

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring pictures from the 2011 Fall Conference at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville.



w i n t E R 2012 V o l . 28, I s s u e 1

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Message from the President

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and best wishes for a productive and rewarding semester of teaching and music-making. As we begin 2012, please keep in mind the upcoming collegiate competitions in Ellisville on March 3 and remember that graduate students are now eligible to compete in a separate category. The criteria for graduates and undergraduates who exceed the age restriction for the undergraduate category is posted on our web site.

Message from the President (continued)

Southern Division was a huge success this year with Angie Willoughby hosting these competitions at Mississippi College in Clinton. Angie did a fabulous job of organizing the weekend along with invaluable assistance from Michael Rushing and Ben Williams. Southern Division officials commented on how smoothly the logistics were handled and we should compliment Angie and her colleagues on a job well done. State Presidents held a dinner meeting at which our reports were read. We seem to share many of the same concerns and successes but it is good to hear new ideas, which may prove beneficial to our own group.

As the majority of you now know, MTNA rescinded it's July, 2011 decision regarding the elimination of all non-piano competitions at the national level. After the overwhelming opposition of state presidents was voiced at the November teleconference of the State President's Advisory Council, MTNA officials met in December and overturned their prior edict. I am thrilled that our competitive events will maintain their diversity among instrumentalists and vocalists and strongly feel this was the correct outcome. We do, however, need to recruit a larger body of non-pianists to our ranks and strive to create a more diverse and inclusive atmosphere within our organization.



Ian Hominick

I hope we have lots of participation in the Pre-College Evaluations in March/ April, which will culminate in the Pre-College Finals on May 5 in Oxford. At our January meeting, we discussed quite a range of pre-college issues. Moving forward, Benjamin Williams, theory/composition professor at Mississippi College, will be assisting Rita Caviness in the composition of the theory/literature tests. We intend to get these completed in sufficient time to be double-checked by district chairs for any errors. District Chairs should have these exams, along with instructions and the required forms, no later than two weeks prior to the evaluations. We will also be providing access to sample tests on our web site for all to use in preparation for the evaluations. The Executive Board discussed providing as much clarity as possible to these exams with regard to both grading and content. Although there will always be issues when dealing with such a large scale operation, we feel we have the tools in place to have a successful Spring event for all.

Stay tuned for updates from Janine Beasley. She has done a marvelous job with our web site and more information will be added to the site shortly. In addition to the new information on the collegiate competitions and the sample evaluations tests, our Calendar will include the Executive Board Meeting dates and links to the MMTA affiliate web sites. Approved Minutes from the Executive Board Meetings will also be posted on our web site in the future so as to provide as much information and transparency as possible for members.

I will be attending the MTNA National Conference in New York City in March. Naturally, this will be an exciting event that will feature many of the leading pedagogues in our profession. On a personal note, I will also look forward to hearing Taide Ding, Southern Division winner, represent Mississippi in the national Senior Piano category and to be present as Dr. Harold Thompson is honored as Mississippi's sixth Foundation Fellow. Thank you to Rachel Heard for assisting in this well-deserved recognition. It will also be interesting to hear presentations from MTNA officials on the heels of the ill-informed decision handed to us last summer. There has been much speculation and innuendo over the past few months from those who have been intimately involved in MTNA for years now. MTNA still presents structured opportunity for all music teachers and students. I will share with you my experience at the Conference in our Spring issue of MMT.

Please remember to assist in recruiting as many teachers to our organization as possible. Our numbers, as with other states, are slightly down. The more teachers involved ... the more diverse our organization becomes. Special recognition should be given to the Gulf Coast Music Teachers for the superb job they have done in restructuring GCMTA, recruiting new members and establishing a fine new web site.

In closing, I wish you well in your teaching, your music-making, your health and in achieving your goals in 2012. As always, I am here to listen to your suggestions or represent your concerns to the MMTA Board. If there is something you feel we need to either revisit or initiate, please be in touch.



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Barbara Tracy

President-Elect's Message

We had a wonderful line-up of guest artists, clinicians, judges and workshop leaders for our 2011 MMTA Conference at JCJC. Scheduling, room assignments, and food service went very smoothly with special thanks to our JCJC host team: Theresa Sanchez, Victoria Johnson, and Kay Guiles. We had 45 registrations, which included 20 college teachers (3 vocal, 1 woodwind) and 20 pre-college teachers (3 vocal). Local affiliate attendance was as follows: Hattiesburg-7, Jackson-6, Golden Triangle-5, Jones-4, Vicksburg-3, and Gulf Coast-3. We had a full house for the student recitals and master class and plan to continue these activities at our 2012 conference. We did notice a decrease in the number of 2011 concerto participants. We had one student pedagogy poster and hope to increase the number of posters in 2012.

