

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2006



Molly Savoy Teacher: Janet Gray



Chelsea Lindley Teachers: Peg Oakes, Ellen Gunn

2006 MMTA Outstanding Students



Jonathan Feng Teachers: Edna Mae McCoy, Harold Thompson

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Joanna Burnside, MMTA President

It has been a busy spring for all-- ongoing recovery from hurricane season, school, recitals, meetings, auditions, graduations, family activities, and more. I hope this issue of the *MMT* finds the start to your summer relaxing and enjoyable.

Much work has been done by the MMTA Executive Committee and Board this spring. Changes in the formatting of our state competitions should benefit all. Please note on the calendar below that Nov. 24, 2006, will be our annual conference, MTNA national competitions, and the state Pre college Concerto competitions. The MMTA state collegiate competitions have been moved to a springtime event, and will be held on March 3, 2007, in an effort to help with venue and scheduling issues, among other reasons. Both events will be held at Millsaps College.

Other business:

- Revisions were approved by the board to update the pre-college guitar syllabus -- these revisions will be on the web soon.
- For your convenience, a calendar page has been added to the web site for listing of MMTA events. For more information, contact Barbara Tracy, VP for Public Relations.
- The MMTA Nominating Committee, chaired by Immediate Past President Donna Banks, has been approved by the board. Committee members are Ellen Gunn, Janice Mesrobian, and Peggy Oakes. They will begin putting together a slate of officers for the next term.
- MMTA awarded a local association grant to the Hattiesburg Music Teachers League in the amount of \$150. All Local Affiliates – please submit a grant request form 30 days prior to the event in order to take advantage of this annual grant opportunity for your association. This form is available in the “members’ only” section of the web site, at www.msmusicteachers.org. Current members can request the password by emailing inkki@aol.com.

More donations have been received for our members affected by Hurricane Katrina over the past several months from all across the country. The amount of music has been staggering! MMTA would like to again express its thanks for the generosity of all those who have contributed music, instruments, and money over the past 10 months.

A June Executive Committee meeting will begin the process of updates to the constitution. These updates and revisions will bring us more in line with MTNA, clarify current officer duties, help include web site information, reconsideration of the ethics statement and more. An up-to-date document would help our association operate more professionally, ethically, and efficiently. Following board approval of the revisions, the general membership will vote on the adoption of the new constitution in November. If approved by the general membership, the new document will then be submitted to MTNA for final approval. Executive Committee members include:

Joanna Burnside, Angela Willoughby, Donna Banks, Kimberley Davis, Sharon Lebsack, Jacquelyn Thornell, Barbara Tracy, Gena Everitt, and Janet Gray.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The Pre-college Student Activities Committee will meet this summer to discuss proposals presented to the board regarding SSRR judging procedures. Members serving on this Committee are:

Jacquelyn Thornell, Chair, Carolina WhitfieldSmith, Donna Banks, Edna Mae McCoy, Ellen Gunn, Carol Mahler, Cristina Moreland, Kay Johnson, Senita Webb, Diane Wang, Janet Gray, Barbara Tracy, Joan Harris, Rosangela Sebba, Carol Schutzmann, Gena Everitt, Bobbie Smith, Jan Mesrobian, Laura Stokes, Sandy Coutoumanos, Roma DeLaHunt, Charlotte Mason

Calendar

- June 24, 2006 Constitution Updates-Executive Committee, Eudora Welty Library (12:30pm)
- August 26, 2006 Executive Committee & Board Meeting, Millsaps College, Jackson, (11:00am)
- Nov. 2-4, 2006 MMTA Conference, MTNA National Competitions and State
Pre-college Concerto Competitions
- Jan. 12-15, 2007 MTNA Southern Division, Florida State University, Tallahassee
- March 3, 2007 MMTA State Collegiate Competitions
- 2007 MMTA Pre-college Auditions:
- March 24: Ellisville, Gulf Coast, ColumbusStarkville, Oxford, Vicksburg, Wesson
- March 31: Cleveland, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian, Tupelo
- May 5, 2007: SSRR - Jones County Junior College, Ellisville

~ *Joanna Burnside,*
President



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VICE PRESIDENT FOR PRE-COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

SSRR was held at Ole Miss and ran smoothly in spite of some errors on my part. The weather was beautiful, allowing us to present all awards out of doors on the back steps to Scruggs Hall. Ian Hominick had provided a “map” of the floor plan and posted directional signs to all recital rooms and work areas. Diane Wang arranged for the lunch, beautifully presented and delicious! Stacy Rodgers was there to help move boxes from my car to Scruggs on Friday, and Beth Parker was supervising the Work Room bright and early along with other faithful, long-time members who work year after year behind the scenes, never hearing their students. “Thanks!” to all of you.



