

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring Pictures from the 2011 MMTA
Collegiate Competitions

**Plan to attend our 2011
Conference November 3-5 at
Jones County Junior College in
Ellisville.**

Message from the President

I hope that everyone is having a wonderful Spring and that you have scheduled some "down-time" during the upcoming summer months. Just to update everybody on what has been happening, I was unable to attend the Spring Collegiate Competitions at Delta State University due to a previously scheduled trip. I understand that all ran smoothly and thanks to Ellen Elder and hosts Karen Fosheim and Jung-Won Shin at DSU for running the show. Collegiate teachers ... let's all work harder to get more faculty to join our organization so the number of participants rises annually. We will be adding a graduate solo category to this event for 2012. This is a wonderful opportunity to get some external constructive criticism for student repertoire as well

In late March, I attended the MTNA National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This was my first foray to the MTNA festivity and I was very impressed by both the attendance and the quality of presentations. In attendance were a virtual "who's who" in the pedagogy field and I had the opportunity to renew acquaintances with many I had known as well as make new acquaintances with others such as Helen Marlais, who will be our Conference guest clinician. There were many meetings to attend, some required and some voluntary, but I chose to go to as much as possible including the Southern Division meeting, the State Leadership Luncheon (formerly known as the Summit) and the College Faculty Forum meeting. I also attended many presenter sessions including those hosted by the Royal Conservatory of Music. You may have heard that they announced a partnership with Carnegie Hall to introduce the "Achievement Program," designed to offer a curriculum that provides one measuring stick nation-wide to students, teachers and parents. *(Continued on page 2.)*

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Message from the President (continued)

The Board will be exploring this program to ascertain whether this curriculum would be a good fit for our members. If you would like to visit the RCM web site and find out more, the address is

<http://www.rcmexaminations.org/>

I attended the MTNA Gala Dinner. The Florida table was kind enough to take in one lonely Mississippian and Leonard Mastrogiacomo serenaded me with his wit and charm. I only drank the grape juice, mind you. Gary Ingle held an informational meeting at which he provided updates on membership and financial data. He announced that despite a 2 % decrease in membership from the usual 24,000 members, MTNA is on its best financial ground to date. MTNA has saved some resources by such things as removing the election ballot from the AMT, reducing staff and outsourcing technology to a company in conjunction with other organizations. A new MTNA web site is to be launched by June, 2011. Mr. Ingle has also asked that locals save recital programs and send them to MTNA so that ASCAP can compensate composers with the appropriate royalties. If MTNA had not negotiated an agreement with ASCAP in 1999, each local would have been required to pay a \$340 fee. MTNA also provides general liability insurance for state and local events as long as they are official MTA events. If any local is unsure of it's 501C3 status, simply verify with MTNA that you have a profit-free purpose and MTNA will take care of the paperwork.



Ian Hominick

Our Fall Conference will be hosted by Jones County Junior College. Many thanks to Theresa Sanchez, Kay Guiles and Victoria Johnson for agreeing to host us and please show your appreciation to Barbara Tracy and the Conference Committee members for all of their work in putting together the program. This is the time to start thinking about the MTNA Competitions and Pre-College Concerti for November. We also plan to actively involve more students at our next Conference in areas other than competition. If you have ideas, please forward these to Barbara Tracy or myself.

Finally, if you know of any member who was adversely affected by recent storms or flooding, please notify me as soon as possible. To date, I have heard of no one affected. The Texas Music Teachers Association were kind enough to contact me and offer our members some financial support but, thankfully, it appears it will not be needed. Alabama was particularly affected by the severe storms and the Southern Division states have come together to offer some assistance. Consequently, we voted to contribute \$500 toward the Alabama Tornado Recovery Fund.

I will have messages sent to members whenever an issue of significance arises. Many thanks to Janine Beasley for staying on top of this. Remember ... this is **YOUR** organization. Please participate whenever you are able. Invite a non-member to join. You'll be pleasantly surprised with the friends you'll make and the things you'll learn!