I know everyone took home teaching insight from Helen Marlais's sessions and enjoyed speaking with her informally in the snack/music display room (Mississippi Music). Our guest artists, New Orleans Navy Brass Band, provided a wonderful program of New Orleans jazz for an audience of about 120. Special thanks to James Sobaskie and the Golden Triangle Brass for "Sojourns". IMTF speaker Pamela Pike gave us excellent resources on sight-reading. We also want to thank Lonnie Young (piano maintenance) and Pamela Jones (dyslexia) for their valuable presentations. Special thanks to our member presenters: Alice Ballard (mental skills and concerto competition coordinator) and Jackie Edwards-Henry (improvisation). Everyone enjoyed hearing our new faculty members perform in recital. MTNA student competitions take place in parallel with the workshop sessions and were coordinated by Ellen Elder with assistance from the performance area chairs. The whole conference was summarized in our conference program book prepared by Stephanie Holmes.

We plan to have the 2012 MMTA conference in Jackson using the combined facilities of Belhaven and Millsaps. The 2012 guest artist will be from the vocal area. Robert Vandall will be our guest clinician and will be presenting a session on his duet literature plus some student interactive sessions. Preliminary plans include a masterclass with students playing Vandall compositions. Make plans to attend the 2012 MMTA Conference on November 2-3, 2012. We are grateful for the support of the Mississippi Arts Commission for our 2011 Conference and March 2012 MMTA Collegiate Competitions, and we plan to submit our 2012 Conference and Competition plans in a grant request.

Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions or proposals relevant to the 2012 MMTA Conference. The conference committee will meet in May prior to the regular MMTA board meeting. A representative from each local affiliate is welcome to attend the conference planning meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Tracy

Treasurer's Report



Michael Rushing

This year's November conference had higher-than-expected attendance and lower-than-expected expenses. The conference was \$755.93 under budget. This is due, in large part, to in-kind performances and adjudication by the military band. Southern division competitions were also held in Mississippi this year, cutting student travel cost usually associated with MTNA competitions.

Balance sheet

Checking: \$11,546.28

CD1: \$6,624.96

CD2: \$11,464.10

Total assets: \$29,653.34



Vice President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

As of January 27, 2012, 179 members are listed for the 2011-2012 year.

Website changes:

Changed Hattiesburg district MMTA chair to remove Cristina Moreland. Dixie Lawson is now only listed as Hattiesburg chair.

Ongoing: miscellaneous updates as needed.

Continue to send mass emails to members as requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley

Jones County Junior College Music Department

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

Susan A. Smith, Chair

Sammy Barr, *Band*

Mike Boyd, *Guitar*

Jeff Brown, *Percussion*

Kay Guiles, *Piano/Organ*

Nikki Johnson, *Theater/Voice*

Victoria Johnson, *Piano*

Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band

www.jjc.edu/programs/finearts

Meri Newell, Woodwinds
Patrick Richards, High Brass
Theresa Sanchez, Piano
Susan A. Smith, Voice/Theory
Mark Taylor, Choir
Gregory Wascoe, Voice

**Gulf Coast
Music
Teachers
Association**



Founded 1972

Vice President for Pre-College Performances

The MMTA Pre-College Concerto Competitions were held Saturday, November 5, 2011 during the MMTA Conference at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. In the piano competition there were 4 elementary entrants, 2 junior entrants, and 2 senior entrants. All of the competitors gave wonderful performances. Special acknowledgement is due Janice Mesrobian, who accompanied her students beautifully in spite of being scooter-bound with a recently broken foot.



Alice Ballard

The listing of Concerto winners and teachers is available in this edition of the MMT. In the 2012 competition, we would like to hear more entrants not only in piano, but in all instrumental categories.

The 2012 Pre-College Evaluations are drawing near, with Group A auditioning on Saturday, March 31st in Jackson, Meridian, Tupelo, Hattiesburg, Gulf Coast, and Goodman. Group B follows two weeks later with auditions on Saturday, April 14 in Ellisville, Columbus, Oxford, Starkville, Vicksburg, and Wesson. The Pre-College Finals will take place Saturday, May 5 on the University of Mississippi campus in Oxford.