I want to express my appreciation to all of the MMTA members who participated. Once again, Gail Gwozdz arranged for the medals and ribbons, and Sandra Polanski created an eye-catching poster honoring the recipients of the “Outstanding Achievement Award” for students who have qualified for SSRR eight years. **(See the biographies of the 2006 award winning students on page 5 and 6 of this issue of the MMT.)**

Lots of teachers and students worked hard in preparation for Auditions, with 573 students, representing 75 teachers, at 11 audition sites. Of the entries, 282 students qualified for SSRR, and more than 175 participated. Our president, Joanna Burnside, presented the medals, certificates and other awards all day at SSRR.



Jacquelyn Thornell, VP for Pre-College Activities, is pictured next to the poster honoring the 2006 MMTA Outstanding students at the start of the 2006 SSRR at Ole Miss. Sandra Polanski prepared the poster.

Our District Chairs made copies, arranged for testing areas, engaged judges and coordinated Auditions. When most teachers were back in their studios reviewing their students' evaluations, our chairmen were recording scores, completing income and expense forms and SSRR Eligible reports. As you know, we depend on a lot of dedicated teachers for the continued success of these activities that are so important for our students.

Mark your calendars with Audition dates for 2007: March 24 and 31. May 5 is the date for 2007 SSRR at Jones County Junior College.

jsthornell@bellsouth.net

“Jacquelyn Thornell, NCTM

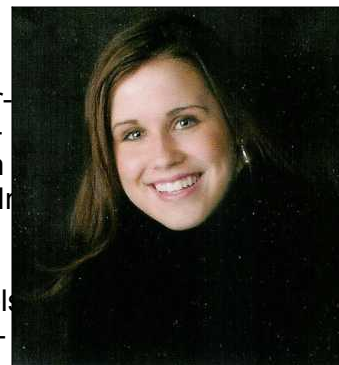
MMTA 2006 OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Chelsea Lindley, New Albany High School Senior, has been a piano student for eleven years. She began taking lessons with Ellen Gunn, Ellisville, MS. When her family moved to New Albany in 1998, Chelsea began studying under Peggy Oakes of Tupelo. Chelsea was recently honored with the MMTA Outstanding Student Award for eight years of superior performance. In the State Student Recognition Recitals, she placed second in solo performance in both 2005 and 2006. She has also been on the National Honor Roll of the National Guild of Piano Teachers for ten years. Each summer Chelsea enjoys participating in the Mississippi State University Piano Showcase, which she has attended on competitive local scholarships for the past four years. Chelsea also enjoys playing the flute and singing in her church youth choir.



Chelsea is also actively involved in her school and community. She is a Gold Award Girl Scout and Student Body president at NAHS. Other leadership positions include President of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Senior Director of the Anchor Club, and member of the Union County Leadership Academy. Chelsea also holds the titles of Valedictorian, Star Student, National Merit Finalist, and Principal's Leadership Award recipient. She was voted by her fellow students as being Most Dependable and Most Likely to Succeed. She is Co-Captain of the varsity girls basketball team, MVP of girls cross country team, and a member of the high school track team. She was the female recipient of the Bulldog Award, highest athletic honor at NAHS. After graduation Chelsea plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in biomedical engineering. She hopes to attain her Ph.D. in this field and pursue a career in medical research and biomaterial design.

Molly Anne Savoy, 17 year-old daughter of John and Janet Savoy of Tishomingo, Mississippi, has studied piano for nine years with Janet D. Gray in Corinth. She will graduate from Tishomingo High School in 2007. Molly has qualified for SSRR for eight years, always making superior in all four categories. In addition, she received Winner's medals in Solo VI and Solo III Performance. In 2006 she received the award for High Composite Score for 11th grade. Most years she has participated and qualified for SSRR in multiple categories: Theme and Variations and Ensemble (with her sister, always playing two levels above her own). She has been awarded 1st alternate, 2nd alternate and honorable mention ribbons in these categories.