Barbara Tracy

President-Elect's Message

The duties of the President-Elect seem to focus in on the winter months and August-November. The primary focus this winter was to make initial plans for our MMTA 2011 Conference and submit the MAC grant request due on March 1. The 2011 MMTA Conference will be November 3-5, 2011, at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. This year's focus is chamber music; and with the help of our chamber chair, Jung-Won Shin, we have made contacts and plan to present the New Orleans Navy Band Brass Quintet for our Friday concert. Our IMTF Chair, Rosangela Sebba, has secured Dr. Pamela Pike from LSU for our IMTF lecture on sight-reading (incorporating all instruments). Ben Williams, our Theory and Composition Chair, has secured James Sobaskie from MSU for our commissioned composer. The composition will be for brass quintet. Our guest piano clinician will be Dr. Helen Marlais from FJH Publishing, and she will present two sessions in addition to a session on her new Piano

Method, "Succeeding at the Piano." In addition to the usual MAC Grant paperwork, we added a special 5-minute DVD summary of last year's conference along with our plans for the 2011 Conference to help the MAC evaluators have a better understanding of our activities. We all know that funding is very tight but we hope they choose to help fund our program.

This March I attended my first MTNA Conference. We could sign up for a special leadership session, and we received valuable information to help us with our jobs. The main focus of the lecture was communication. Much of this is done via publicity, newsletters, email and social sites but just listening and interacting with members and officers is also very important. We also need to improve our interaction and recruitment especially in the area of our new younger teachers. I received some good advice from an MTNA attendee who had a lot of experience with the organization. She said we need to have good solid programs, and the members will come and stay. There were lots of wonderful sessions and concerts, and it was really interesting to see snow in March (a normal occurrence in Milwaukee). We were very impressed with Helen Marlais' presentation at MTNA and look forward to hearing her again in November. Next year the MTNA conference is scheduled for New York City.

The 2011 Conference Committee along with our hosts, Theresa Sanchez, Kay Guiles, and Victoria Johnson, will be coordinating events for a great conference next November. Please put the dates on your calendar and plan to attend and invite a friend. Feel free to offer suggestions via my email. We also hope to encourage the Ellisville and Hattiesburg community to help support the performance of the Navy Brass Quintet. We also hope to have member presentations and encourage students to attend the conference. Consider entering students in the MTNA or Pre-College Concerto competitions. Look at our website or contact Ellen Elder, our VP for Collegiate Competitions, for MTNA information or Alice Ballard, our VP for Pre-College Performances, for Pre-College Concerto information.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer,

Barbara Tracy

Treasurer's Report



Michael Rushing

The two primary events this quarter were the MMTA Collegiate Competitions in March and Pre-College Evaluations and Finals in April and May. Income and expense reports for those events are listed below. A \$500 donation was also made to our sister organization in Alabama for tornado recovery and relief.

MMTA Collegiate Competitions

Income: \$500
 Expense: \$1857.16
Net loss: \$1357.16

MMTA Pre-College Evaluations

Income: \$11836
 Expense: \$5400.93
Net profit: \$6435.07

Pre-College Finals

Income: \$763.15
 Expense: \$4219.38
Net loss: \$3456.23

Pre-college total profit (Evaluations net profit - Finals net loss): \$2978.84

Cash on hand as of 6/3/2011:

Checking: \$6840.17
 CDs: \$18,268.54



Vice President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

There have been 5 members (2 returning and 3 new members) to join since our January 8, 2011 meeting, bringing the total 2010-2011 membership to 186.

As of May 21, 2011, 55 members have renewed for the 2011-2012 year.

Website changes:

Changed payments forwarder email to Michael Rushing; checked on description in Paypal Payments – the description should show where the payment came from.

Updated officers page: Yvonne Young-McGrath telephone #, removed the name and information from Assistant to VP for Public Relations.

Changed the Certification page to use Ian Hominick's contact information.

Changed the student activities page to use "Evaluations" and "Pre-College Finals", added the new evaluations application form from Ellen Elder; also uploaded the new Outstanding Student form, with biography, also from Ellen Elder.

Added a link to the MMTA Member Survey to the Resources page and sent another email to membership.

Update the winner information on the Student Activities page to include 2010 winner information.

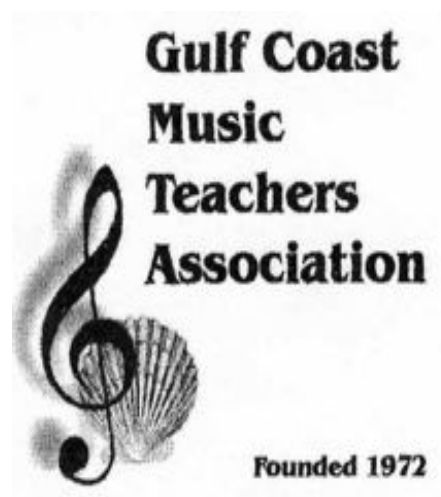
Updated the pictures on the Welcome page and Student Activities page to more recent photos.