When the Executive Board met in January, it addressed several current issues. One topic was the existing inequity between piano and non-piano categories and competitive eligibility for high composite scores in the Pre-College Evaluations. This topic is under review.

In addition, the Board reviewed the need for all Pre-College Brass/Woodwind and Strings Requirements to conform to numerical ratings, rather than Passed/ Not Passed ratings. Also discussed were the guidelines for the number of movements required for the Sonata/Sonatina category. Other subjects addressed were the transfer of information from the Evaluations to the Finals, as well as improvements in the Pre-College Finals program.

On behalf of MMTA, I would like to thank Cristina Moreland for having served as a Pre-College Evaluations District Chair in Hattiesburg for many years. Dixie Lawson's willingness to assume that responsibility solely is also appreciated. The work of all the District Chairs is exceptional and contributes to the growth of many students in both the Pre-College Evaluations and the Finals.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ballard

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions



Ellen Price Elder

The Southern Division Conference was held at Mississippi College in Clinton on January 13-16. A special “thank you” to the faculty, staff, and students of Mississippi College for doing such a wonderful job of hosting the conference.

Congratulations to all of our state winners who represented the state of Mississippi at the competitions!

We had three Mississippi competitors who were recognized at Southern Division:

Senior Piano Taide Ding (student of Ian Hominick) was winner, and will advance to the national MTNA competitions in New York in March!

Senior Voice John McCann, tenor (student of Yvonne Young-McGrath) was honorable mention.

Young Artist Piano Colin McDearman (student of Rachel Heard) was honorable mention.

Bravo! We are so proud of you!

Preparations are underway for the March 3 MMTA Competitions, which will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at Jones County Junior College. There is an exciting new addition to the competitions beginning this year. We are pleased to offer a graduate level category for students who have completed an undergraduate degree and are at a maximum age of 27. Undergraduate students who exceed the age of 25 may also compete in the graduate level category.

Changes to the collegiate syllabus have been made in order to reflect the addition of this new graduate category. These changes will soon be available on the msmusicteachers.org website thanks to the help of Janine Beasley.

I have extended the deadline for applications from February 1 to February 15, in order to accommodate those students who wish to enter. Please help me to recruit teachers and students to enter the competitions so that we can have a good showing this year. I have sent out a flyer to the area chairs and to my colleagues at USM. Please help me to spread the word!

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Price Elder

VP for Collegiate and National Competitions

MTNA Certification

Notice! The Mississippi Music Teachers Association (MMTA) may be a bit low in membership compared to other states, but we are high in the rankings when it comes to percentage of members who are professionally certified through MTNA! Of the 178 members in MMTA, 37 are Nationally Certified Teachers of Music (NCTM). That is 20.8% of our membership, ranking us 9th in the nation! Although I would like to see that percentage grow even larger, we can be proud of that number! The chart below provides more detail.

Certification is a process that validates an individual's qualifications for a specific field of professional practice. It demonstrates to employers, clients, peers, and others, that which the individual knows and is able to do. It signifies commitment to continued excellence in professional practice. In addition, it increases visibility, builds credibility, provides a goal for personal professional achievement and validates expertise for the individual and to those outside the field. All members should attain certification in their areas or expertise.

The MTNA Professional Certification program exists for teachers who teach music to students of any age level in private or group settings. The program is based upon a set of five standards defining what a competent music teacher should know and be able to do:

- Standard I: Professional Preparation
- Standard II: Professional Teaching Practices
- Standard III: Professional Business Management
- Standard IV: Professionalism and Partnerships
- Standard V: Professional and Personal Renewal

Members who fulfill these standards are granted the MTNA Professional Certification credential with the designation, Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM). The credential and designation are granted without bias, discrimination, or favoritism between MTNA members and/or non-members or any other arbitrary differentiation. In order to maintain the MTNA Professional Certification credential and designation, NCTM must continue fulfilling the program's standards through the renewal process.