As a NFMC scholarship winner, Molly attended Mississippi Piano Camp at Hinds Community College twice. In addition, she has attended Mississippi Piano Showcase at Mississippi State University for four years. In 2004, she was chosen to premier an original composition written by Dr. Ray Liebau at the MMTA 50th Conference. She has participated in National Guild Auditions for nine years and in District Festival sponsored by National Federation of Music Clubs for eight years, receiving consecutive superiors in both events. At THS, she is secretary of her class and a member of the Student Council, in addition to being an "A" Honor Roll Student. Active in many clubs, she has placed twice at the state level with Future Business Leaders of America and competed in the National Competition in 2005 in Orlando, Florida. Molly was elected to represent her class as Homecoming Maid for three years, and was elected Class Favorite her sophomore and junior years. She was a cheerleader in Junior High School. Molly is a member of the North Mississippi Create Youth Foundation Board, and is spending summer 2006 as a volunteer at Lake Stephens United Methodist Camp.

MMTA 2006 OUTSTANDING STUDENT

Jonathan Feng, 16 year-old son of Eric and Candy Feng and brother of Cath-erin, lives in Starkville, his birthplace. As a sophomore, his 10th year for SSRR he received gold medals in both solo and ensemble. Prior of this year, he was awarded 5 gold medals, 2 highest composite scores and several 2nd and 3rd places. At age 6, he began piano lessons for 2 years with Jean Rosenkrans, followed by 7 years with Harold Thompson and currently studies with Edna Mae McCoy.

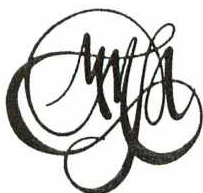


Jonathan represented Mississippi in Baldwin Competition Southern Division 2003 and 2005. He won 1st place in Sr. Baroque Potpourri at the 2006 Bach Festival and was one of two recipients for MSU Piano Showcase State Scholarships for the June 2006 session. He has received superior ratings in MMTA Pre -College auditions, Starkville Piano Symposium and MFMC Festivals each time he has entered.

At Starkville Academy (K-8th grade) he received highest GPA in 6th grade. In Junior High he earned various subject awards, numerous Science Fair recognitions and was Oktibeha Co. Spelling Bee winner. He continues his straight A academic record at Starkville High. Earlier this year as a member of Health Occupation Student Society of America, his Biomedical Debate Team won 2nd place in the State which enables the team to compete in National competition in Anaheim, CA, in late June 2006.

Other interests include art, computer graphic design, photography, video games, hiking and the study of ancient warfare.

Jonathan attends First United Methodist Church in Starkville. He will continue his love of learning as a Junior in the prestigious Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science when the fall semester begins.



Treasurer's Report for Mississippi Music Teachers Association From Janet Gray, MMTA Treasurer

July 2005– April 2006

July 2005– April 2006

Income:

Expense:

Convention Grants	\$3,605.00
Convention	4,231.01
MMT ads	825.00
Pre-college fees	14,647.00
Katrina Donations	23,827.00
Interest, dues rebates, misc.	4,533.71

Convention	\$ 10,622.37
Executive Committee	3,329.95
General Operating/Katrina Relief	22,530.84
Pre-college	6,718.33
MMT/Website Expense	815.60

Total Expense \$44,017.09

Total Income \$51,668.72

Net Income \$ 7,651.63



PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT



Angela Willoughby,
President-Elect

In early spring, my activities are centered around the writing of the grant for the Mississippi Arts Commission. I submitted the grant in the last part of February for the March 1 deadline. Included in the materials were plans for the November conference—guest artists, presenters, and other pertinent expenses with the related goals for the organization at the conference. We will not hear of the results until July.

The remainder of the season is spent gathering information and making plans for the 2006 MMTA Conference, November 2-4, 2006, at Millsaps College. This year is the first attempt at making the conference more educational and beneficial for the membership by separating the MTNA and MMTA competitions, thereby creating a significant amount of time for sessions and lecture/recitals. By using this format, we have increased the time for enrichment without increasing the amount of actual time spent at the conference. The added cost (in comparison to previous conferences) of presenters/lecturers is \$750.00, pending board approval. The presenters include nationally recognized performers and clinicians, while utilizing the considerable talents of those in our area. Additionally, the reading sessions provided by Kjos Publishing Co. and Alfred Publishing Co. allow us to offer Maurice Hinson and the Weekley and Arganbright Duo at a minimum cost.

