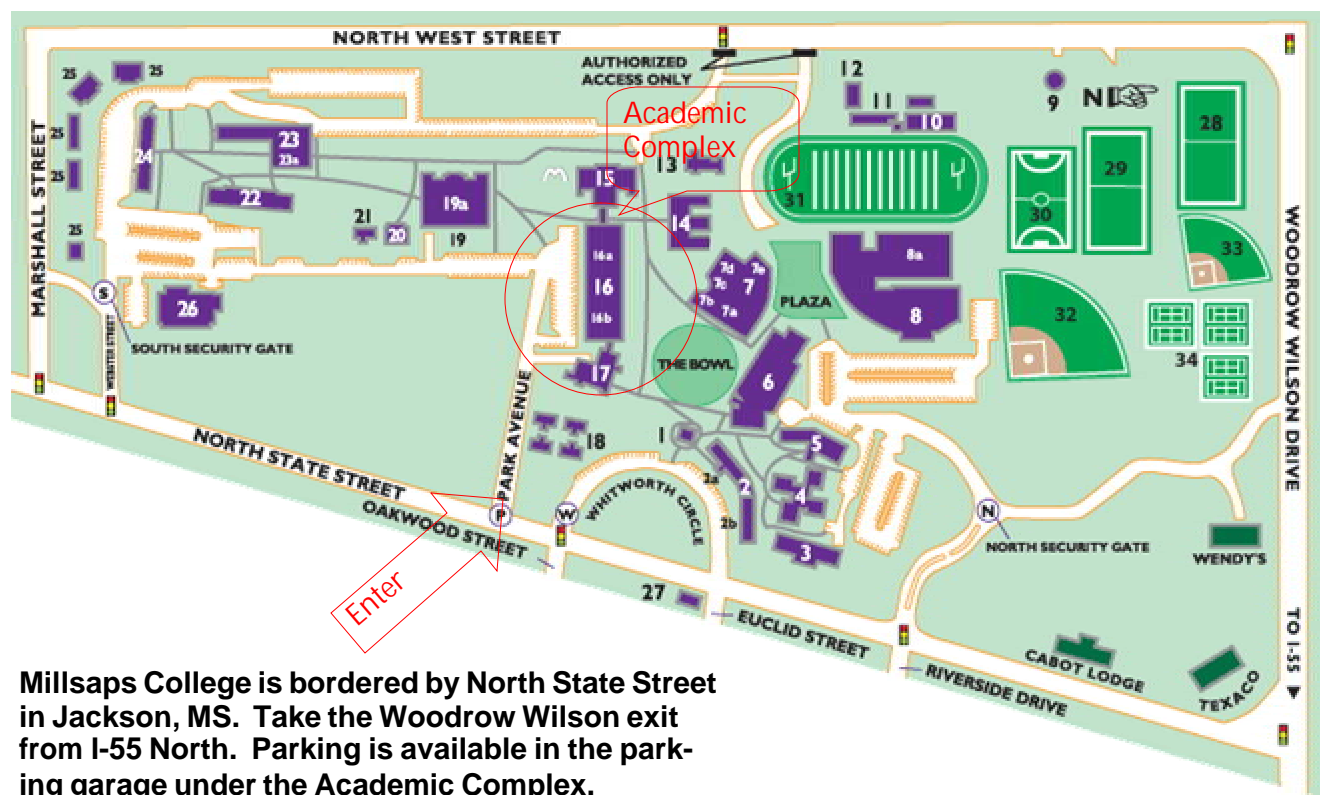
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John Paul, Harpsichord Session: Organist and classical musician John Paul, of Jackson, Mississippi, was the recipient of the 2002 Governor's Excellence in the Arts Award in the category of Artist's Achievement.* John Paul grew up in Lyme Regis, Dorsetshire, England. In 1961, he won entrance to the Royal Academy of Music in London where his principle teachers were Alan Richardson, C.H. Trevor, Eric H. Thiman and Thurston Dart. He holds the Academy's diplomas in Piano and Organ, an honours degree from the University of London and a Doctorate from the University of Colorado. In 1965, he immigrated to Jackson, Mississippi, to become Organist and Choirmaster at St. Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral, also serving as Organist at Temple Beth Israel since 1973. At St. Andrews, he has been responsible for all service music and the Wednesday at St. Andrew's noontime concert series begun in 1971, which quickly became a model for such concert series throughout the country. Paul has a special interest in the plucked keyboard instruments and has toured as a Harpsichordist since 1980 presenting concerts, workshops and informances in the United States, South American and Europe. Since 1997, he has been in partnership with Harpsichordist Shawn Leopard in many performances from Boston to Miami. This duo has recorded the Bach Trio Sonatas with Lyrichord Discs and the Soler Concertos for Two Keyboards with the Centaur label. Centaur released Paul's recording of the complete clavichord pieces of Herbert Howells in January of this year. * *This text was taken from the Senate resolution for the 2002 Excellence in Arts Award.*