		Paid				
		Members	Number of			Newly
		As of	Members	□	National	Certified
Division	State	12/31/2011	Certified		Ranking	7/1/11 - 6/30/12
2-S	Alabama	359	53	14.8%	27	0
2-S	Florida	783	80	10.2%	43	0
2-S	Georgia	725	109	15.0%	25	1
2-S	Kentucky	209	40	19.1%	15	1
2-S	Mississippi	178	37	20.8%	9	0
2-S	North Carolina	544	95	17.5%	21	1
2-S	South Carolina	295	39	13.2%	33	0
2-S	Tennessee	401	70	17.5%	21	0
2-S	Virginia	875	113	12.9%	35	1
	Total Southern Division members	4,369	636	14.6%		4
	Total MTNA members	18,088	2882	15.9%		41



Sincerely, *Joanna*

For more information or help with MTNA Certification, please contact:

Dr. Joanna Burnside, MMTA Certification Chair

Affiliate News

HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE held its first meeting of the academic year on September 10, 2011, in the Frank E. Marsh Music Building at the University of Southern Mississippi. Our guest presenter was Keith Elder, a Director of Software Engineering at Quicken Loans, Inc. and owner of Zorka.com, a website hosting company. Keith introduced the new HMTL website and answered questions regarding its use. Please visit our new website at <http://hburgmusicteachers.org>.

HMTL held its second meeting of the academic year on January 21, 2012, at the University of Southern Mississippi. This meeting served as our NFMC workday, as we prepared for the upcoming festival which will be held February 18, 2012, at William Carey University. After the meeting we enjoyed lunch, which was catered by Newk's. Following lunch, we were treated to a wonderful program by pianist Theresa Sanchez, who presented a lecture in Marsh Auditorium on "Selected Piano Music of Amy Beach."

Our composer festival was held November 18-19, 2011, and featured composer Dennis Alexander. Mr. Alexander presented a teacher workshop on Friday, November 18 at Wolfe Gang Music Company. Five recitals were held on Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19. Ninety-one students of league members performed solos and ensemble works by Mr. Alexander. He was commissioned by the league to write a suite commemorating the festival entitled Vignettes of Hattiesburg. A special thank you to Dr. Victoria Johnson, Composer Festival Chair, who worked very hard to make this festival a success.

On October 29, 2011, the HMTL presented our first of three Saturday student recital programs. The recital was held at Marsh Auditorium at U.S.M.

We welcome new members to our organization: Karen Bates and Shannon Thomas.

Ellen Price Elder, DMA

HMTL President

MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

By Greta-Barbour Mills, president

2011 was the Music Forum of Jackson's 44th year promoting professional fraternity among area music teachers and stimulating musical growth.

We had two lecture series last year, Judith Fairchild, of Memphis, TN, and Dr. Angela Willoughy, both joining us as our guest clinicians.

Our largest event of the year was the 43rd annual, statewide Bach Festival at Hinds Community College in Raymond, held in February. 476 students were registered by 69 teachers to have their Baroque music performances evaluated by eleven judges. Three non-competitive Honors Recitals were held, and twenty-eight awards were presented in eleven competitive events Honors Recitals during the day. Thirty medals were presented to students having earned five Superiors, and thirty-one students were recognized for additional years' Superior ratings, and a trophy was awarded for nine Superiors.

We were back at Hinds Community College again in March, as we hosted MMTA's Jackson Area Pre-College Evaluations. 105 students participated, with two-thirds of that group progressing to the state finals.

In the fall MFOJ co-hosted the Sonata/Sonatina Festival with Millsaps College.

In December, with the help in Mississippi Music, Inc. we hosted Pianothon held at Northpark Mall. There were 67 participants, providing continuous playing from 10-4 that day.

We hope to continue our efforts to support musical growth in the Jackson area and to meet the objectives of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Greta-Barbour Mills, president



JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

The JCMTA annual Showcase Recital was held on November 13, 2011. Student performers and composers were highlighted at this event.

The JCMTA annual Solo and Sonata Competition was held on January 21, 2012. The competition is for students sixth through twelfth grade. The adjudicator was Dr. Elizabeth Moak from the University of Southern Mississippi.

The JCMTA annual Ensemble Festival will be held on February 25, 2012.

Business meetings were held prior to the Showcase Recital and Solo-Sonata Competition. A business meeting will be held before the Ensemble Festival.

Jones County Music Teachers Association will participate in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations on April 14, 2012, at Jones County Junior College.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley



Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with Mississippi Music Teachers Association
and Music Teachers National Association

Est. 1972

Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association now has a membership total of 25. This includes Margaret Shaw, who celebrated her 94th birthday in December! Not all members participate routinely, but we are still trying to encourage them.