Since the plan for competitions is to hold the MMTA (state) competitions in March, increased time is given for preparation by college teachers. Hopefully, this spring date will greatly enhance student performance and teacher preparation while offering less conflict in scheduling. The cost of adjudication will be decreased slightly due to the absence of the MTNA competitions.

Angela Willoughby, NCTM



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November 2-4, 2006, at Millsaps College
2006 MMTA Conference*



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Sharon Lebsack

UPDATE from VP for Competitions

I hope everyone is taking some time to relax in the steamy south this summer! While you are relaxing, start thinking about preparing your students for competitions. The first step in the MTNA Competitions will take place November 3 at Millsaps College in Jackson. These events include Junior Performance (ages 11 - 14), Senior Performance (ages 15 - 18), Young Artist Performance (ages 19 - 26), and Chamber Music Performance (average age of ensemble members 18 - 26). These ages must be attained as of January 1, 2007.

All the information needed for these competitions can be found in the April/May American Music Teacher. Of particular note is the information on page 40 pertaining to passports. Since the National Conference is in Toronto, Canada, you'll want to update or attain passports for you and your students.

Application deadline for all MTNA Competitions is 12:00 midnight on September 12, 2006. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE DONE ON LINE. Mailed, faxed, or emailed entries will not be accepted.

Pre-College Concerto Competitions will also be held in November at the State Conference in Jackson. Contact Jacquelyn Thornell with any questions or concerns at 601-952-0060 or jsthornell@bellsouth.net.

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

Meanwhile, please contact me with any questions or concerns at:
sharon_lebsack@comcast.net
or 601-543-7096.

Sharon Lebsack, NCTM

Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association



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President - Gena Everitt

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

2006 Piano Technicians Grant Awarded to Janice Mesrobian

Janice Mesrobian received her Bachelor of Arts from UCLA and a Masters Degree in Piano Performance from Wichita State. She has done additional piano studies at the University of California with Marilyn Neely and at the University of Southern Mississippi with Dr. Lois Leventhal.



She moved to Hattiesburg in 1967 and seeing a need for a professional teachers organization, she founded the Hattiesburg Music Teachers League (HMTL) in 1972. She has held many offices in the organization including numerous terms as President. The HMTL became affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association in 1976. She was on the MMTA Executive Board as Coordinator of the State Finals for three years. In 1984 the HMTL created a biannual Composer Festival which has featured nationally known composers such as Robert Vandall, Catherine Rollin, Melody Bober and Jane Bastien.

Mrs. Mesrobian has maintained a private piano studio in Hattiesburg for over thirty years. Her students have been winners at the Music Forum of Jackson Bach Festival and the Mississippi Music Teachers Association State Finals. She has also had state winners in the Junior High and High School National Competitions sponsored by Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Her students have received scholarships to Mississippi music camps as well as the North Carolina Brevard Music Center.

In addition to her private studio, Mrs. Mesrobian held accompanying and teaching positions at UCLA, Pasadena City College, University of Southern Mississippi and William Carey College. She has presented workshops and recitals for local associations in Gulfport, Meridian, Jackson and Oxford and is an active accompanist and adjudicator.

The 2006 Piano Technicians Guild Foundation Grant provided the opportunity for Mrs. Mesrobian to attend

the 2006 MTNA National Conference in Austin, Texas. She looks forward to acquiring fresh perspectives on studio organization, repertoire, and teaching skills to share with her colleagues in an effort to strengthen and better equip the HMTL to support local teachers. She is particularly interested in focusing on the organization of student chapters to help prepare young teachers develop their studios.

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Susan A. Smith, Chair

*Sammy Barr, Band Meri Newell, Woodwinds
Mike Boyd, Guitar Kay Guiles, Piano
Carrie Strickland, Brass Theresa Sanchez, Piano
Susan A. Smith, Voice Greg Smith, Voice
Martha Tisdale, Piano Mark Taylor, Choir
Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band*

www.jcjc.edu/depts/finearts

Mississippi Music Teachers Association SSRR Awards 2006

Jacquelyn Sullivan Thornell, NCTM, VP Pre-College Activities

3



Piano Grade 3 and Below: Gold Medal: Cici Zhang - Harold Thompson, 2nd Place: Linda Cheng - Edna Mae McCoy, 3rd Place: James Zhou - Karen Laubengayer, Maria Rossi - Edna Mae McCoy, 4th Place: Ben Wiggins - Beth Parker, Hon Men: Vivian Mao - Rachel Heard, Rhen McLeod - Angie Armour, Melinda Xu - Dixie Clark, Helen Shi - Edna Mae McCoy, Elizabeth Liu - Rachel Heard, Ana Ablanedo - Adrienne Park, Highest Comp.: Helen Shi - Edna Mae McCoy