Membership dues received from MTNA: received four membership dues from MTNA for December, two for January, one for February, two for March; no 2011-2012 dues have been received as of May 21, 2011.

Ongoing: working to get email information for members as current as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley



Vice President for Pre-College Performances

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, the MMTA Pre-College Finals were held at Mississippi College in Clinton. Judges came from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.



Alice Ballard

President Ian Hominick presented awards on the steps of the Aven Fine Arts Building, while President-Elect Barbara Tracy took pictures for the MMT. Approximately thirty teachers assisted with the recitals and in the workroom.

Dr. Angela Willoughby very generously provided a hospitality area throughout the day for teachers, students, and guests. Lunch was catered by McAllister's Deli and teachers paid \$6.50 for a sandwich bar. All forty-five lunches were sold, thanks to the active marketing of Dr. Michael Rushing, for a total of \$190.50.

There were four Eight-Year Achievement Award Winners and 211 High Composite Score certificates. The sale of program booklets generated \$572.65.

The event was successful due to the dedicated efforts of the teachers who guided the progress of the many recitals, awards, and details of the Pre-College Finals competitions. The Finals would not have been possible without the help of many people, including the district chairs who organized the local auditions preceding the Finals. Thank you to all, especially Dr. Angela Willoughby and Dr. Michael Rushing for hosting our competitions. Finally, I extend thanks on behalf of our MMTA organization to Dr. James M. Meaders, chair of the Mississippi College music department, for allowing us to use the fine MC music facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ballard, NCTM

Vice-President for Pre-College Performances



Greta Barbour-Mills, President
An affiliate of MMTA & MTNA

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions



Ellen Price Elder

The MMTA Collegiate Competitions were held on Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Delta State University. There were 35 entries this year. Unfortunately, the voice competitions and master class had to be cancelled due to contestant illness and other unexpected emergencies. I would like to thank Dr. Karen Fosheim and the faculty and staff of Delta State University for so graciously hosting the MMTA competitions. Delta State University student workers were also there to assist wherever needed.

There were four judges this year, and master classes were offered at the end of every competition.

Here is the breakdown of entries in each division:

Fr/So Piano – 8; Jr/Sr Piano – 6; Piano Concerto – 1

Fr/So Voice – 1; Jr/Sr Voice – 4; Aria – 1

Fr/So WW – 2; Jr/Sr WW – 1; Jr/Sr Jazz WW – 1; WW Concerto – 1

Fr/So Brass – 1; Jr/Sr Brass – 1

Fr/So Guitar – 4; Jr/Sr Guitar – 1

Fr/So Chamber – 1; Jr/Sr Chamber--1

As you can see, participation needs to improve. Please remember that the application deadline for the MTNA competitions is approaching--September 13. I would encourage you to enter your students in the MMTA state competitions as well as the MTNA competitions. These are wonderful opportunities for our students to perform and compete. Please encourage your institutional colleagues who are members of MMTA to enter their students in these events as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Price Elder, D.M.A.

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions

Theory and Composition

I am pleased to announce that Dr. James Sobaskie, Assistant Professor of Music Theory at Mississippi State University, has been commissioned to compose a brass quintet for the 2011 MMTA Conference.

James William Sobaskie earned bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where his professors included Dominick Argento, Paul Fetler, Alex Lubet, and Susan McClary. He achieved his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, working with Bruce Benward, Michael Long, Joel Naumann, and Joseph Straus. While pursuing university studies, he taught piano and guitar, composed, and directed church choirs. Before coming to Mississippi State University, Dr. Sobaskie held positions at the University of California, Riverside, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, St. Norbert College, and the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. His teaching responsibilities at MSU include Music Theory and Ear Training, Orchestration, Form and Analysis, and Composition, while other pedagogical activities involve computer applications in music, music education, and musicology.