In December, GCMTA presented a combined-studios Christmas recital at the Jefferson Davis Campus of MGCCC with over 30 young performers. Approximately 110 performers participated in our annual Music Festival on February 25. Income from this event provides GCMTA operating expenses and funds our Senior Award. Preparations for Pre-college evaluations are under way and going smoothly so far.

I am compelled to express another “thank you” to Dr. Joanna Burnside, who has become so vital in our organization. Her participation has relieved a lot of previous-existing stress by smoothing-out various levels of responsibility and reinvigorating our group with her positive attitude and ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Young-McGrath, BM
Pres., GCMTA



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

GOLDEN TRIANGLE MUSIC FORUM

Submitted by Ricki Prewitt, President

Golden Triangle Music Forum has had a busy year thus far. There was a Saturday morning Musicales in the Fall, along with Christmas Recitals and parties held by individual studios. Currently, teachers are preparing students for the Federated Music Club Auditions and the Bach Festival in February.

The weekend of January 28, Mississippi State University Music Department will present a workshop for students 7th through 12th grade. Classes in harpsichord, collaborative piano are two of the classes being offered. The students will finish the weekend with a recital on Saturday night. MSU will be utilizing the talents of college students who are a part of the new Preparatory Department.

On March 2nd and 3rd, GTMF will sponsor a master class by Ron Shinn, featuring pre-college students of member teachers. Students who will be performing will present a recital on Friday night. At 9:30 a.m., Saturday morning, Dr. Shinn will present a lecture for teachers. Students will arrive at 10:30 and will participate in a master class until 12:30. Local teachers are excited to have such an outstanding teacher come and hear their students.

Edna Mae McCoy is working to get us organized for MMTA auditions on March 31. Auditions will be held again this year at First Baptist Church in Starkville.



Vicksburg Music Teachers Association, Spring 2012

We held our Beginners Recital on January 29, with 21 students of piano and/or voice, and a standing-room-only audience. Last year, we did not have enough beginners to hold a recital, for the first time in many years.

In early March, we are holding another group recital, "Spring Break Beach Party!" We will decorate with simple things like beach balls, sand buckets and beach towels, and encourage spring or outdoorsy-related repertoire.

Julia Mortyakova, our member from Alcorn State University, is once again organizing the ASU International Piano Competition for March 24. It's held in Natchez, and is a nice competition. For more information, see the website: <http://alcornstatepianocompetition.com/>

Our MMTA Local Evaluations are set for April 14, with our Vicksburg Honors Recital on April 29, for those who earn Superior Ratings.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Evans, President, Vicksburg Music Teachers Association



Vicksburg Music Teachers Association Beginners Recital, January 29, 2012. These students represent the following teachers: Jeanne Evans, Barbara Tracy, Susan Gambrell, Judith Allen and Linda Carnes.

Two Piano Recitals Scheduled for St. John's Episcopal Church in Laurel

Sunday, February 26th at 2:00 PM, Dr. Jerry Alan Bush will be performing a piano recital at St. John's Episcopal Church in Laurel. Dr. Bush is Professor of Music and Head of the Piano Faculty at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama, where he teaches piano performance and literature. In addition, Dr. Bush maintains an extensive career as a recitalist, master clinician and adjudicator for numerous competitive events. The winner of nine piano competitions and a member of numerous musical and academic honor societies, Dr. Bush has performed in a multiplicity of venues, including such prestigious locales as Carnegie Hall in New York and the Library of Congress in Washington. Dr. Bush is currently Master Clinician of both the New Orleans Performance Institute and the Atlanta Keyboard Arts Forum. He will be performing works of Scarlatti, Brahms, Liszt, Granados, and Scriabin.

Sunday, March 4th at 2:00 PM, Janine Beasley will be performing. She operates an extensive music studio in Laurel, teaching piano, voice, and Kindermusik. She will