FORTEPIANO SESSION: Rachel Heard, an active performer, teacher and adjudicator in the US, combines her skill on the fortepiano and modern piano to present recitals, lectures and period performance practice demonstrations. Her DMA is from Rutgers University where she specialized in 18th century fortepiano. Her Master and Bachelor of Music degrees are from The Julliard School. Fortepiano studies were with Malcolm Bilson. She has been an active performer on fortepiano for over fifteen years and gave a recital during the 1991 Mozart Bicentennial in Calgary, Canada. Lectures on fortepiano and performance practice were presented at The Julliard School, Concordia College, South Jersey Music Teachers' Association, and Shore Music Educators Association. She has recently performed solo fortepiano recitals for the Mississippi Academy of Ancient Music. Her performances have aired on MPB and her latest recording has been released on NAXOS featuring fortepiano music of Franz Joseph Haydn. She has served two terms as president of the New Jersey Music Teachers' Association and has been nominated as President-Elect for MMTA for

2007-8. She has been on the faculty of Westminster Conservatory and Emory and Henry College. Rachel is assistant professor of music at Millsaps and is serving as local 2006 MMTA Conference coordinator.

Commissioned Composition:

IRISH SKETCHBOOK by James Sclater

performed by Sybil Cheesman and

Angie Willoughby.

James Sclater teaches composition at Mississippi College and composed one of the MMTA 50th anniversary compositions. Sybil Cheesman's instrument is flute; Sybil is on the faculty of Belhaven College. Angie Willoughby teaches piano at Mississippi College and serves as President-Elect of MMTA.



Pedagogical Trends, Technology and Group Piano with Michael Rushing and Annette Joe

A look at new and established trends and techniques in pedagogy.

Michael Rushing is a doctoral student in Piano Pedagogy at the University of South Carolina and studies with Scott Price. Annette Joe is known as a master teacher and was honored last year as an MTNA National Fellow. Annette has a group piano studio in Jackson, MS, and serves as president of Music Forum of Jackson.



Biljac Burnside: Piano Cla\$\$—Financial Concerns for the Independent Teacher

Biljac Burnside received his Bachelor of Science degree with a minor in music/piano from the University of Southern Mississippi. He began percussion lessons in 5th grade and piano in 6th grade, continuing his music study through college. His music background eventually led him into the field of piano technology. Today he is a self employed piano tuner and technician with over 22 years of experience. Besides tuning and repairs, Burnside has a busy piano rebuilding service and travels all over the region restoring and working on instruments.

While a college student, Burnside began training in the martial arts, earning his black belt in 1981. He opened his first karate school in 1984, teaching students of all ages. A 5th degree black belt, he is certified by the International Seibukan Shorin-ryu Karate-do Association. He has been to Okinawa, Japan several times to train with many great master teachers and has produced national, international and world champions in karate. Through his karate school he has hosted nine fundraisers for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital raising over \$23,000 to fight cancer and other catastrophic childhood diseases. Burnside Karate Academy has sponsored 10 karate summer camps through the University of Southern Mississippi as well, attended by karate practitioners across the country.

Self-employed his whole life, Burnside's experience comes from running a thriving commercial karate academy for 22 years and his work as a musician and piano technician. Recruitment, retention and revenue are necessary elements to succeed in the business world today.



Barbara Tracy: Computer First-Aid Workshop

Do you have a special problem with your computer?
This workshop will give some computer basics and also give you a chance to experience the computer in a computer lab setting.

You can also email specific questions to Barbara before the workshop if you wish at

tracy@vicksburg.com

Barbara is the MMT Editor and uses Microsoft's Publisher software to produce this newsletter. She works in coastal engineering at the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg and spends practically her full work day at the computer. The best way to learn about the computer is to work with it. Using email and the internet is an invaluable resource for teaching and for quality of life.