Dr. Sobaskie's scholarly interests include the music of Franz Schubert, Frédéric Chopin, and Gabriel Fauré, plus the theories of Heinrich Schenker and Arnold Schoenberg. He has published essays on each, and has been invited to speak in Belgium, Canada, France, Ireland, Poland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, as well as national and regional conferences in America. Among his recent endeavors is a new critical edition of Fauré's last two compositions, the *Trio pour violon, violoncelle et piano* (1923) and the *Quatuor à cordes* (1924), a volume within a patrimonial project supported by the French government. He also guest-edited and contributed an essay to a special Schubert-themed issue of *Nineteenth Century Music Review*. Currently Dr. Sobaskie is completing a book, *The Music of Gabriel Fauré: style, structure, and the art of allusion*, and is Book Reviews Editor of *Nineteenth Century Music Review*.

Benjamin Williams

Chair of Theory and Composition

Mississippi Music Teachers Association



Mississippi Music Teachers Association
COLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS

MARCH 5, 2011

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Piano Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Andrew Burke (Rachel Heard, Millsaps College)

Second Place: Joshua Trent Smith (Rosangela Sebba, Mississippi State University)

Honorable Mention: Gabrielle Richardson (Rachel Heard, Millsaps College)

Jennifer Hartline (Ellen Price Elder, William Carey University)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Clifford Coile (Rachel Heard, Millsaps College)

Second Place: Jorge Alberto Jimenez (Rachel Heard, Millsaps College)

Honorable Mention: Vera Zholondz (Julia Mortyakova, Alcorn State University)

Concerto

Mary Catherine McKibben (Angela Willoughby, Mississippi College)

Woodwind Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Jessica Egdorf (Shelley Collins, Delta State University)

Second Place: Robyn Rouse (Shelley Collins, Delta State University)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Austin Lee White (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Junior/Senior Jazz Solo

First Place: Steven Hugley (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Concerto

First Place: Austin Lee White (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Guitar Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: John Oeth (Michael Patilla, Mississippi State University)

Second Place: Jordan Hannah (Michael Patilla, Mississippi State University)

Honorable Mention: Jonathon Giuffria (Michael Patilla, Mississippi State University)

Stephen Pepper (Michael Patilla, Mississippi State University)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Jacob Levi Gibson (James Turner, Millsaps College)

Brass Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Josiah J. Andrews (Douglas Mark, Delta State University)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Brian Thomson (Douglas Mark, Delta State University)

Chamber Music Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore

First Place: Delta State University Flute Trio (Shelley Collins, Delta State University)

Junior/Senior

First Place: Delta State Saxophone Quartet (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Competition Winners



Freshman/Sophomore Woodwind

2nd place-Robyn Rouse
1st place-Jessica Egdorf



Junior/Senior Woodwind & Woodwind Concerto

Austin Lee White



Junior/Senior Jazz Woodwind

Steven Hugley



Freshman/Sophomore Guitar

Honorable Mention: Jonathan Giuffria & Stephen Pepper; 1st place: John Oeth;
2nd place: Jordan Hannah



Junior/Senior Guitar

Jacob Levi Gibson



Junior/Senior Chamber

Delta State University Saxophone
Quartet



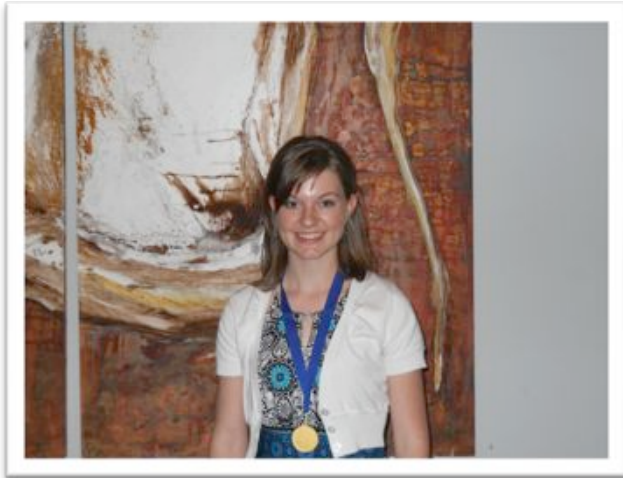
Freshman/Sophomore Chamber

Delta State University Flute Trio
Jessica Egdorf & Amanda Corkran
Robyn Rouse (Not Pictured)



Junior/Senior Brass

Brian Thomson



Piano Concerto

Mary Catherine McKibben

Freshman/Sophomore Piano

1st place: Andrew Burke

Not Pictured

2nd place: Joshua Trent Smith
Honorable Mention: Gabrielle
Richardson & Jennifer Hartline



Junior/Senior Piano

Honorable Mention: Vera Zholondz

1st place: Clifford Coile

2nd place: Jorge Alberto Jimenez

Affiliate News



JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

JCMTA held its annual Solo and Sonata Competition on Saturday, January 22, 2011. The annual Ensemble Festival was held on Saturday, March 5, 2011.