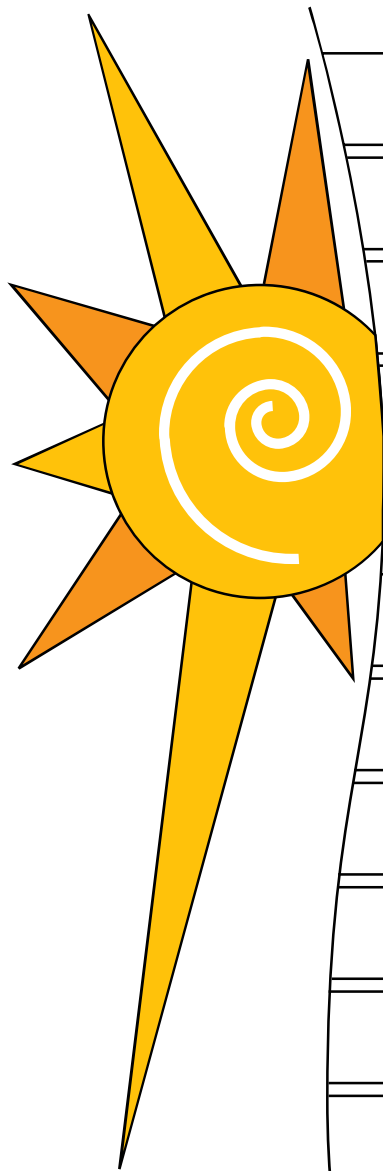
Alcorn State Piano Competition

March 24, 2012 - Natchez, MS - Trinity Episcopal Church
www.alcornstatepianocompetition.com

Prize winners in each category: young students, high school, college,
graduate and amateur

Postmark deadline to apply: March 1

Questions? Contact Dr. Julia Mortyakova mortyakova@gmail.com



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2011 Fall Conference Snapshots

November 4-5, 2011

Jones County Junior College, Ellisville



MMTA Past Presidents' Luncheon

Front row from left to right: Donna Banks,
Annette Joe, Pat Tuley
Back row from left to right: Carol
Schutzman, Rachel Heard, Theresa
Sanchez, Joanna Burnside, Sharon Lebsack



Calisa Bruce participated in the pedagogical poster session.



The Brass Band from the U.S.
Navy Band, New Orleans



Dr. Helen Marlais works with
Kelsie Walters during a
masterclass.

Competition Winners



Chamber Winner

Euphoria



Young Artist Woodwinds

Steven Hugley (honorable mention),
Koty Cox (winner), Brittany Trotter
(alternate)



Young Artist Brass

Josiah Andrews (honorable
mention), Brian Thomas (winner)



Senior Piano

Joelle Young (alternate), Yoomin Jo
(honorable mention)



Young Artist Piano

Gabrielle Richardson (alternate),
Colin McDearman (winner), Maggie
McLindon (honorable mention)



Senior Piano

Taide Ding (winner) with judge
Kenneth Boulton



Senior Voice

John McCann (winner), Maegan
Beech (alternate)



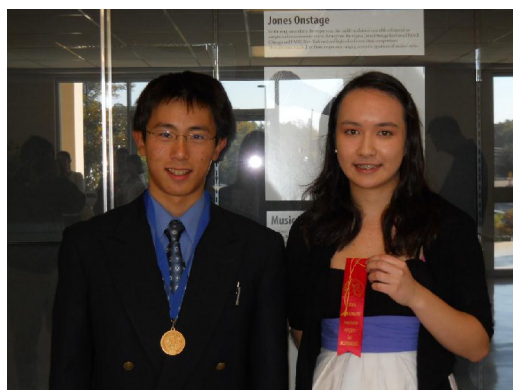
Elementary Piano Concerto

Tracey Singer (winner), Angela
Tang (1st Alternate)



Junior Piano Concerto

Helen Shi (winner)



Senior Piano Concerto

Taide Ding (winner), Rosalie
Doerksen (1st Alternate)

MTNA State Competition Participants

<u>Performance Category</u>	<u>Entrant</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Junior Performance: <i>Strings</i>	Soma Kanemaru*- representative	Song Xie
Senior Performance: <i>Piano</i>	Yoomin Jo-honorable mention Taide Ding-winner Joelle Young-alternate	Adrienne Park Ian Hominick Adrienne Park
<i>Strings</i>	Jocelyn Zhu*-representative	Song Xie
<i>Voice</i>	Maegan Beech-alternate John McCann-winner	Janine Beasley Yvonne Young-McGrath
Senior Composition:	Thomas McDaniel—winner Andrew Mullen	Elizabeth Moak
Young Artist: <i>Brass</i>	Brian Thomson-winner Nathanael Minor-alternate Adam Pelkey Josiah Andrews- honorable mention	Douglas Mark Heidi Lucas Heidi Lucas Douglas Mark
<i>Piano</i>	Gabrielle Richardson-alternate Megan van der Bijl Maggie McLinden— honorable mention Colin McDearman-winner Vera Zholondz Anna Danielle Morgan	Rachel Heard Stephen Sachs Stephen Sachs Rachel Heard Julia Mortyakova Rosangela Sebba
<i>Strings</i>	Shellie Brown*-representative	Song Xie
<i>Woodwinds</i>	Aliesha Phillips Brittany Trotter-alternate Koty Cox-winner Steven Hugley- honorable mention Austin White	Danilo Mezzadri Danilo Mezzadri Lawrence Gwozdz Bret Pimentel Bret Pimentel
Young Artist Composition:	John Oeth*-representative	Rosangela Sebba