4

Piano Grade 4 Gold Medal: Austin Li - Karen Fosheim, 2nd Place: Julie Lorenzo - Adrienne Park, Joelle Young - Adrienne Park, Meng Meng Fang - Dixie Clark, 3rd Place: Samantha Ong - Rachel Heard, 4th Place: Turner Arnold - Adrienne Park, Katie Beth Pickering - Angie Armour, Grant Zou - Isabella Ivshin, Hon. Men.: Paty Ablanedo - Adrienne Park, Brittany Matthews - Beth Parker, Alex Dawson - Laura Broughton, Highest Composite: Brittany Lee - Beth Parker, Samantha Ong - Rachel Heard, Taylor Zhange - Isabella Ivshin

SSRR AWARDS 2006 CONTINUED

5



Piano Grade 5 Gold Medal – Taide Ding – Ian Hominick, Benny Zhang – Cristina Moreland, 2nd Place: Dora Chen – Stacy Rodgers, 3rd Place: Tori Fields – Frankie Harpole, John Baxter – Laura Broughton,, Goodloe Chilcutt – Edna Mae McCoy, Annie Lu – Isabella Ivshin, 4th Place: Case Martin – Peggy Oakes, Caleb Foster – Dixie Clark, Ashley Williams – Sandy Coutoumanos,, Honorable Mention: Sallie Lin – Judith Allen, Katlyn Patrick – Dianne Walker, John Brehan – Cristina Moreland, Highest Composite: Neely Wester – Frankie Harpole



6

Piano Grade 6 Gold: Traci Theisen - Cristina Moreland, 2nd Place: Ariel Cheng – Isabella Ivshin, 3rd Place: Brian Xu – Dixie Clark, 4th Place: Natalie Payne – Rachel Heard, Catherine Feng – Edna Mae McCoy, Hon. Men.: Allea Steib – Tricia Dennis, Samina Karim – Karen Fosheim, Joshua Banks – Edna Mae McCoy, Jessica Lee – Charlotte Craig, Charlotte Wang – Dixie Clark, Ashley Mason – Peggy Oakes, Highest Composite: Brian Xu-Dixie Clark, Monique Ma-Carol Durham

7



Piano Grade 7 Gold Medal: Austin Nicholson - Steve Russell, 2nd Place: Erin Dyer - Stacy Rodgers, Angella Pan – Diane Wang, Alexander Zhu – Harold Thompson, 3rd Place: Katharine Crandall – Edna Mae McCoy, Highest Composite: Patience Coats – Ellen Gunn



9

Piano Grade 9 Gold Medal: Elan Ding – Cristina Moreland, 2nd Place: Gabrielle Richardson-Vincentine Williams, 3rd Place: Elizabeth Benson - Judith Allen, 4th Place: Shaoxin Lu - Rachel Heard, Hon. Men.: Sarah Beth Wallace – Dixie Clark, Nathan Payne – Rachel Heard, Hunter Chancellor – Beth Parker, Brock Hurston – Martha Tisdale, Benjamin Hurston – Martha Tisdale, Amber Jones – Sandra Polanski, Highest Composite: Gabrielle Richardson, Elizabeth Benson

8



Piano Grade 8 Gold Medal: Angelo Sayo – Beth Cape, 2nd Place: Mary McKibben – Dixie Clark, 3rd Place: Monica Pani – Kay Johnson, Katherine Kramer – Diane Wang, 4th Place: Cathy Chen – Diane Wang, Highest Comp.: Stephanie Sapp – Susan Gambrell



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10

Piano Grade 10 Gold Medal: Jonathan Feng - Edna Mae McCoy, Bowen Zhou – Karen Laubengayer, 2nd Place: Colin McDearman - Annette Joe, 3rd Place: Lindsay Weeks – Ann Kay, 4th Place: Laura Davion – Laura Broughton, Hon. Men.: Virginia Glover – Annette Joe, Highest Comp. Bowen Zhou - Karen Laubengayer



11

Piano Grade 11 Gold Medal: Ammon Perkes – Sandra Polanski
 2nd Place: Sean Knapp – Mildred Dickson, Hank Hwang – Annette Joe,
 3rd Place: Lucy Chilcutt – Edna Mae McCoy,
 Highest Composite: Molly Savoy - Janet Gray