JCMTA participated in the Ellisville district MMTA Evaluations on Saturday, April 2, 2011.

A meeting was held on January 22, 2011 and March 4, 2011, prior to the Solo and Sonata Competition and the Ensemble Festival, to discuss general business.

JCMTA will have a luncheon meeting in June 2011, and a meeting in July 2011 to determine music for 2012 Solo and Sonata Competition and 2012 Ensemble Festival. Dates for events will also be determined at the July 2011 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Beasley

The Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association (GCMTA) has had a web site for several months now, and we are hoping you will publish the web address in MMTA and MTNA web sites and other publications. This will enable membership to access our site and find more information about our local group. Please include the URL in any place where this type of information is normally listed in your publication and web site. Also, please share this with any other people who you deem appropriate. Thank you.

Gulf Coast Music Teachers are online at the following address:

<http://gcmusicteachers.com/>

Sincerely,

Joanna Burnside, GCMTA Web Manager

MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

By Greta-Barbour Mills, president

We, at The Music Forum of Jackson, are in our 43rd year of continuing our tradition of promoting professional fraternity among area music teachers and stimulating musical growth.

We had the privilege of Judith Fairchild, of Memphis, TN, joining us as our guest clinician of the year. She gave two outstanding lectures: the fall lecture focused on *"Teaching Artistry by Discovering Personality Types,"* and the lecture in the spring looked into the life and works of Robert Schumann.

In November MFOJ co-hosted our annual Sonata/Sonatina Festival with Millsaps College. In December, with the help in Mississippi Music, Inc. we had over 100 students participate in our annual Pianothon held at Northpark Mall. 469 students came from all over the state to participate in February as we hosted the forty-second Bach Festival at Hinds Community College. We were back again at Hinds Community College in April, as we hosted MMTA Jackson Area Pre-College Evaluations. Of the 95 entrants, over half preceded to the Mississippi Music Teachers Pre-College Finals.

We were honored to have the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra contact us and offer our members and piano students a discount for the MSO Bravo IV spring performance with internationally renowned guest pianist Alexander Ghindin.

2012 will see us continue our efforts to support musical growth and support the objectives of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

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- Theory: Howard Kaefer
- Instrumental: Wes Cameron, Rafael Gualda, Nathan Lambert

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For more information, contact:
 Mark Hugh Nelson, Ph.D.
 (501) 536-1177 • mark.nelson@wmcarey.edu

2010 – 2011 Sonata-Sonatina Festival

November 20, 2010

Sandra Polanski, chair (spolanski@jackson.k12.ms.us)



Eighth Grade 8:30 A.M. Recital

Joseph Araujo (Honorable Mention), Wesley Zhang, (Honorable Mention), Daniel Yeh (Honorable Mention), Elizabeth Liu (Honorable Mention)



Elementary 8:30 A.M. Recital

Rachel Zheng, Annie Thomas, Olivia Moore, George Tang, Tony Liao (Honorable Mention), Victoria Wang (Honorable Mention), Matthew Yin (Silver), AnnAdair Blackledge (Silver), Catherine Liu (Silver)



Senior High 9:15 A.M. Recital

Helena Qu (Honorable Mention), Katarina Pittman (Honorable Mention), Samantha Ong (Silver)



Elementary 9:30 A.M. Recital

Maggie Jordan, Benjamin Hillerman (Silver), Nathan Moore (Gold), Larry Qu (Honorable Mention)



Senior High 10:10 A.M. Recital

Danielle Hunt, Samantha Sumrall (Silver), Dalron Robertson (Silver)



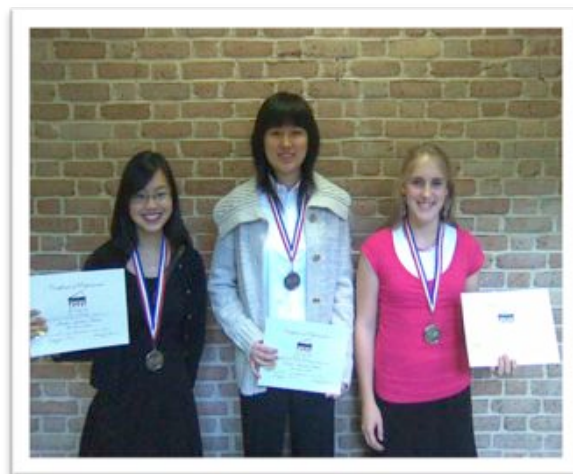
Elementary 10:20 A.M. Recital

Nathan Yin (Gold), Jesse Li (Gold), Sumner Thomas (Silver), Isabella Pittman (Silver), Elizabeth Wang (Honorable Mention), Charmaine Beluso, Lydia Glover, Cherelle Jefferson