LOCAL AFFILIATE: MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

On August 18th, Music Forum of Jackson had a luncheon meeting at Monte's in the Quarter. Each member was asked to bring a funny story that happened in teaching (as you well know, ALL teachers have them), and these were the best. We also discussed our schedules for the year with encouragement to attend the MMTA Conference in November.

On September 13th, many of our members attended Gayle Kowalchuk's workshop for Alfred Publishing Co., at Morrison Brothers Music Co.

We will meet in October, when Angela Cheng from Oberlin will present a recital and masterclass. Angela Cheng gave the an impressive artist recital for the 2005 MTNA Convention in Seattle; it will be wonderful to hear her again. By the way, this is in the Bell Concert Series at Millsaps College in the Academic Complex Recital Hall. Individual tickets are \$15 general admission and \$5 for students. The concert is October 6 at 7:30 p.m. You might consider bringing some students!

In November, of course, MFOJ will be attending the MMTA Conference at Millsaps College and also hosting the Friday recital reception. Then our Sonata-Sonatina Festival will take place on Saturday, November 18, at Millsaps College with Sandra Polanski, chair of that festival.

On December 8th, we will meet at Nick's for a Christmas Luncheon. Do you ever wonder how music teachers can do things like this plus church and family obligations? I am grateful every breath for this marvelous privilege!!! It is so encouraging to work with the following slate of officers:

Past President: Gena Everitt

President-Elect-Kathie Lott

V-Pres./ Programs: Rachel Heard

V-Pres./Membership-Debbie Barnes

Treasurer: Brenda Sullivan

Sonata/Sonatina Chair: Sandra Polanski

Bach Festival Chairs: Carol & David Durham

Piano-thon: Greta B. Mills

Corres. Secretary: Carolina Whitfield-Smith

Rec. Secretary: Patsy Simpson

MMTA Auditions: Kay Johnson

Social Chair: Jane Fox

Telephone: Tricia Dennis

Historian: Mildred Anderson

You need to be reminded that Bach Festival has changed to February 3rd. The deadline is December 16. Have a great, exciting teaching year!

Annette Joe, NCTM

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LOCAL AFFILIATE: HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE

The Hattiesburg Music Teachers League held its first meeting of the year on September 9 at Wolfe Gang Music. One of our own members, Amber Shay Nicholson, NCTM, presented an outstanding program: "Technique: A Multi-faceted Means to a Musical End". A lively question and answer session followed the program. We highly recommend Amber's program to other local affiliates. Another league member, Ellen Price Elder will be presenting our January program on Bach.

We are planning to present our informal Saturday Recitals in the months of October, February and March. Our formal high school Spring Concert will be held in April at Carey University with Susan Fairchild as chair.

Anne Kathryn DeViney will chair our MFMC Junior Festival while Cristina Moreland and Dixie Lawson will again head up our MMTA Auditions.

Laura Broughton is already organizing our Composer Festival 2007 which will feature the composer, Timothy Brown. We always look forward to this special event.

We welcome new members, Libby Vanatta, pianist and Daniel Kelly, trumpet. This husband and wife team are both teaching at USM. Daniel teaches in the brass department and Libby is an adjunct teacher in the piano department. We also congratulate Amber Shay Nicholson on her recent certification.

Janice Mesrobian, NCTM

LOCAL AFFILIATE: VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

VMTA held their first fall lunch meeting at Pizza Hut with almost all members present. Dates for recitals and events throughout the year were discussed. The first event will be a Boys' Recital on the last Sunday in October and will be held in the chapel of First Presbyterian Church. Plans are underway for a special piano event in February. Our regular Sacred Songs and Solos recital is planned for February; Beginners recital will be in March with our annual honors recital in April. Jeanne Evans is in charge of recital programs for the year.

Barbara Tracy



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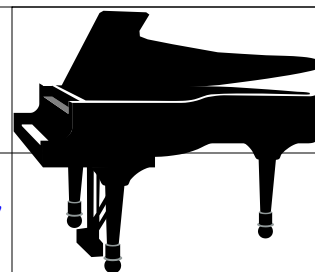
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From the Studio: Music Teaching Products



Please send your favorite successful teaching product information to the MMT Editor via email: tracy@vicksburg.com. Please include the title of the product, the company that produces it, cost, and a short description of the product and how it has been helpful in your studio.