12

Piano Grade 12 Gold Medal: David Williams – Lyeah Buchanan
 2nd Place: Chelsea Lindley - Peggy Oakes
 3rd Place: Katie Wallace – Dixie Clark
 Highest Comp. Lydia Velichkovski – Annette Joe



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 Mae McCoy



Ensemble D Gold : Emily Gully/Matt Gully Teacher –
 Marilyn Huff



Ensemble B Gold : Kenisha Thrower/Diamond Flowers
 Teacher – Elsie Barnes



Ensemble Division C Gold Medal: Cathy Chen/Katherine Kramer Teacher – Diane
 Wang , 2nd Place: Amanda Broadwater/McKenzie Carney Teacher – Ouida Thomas

Theme and Variations



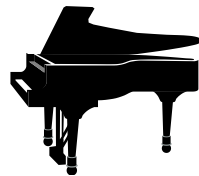
Theme & Variations – Division D: Gold Medal: Colin McDearman – Annette Joe; 2nd Place: Gabrielle Richardson – Vincentine Williams



Theme & Variations – Division C: Gold Medal: Monica Pani – Kay Johnson; 2nd Place: Erin Dyer – Stacy Rodgers



Theme & Variations – Division B: Gold Medal: Dona Chen - Stacy Rogers



SONATA/SONATINA



Sonata/Sonatina Division A: Gold Medal: Cici Zhang – Harold Thompson



Sonata/Sonatina Division D: Gold Medal: Benjamin Hurston – Martha Tisdale 2nd Place: Shaoxin Lu – Rachel Heard

Not Pictured:
Sonata/Sonatina
Division C
Gold Medal: Katie Elmore – Dixie Clark



SONATA/SONATINA



Sonata/Sonatina Division B: Gold Medal: Catherine Feng – Edna Mae McCoy, 2nd Place: Taide Ding – Ian Hominick, 3rd Place: Caleb Foster – Dixie Clark, 4th Place: Benny Zhang – Cristina Moreland, Hon. Men.: Traci Theisen – Cristina Moreland

VOCAL WINNERS



Voice Grade 10: Gold Medal: Caitlin Broom – Barbara Stephenson; 2nd Place: Mary Anne Messer – Barbara Stephenson



Voice Grade 9: Gold Medal: Caitlin Seale – Barbara Stephenson ;2nd Place: Bethany Fagan – Robert Mesrobian



Cello Division C: Gold Medal: Nathan Lin – Delores Saenz



Violin Division B: Gold Medal: Zachary Scott Neal – Gail Gwozdz, 2nd Place: Alex Dawson – Gail Gwozdz; Violin Division A Gold Medal: Wynter Hilbun – Gail Gwozdz

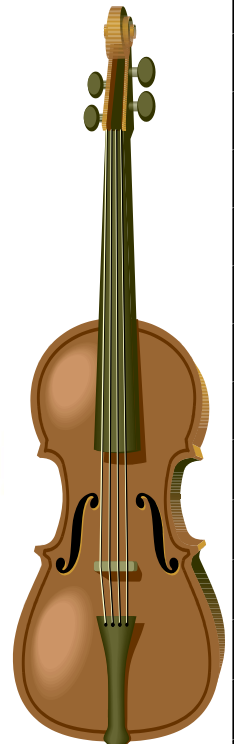
STRINGS



Violin Division D: Gold Medal: Hannah Roberts – Gail Gwozdz



Violin Division C: Gold Medal: Alex Fan – Gail Gwozdz, 2nd Place: Courtney Gagliano – Gail Gwozdz



LOCAL AFFILIATES: HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE

The Hattiesburg Music Teachers League held its final business meeting and luncheon at Seasons Restaurant in Newpointe Shopping center. Reports were given by chairpersons on the year's events.

Laura Broughton, Vice-President for Programs and Composer Festival, announced that our composer for 2007 will be Timothy Brown. She reported that we had 111 entries in the Melody Bober Composer Festival this November. Members thoroughly enjoyed her program, "Melodies Melodies" at Wolfe Gang Music. In six recitals on Friday night and Saturday morning our students performed her music. After a brief presentation by Melody for each recital, all participants enjoyed an autograph party with Mrs. Bober. Despite a shortened preparation time due to Katrina, we felt the Festival had a very successful outcome.