Junior High 11:20 A.M. Recital

Amanda Barber (Honorable Mention), Krishna Desai, Georgia Gibson, Tracy Rappai, Maria Thompson, Katelyn Lott



Senior High 11:20 A.M. Recital

Ariel Cheng (Silver), Betty Liu (Silver), Missy Samsel (Silver)



College I & II 12:10 P.M. Recital

Andrew Burke (Silver) & Jorge Jimenez (Silver)

Not pictured: Tiffany Townsend (Silver)



Junior High 12:20 P.M. Recital

James Zhou (Silver), Marina Zhou (Silver), Ashley Chang (Gold)

Golden Triangle Music Forum

May 21, 2011

The MMTA State Honors Recital marked the end of a very successful year for GTMF teachers. As usual, there were several state winners and alternates from the Golden Triangle area. Teachers who had their studios represented from our area were Dixie Clark, Frankie Harpole, Jacqueline Meek, Edna Mae McCoy, Shandy Phillips, Ricki Prewitt, and Harold Thompson. Congratulations to teachers and students.

There have been several exciting and helpful workshops and meetings during the past year. Student participation began with the Fall Musicale.

On January 29th, Dr. Rachel Heard, from Millsaps College presented a master class, allowing students to play her fortepiano. For many of us, it was our first experience with this instrument of the Classical Period, and it helped us better understand how to correctly present music from this period on the bigger piano, which was not widely used until the Romantic Period. Even Beethoven wrote most of his music for the fortepiano, a bit of information that was an eye opener for those listeners who thought we knew how to interpret Beethoven.

The Brazilian Festival, held March 4th and 5th, was also fun and enriching for our students and teachers. Co-hosted by Mississippi State University Music Department, there was a recital and master class given by Brazilian pianist Vasconcelos Araujo. College students and pre-college students of Edna Mae McCoy participated. All teachers were invited to submit students to play a Brazilian piece.

In addition to local MMTA auditions, GTMF presented the local honors recital in which winners were picked from each level and students were given a cash award. The awards were funded mostly by contributions made by Jean Taylor's family after her death. It has been a very inspiring contest, and GTMF is going to have to raise money to continue it.

GTMF is actively seeking new members for next year. We believe that our affiliation with MMTA and each other can be an uplifting experience for our students and us.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricki Thomas Prewitt

The **Vicksburg Music Teachers** hosted 38 piano and vocal students for the Evaluations held on April 28. The judges were very complimentary to the high level of preparation of students in our group.

We co-hosted a concert and master class by Natchez Music Festival Director, Jonathan Levin in early May. Our co-sponsors were the Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation and the Dames of the 17th Century. Mr. Levin is from North Carolina, and holds degrees from both the Manhattan and Brooklyn Schools of Music. He played music by Liszt and Griffes, and coached several young piano students. He also brought along New York City baritone Scott Roche, who sang a Southern song, and coached a participating singer.

This summer, the VMTA is participating in "Spectrum," a project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and hosted by the Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation. "Spectrum" is a five-week arts program for 10-16-year-olds, taught by professionals in each field. Each week features a different art form, including photography, writing, art, music, and drama. The program will culminate in an exhibit/concert/play, which will show the students' works. We intend to teach them about Mississippi musicians, the Blues, music basics, and have a choir/ensemble called 'The Cultural Connectors.'