The MMTA Conference at Millsaps will include several reading sessions to give you insight into new teaching materials. Teacher inspiration and relaxation are also important for our teaching task, and this column mentions a book that is both inspiring and informative about pianos. The book is "The Piano Shop on the Left Bank" by Thad Carhart. This is not a non-fiction text but an interesting story about Paris and about a friendship between an American who loves the piano and a Parisian piano atelier owner. It will re-inspire you about the beauty of piano music and the instrument itself. I found it at Borders but I'm sure amazon.com could help you locate it.

FROM THE EDITOR

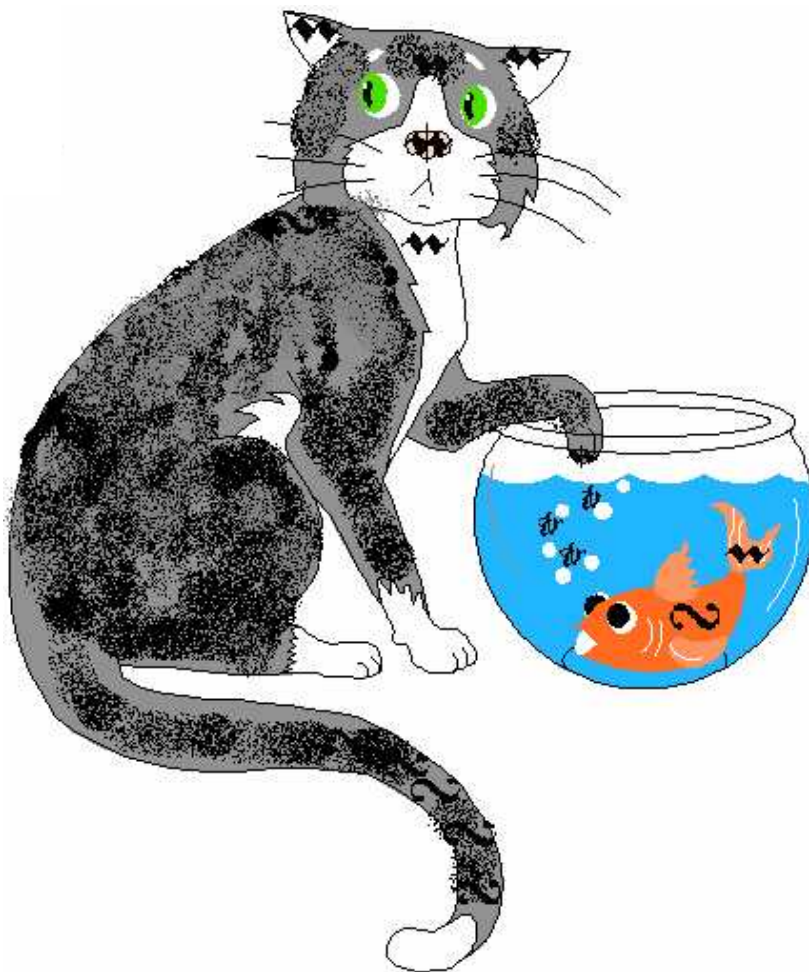
This issue highlights the MMTA Conference on November 2-4 at Millsaps. There is an excellent selection of recitals, workshops and sessions for all music teachers. Please consider attending. I will use the "Late Night" format and list 10 reasons to attend the MMTA Conference:

10. Great food.
9. Hear both a harpsichord and a fortepiano.
8. Enjoy a wonderful tenor with a great accompanist.
7. Relax to cello and piano.
6. Hear the premiere of a new flute/piano composition.
5. Enjoy young people performing concertos.
4. Meet and interact with some of the top teachers in the country.
3. The Conference is **FREE** to MMTA members.
2. You deserve a day off from teaching.
1. Being with other musicians is lots of fun!



Thanks for all who contributed to this issue—remember that communication is very important.

Barbara Tracy
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Find the ornaments in the picture above (perhaps a young student could help).

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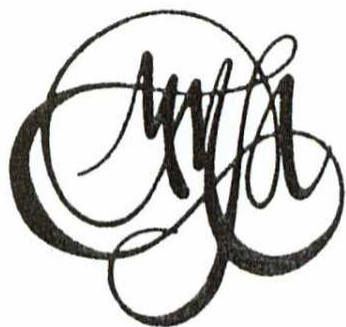
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