Anne Kathryn DeViney, MFMC Jr. Festival Chair, shared that we had 161 participants in our Junior Festival in February at USM. As usual, she ran a very efficient festival.

Nan Porter organized another lovely Spring Concert for our high school students with 15 students performing piano, violin, flute and vocal solos. Teachers provided a reception for students and their families. Three seniors were presented awards for their dedication to musical studies: Nichole Jones, Julianne Crockett and Kyndal Owens from the studios of Kaye Chambless, Nan Porter and Susan Fairchild respectively.

Cristina Moreland again ran very efficient MMTA PreCollege Auditions. Several students participated in SSRR bringing home twelve gold medals and eleven alternates and honorable mentions. Winners were from the studios of Laura Broughton, Beth Cape, Gail Gwozdz, Robert Mesrobian, Cristina Moreland, Delores Saenz, and Barbara Stephenson.

Camp Scholarships were awarded this spring to Nichole Jones and Elan Ding. Both these students will attend Piano Showcase.

Joanna Burnside presented the slate of officers for next year. President: Janice Mesrobian, Vice President for Programs: Laura Broughton, Vice President for Membership: Kristina Havard, Vice President for Recitals: Gail Gwozdz, Vice President for Publicity: Nan Porter, Secretary: Ellen Elder, Treasurer: Dixie Lawson

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Mesrobian, President



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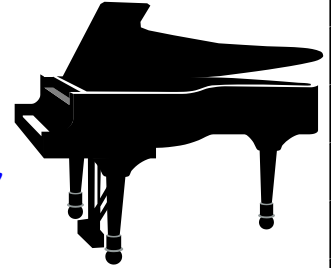
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From the Studio: Music Teaching Products



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.

Since Weekley and Arganbright will be featured at the 2006 MMTA Conference, we should focus on piano duet literature. Students enjoy ensemble literature and it builds wonderful musicianship. Check out all the wonderful Weekley and Arganbright arrangements on the internet (Kjos Publishers) and use this information for the puzzle below. Also check out a new series of "In Recital Duets" edited by Helen Marlais and published as part of the FJH (Faber) Pianist's Curriculum. The Marlais duet series features all levels and an accompanying CD.

Fill in the blanks (one letter/blank):

Piano _____ literature can be written for four hands on one _____. Weekley and Arganbright have arranged a large amount of literature for this medium. Selections include The _____ (an archer and apple), Five _____ Rags, _____ Waltzes (Op. 39), the selection used for numerous weddings (_____), a piece called _____ Dreams (for the season starting in mid-June), Kuhlau's _____ s, Three _____ Pieces (the top hits in 1725), _____ (two) As Nice , a Sontaina by _____ (remember those yellow technique books), _____ (a suite featuring nursery rhymes) _____, and numerous other selections.

LOCAL AFFILIATE: VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

VMTA held their 2006-07 lunch planning meeting on May 22 at Pizza Hut. We welcome a new member, Lorene Arnold. Lorene is the church musician for First Christian and is employed by the City of Vicksburg. We congratulate the following students who presented senior recitals recently: Kaylina Madison and Adam Stirgus (Henderson-Leese), and Anna Reiber (Tracy). We also congratulate our SSRR award winners from the studios of Judith Allen and Susan Gambrell. Fall plans include a Boys' recital, adult student event, and participation in Pipes, Pedals, and Pizza.

Barbara Tracy

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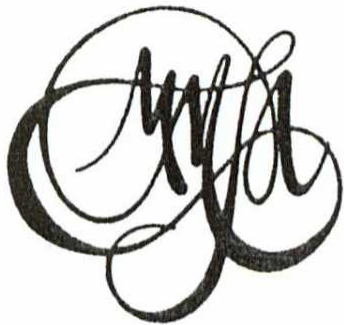
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WE'RE ON THE WEB
[HTTP://MSMUSICTEACHERS.ORG](http://MSMUSICTEACHERS.ORG)

FROM THE EDITOR

MMTA congratulates all the student SSRR award winners and teachers featured in this issue. There are more than 80 students pictured—some with multiple awards. All the students seemed to have a positive attitude and also had the support of caring parents—they enjoyed performing selections that they had spent many hours perfecting. Music study is alive and well among these young people.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue. **Please keep me updated on your newly elected officers and plans for local affiliate programs for the Fall MMT.** Communication is so important to our association.

Wishing you summer relaxation and refreshment,



Barbara Tracy
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MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

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