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Evans, President

Vicksburg Music Teachers Association

Jones County Junior College
Music Department

900 S. Court St.
Ellisville, Mississippi 39437
(601) 477-4094

Susan A. Smith, Chair

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sammy Barr, Band | Meri Newell, Woodwinds |
| Mike Boyd, Guitar | Patrick Richards, High Brass |
| Jeff Brown, Percussion | Theresa Sanchez, Piano |
| Kay Guiles, Piano/Organ | Susan A. Smith, Voice/Theory |
| Nikki Johnson, Theater/Voice | Mark Taylor, Choir |
| Victoria Johnson, Piano | Gregory Wascoe, Voice |
| Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band | |

www.jcc.edu/programs/finearts



HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE held its second meeting of the academic year on January 22, 2011, at the University of Southern Mississippi. Our guest presenter was Mr. Lonnie Young, Registered Piano Technician. Mr. Young presented a very informative power point presentation on the topic "What Can a Skilled Piano Technician Do for You?" This meeting also served as a workday, as we prepared for the District III MFMC festival, which was held February 19, 2011, at William Carey University, with Janice Mesrobian serving as Chair.

Two HMTL student recitals were held on Saturday, February 12 at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Twenty-six students performed, representing the studios of Pamela Finch, Lois Leventhal, Janice Mesrobian and myself. Another student recital was held on Saturday, April 2. Twelve students performed, representing the studios of Cristina Moreland, Laura Broughton, Janice Mesrobian, and myself. All of these recitals were held at Mississippi Music, Inc., and featured both pre-college and college students. These were wonderful opportunities for our students to gain additional performance experience as they prepared for upcoming auditions, festivals, and competitions.

Our annual spring concert for students in grades 9-12, took place on Sunday, April 17 at William Carey University. There were thirteen performers, representing the studios of Mariana Aldana, Laura Broughton, Gail Fox, Jan Mesrobian, Cristina Moreland, and Nan Porter. Senior awards were presented to Margaret Rose Shaw, Lee Alita Waits, Henry Fox, Jr. (all students of Jan Mesrobian) and to Joanna Bushardt (student of Laura Broughton).

The MMTA Pre-College District Evaluations for Hattiesburg and the Gulf Coast were held April 9 at William Carey University. They were organized by Cristina Moreland and Dixie Lawson. Eighty students registered, and seventy students participated on that day. Fifty-two students were eligible to compete in the Pre-College Finals Competitions held on May 14 at Mississippi College. Several Hattiesburg students received gold medals and other top prizes on that day.

Summer music camp scholarship auditions for our students were held on April 25, with three winners selected by the judges. Two pianists and a cellist were chosen to receive cash awards to attend the summer camp of their choice.

Our year concluded with a business meeting and luncheon on May 19 at the Purple Parrot Café.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Marcos Machado, who is a new member to our organization. Dr. Machado is assistant professor of double bass at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Ellen Price Elder, DMA

HMTL President

Mark Your Calendar

September 1, 2011 -- Mississippi Music Teacher Ad Sales Deadline

November 3-5, 2011 – MMTA State Conference at Jones County Junior College, Ellisville

November 4, 2011 - MTNA Collegiate Competition at Jones County Junior College, Ellisville

Do you have an event you would like to be placed in the Mississippi Music Teacher? Contact Stephanie Holmes at seholmes2@hotmail.com.



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From the MMT Editor

I have been on an adventure this summer.

I left the country for the first time and traveled to Italy and Greece with 17 high school students. Thankfully, a colleague of mine was our fearless leader; I was only along for the ride. However, the trip confirmed something I've suspected all along—that both of us are a tad bit crazy. What sane person goes on a whirlwind European tour with 17 teenagers in tow?!?

Our trip was phenomenal, though, and we had some great kids traveling with us. Words can't even begin to describe our excitement to see places we have learned about in school and have seen on TV. The teens' excitement was contagious...or maybe the adults' excitement rubbed off on the teens? Who's to say?

As teachers, are we excited about sharing our love of music with other students? I surely hope so! My hope is that we are so giddy about music that we can't help but to rub off on our students. As you're enjoying your summer, take some time to evaluate your enthusiasm for teaching, and then go into the fall with gusto! Let's make our students think we have lost our minds because we are so excited about making music.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Holmes

Seholmes2@hotmail.com



Stephanie Holmes

Editor

Membership in Mississippi Music Teachers Association is open to individuals professionally engaged in any field of musical activity. Since MMTA is a state affiliate of Music Teachers National Association, all membership is handled through national headquarters. Please check the MTNA website <http://www.mtna.org/home.htm> or the MMTA VP for Membership for membership information or application forms.

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

Stephanie Holmes, editor

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Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Est. 1954

The purpose and goals of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association are to further the art of music, and promote the growth and professional development of its members by providing programs that encourage and support teaching, performance, composition and research. MMTA is a not-for-profit organization whose funds are used solely to accomplish these objectives.