(Continued on next page)

Chamber Music:

U.S.M. G.Q.—alternate	Heidi Lucas
Jeremy Leach	
Nate James	
Adam Pelkey	
Jessica Pogue	
Euphoria—winner	Lawrence Gwozdz
Koty Cox	
Deanna Hunt	
Lindsey Daniels	
Eric Fry	
Delta State Saxophone Quartet-	Bret Pimentel
Honorable mention	
Rondell Evans	
Steven Hugley	
Austin White	
David Stafford	

**These entrants are advancing to the MTNA Southern Division Competitions as Mississippi's State Representatives.*

The Southern Division Conference was held at Mississippi College in Clinton on January 13-16. A special “thank you” to the faculty, staff, and students of Mississippi College for doing such a wonderful job of hosting the conference.

Congratulations to all of our state winners who represented the state of Mississippi at the competitions!

We had three Mississippi competitors who were recognized at Southern Division:

Senior Piano Taide Ding (student of Ian Hominick) was winner, and will advance to the national MTNA competitions in New York in March!

Senior Voice John McCann, tenor (student of Yvonne Young-McGrath) was honorable mention.

Young Artist Piano Colin McDearman (student of Rachel Heard) was honorable mention.

Bravo! We are so proud of you!

Pre-College Concerto Competition Winners

November 5, 2011

Elementary Piano Concerto

Tracey Singer (Winner), student of Edna Mae McCoy

Angela Tang (1st Alternate), student of Ricki Prewitt

Junior Piano Concerto

Helen Shi (Winner), student of Edna Mae McCoy

Senior Piano Concerto

Taide Ding (Winner), student of Ian Hominick

Rosalie Doerksen (1st Alternate), student of Ian Hominick

Mark Your Calendar

March 3, 2012 □ MMTA Collegiate Competition, Jones County Junior College, Ellisville

March 24, 2012 □ Alcorn State Piano Competition, Natchez, MS

www.alcornstatepiano.competition.com

Contact Dr. Julia Mortyakova at mortyakova@gmail.com

March 31, 2012 □ MMTA Pre-College Evaluations, Group A: Jackson, Meridian, Tupelo, Hattiesburg, Gulf Coast, and Goodman

April 14, 2012 □ MMTA Pre-College Evaluations, Group B: Ellisville, Columbus, Oxford, Starkville, Vicksburg, Wesson

April 21, 2012 -- MVSU Piano Festival, Itta Bena, MS

May 5, 2012 -- MMTA Pre-College Finals, The University of Mississippi, Oxford

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

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.



Find us on the web!

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MMTA Officers

President

Ian Hominick
432 Cherokee Drive
Oxford, MS 38655
Phone: 662-513-4994
Work: 662-915-1282
ihominic@olemiss.edu

President Elect

Barbara Tracy
617 Holly Ridge Drive
Vicksburg, MS 39180
Phone: 601-638-3453
tracy@vicksburg.com

Immediate Past President

Rachel Heard
3821 Montrose Circle
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: 601-987-8414
heardr@millsaps.edu

VP for Membership □ Web Management

Janine Beasley
3122 N 5th Ave.
Laurel, MS 39440
Phone: 601-649-9240
music@beasinc.com

VP for Collegiate □ National Competitions

Ellen Price Elder
116 Poplar Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-467-9745
Work: 601-318-6179
ellen@ellenelder.com

VP for Pre-College Performances

Alice Ballard
Hinds Community College
P.O. Box 1100
Raymond, MS 39154
Phone: 769-226-7038
Work: 601-857-3528
Alice.Ballard@hindsc.edu

VP for Pre-College Evaluations

Rita Caviness
11235 Cypress Bayou Dr
Gulfport, MS 39503
Phone: 228-669-1539
capriccio1@gmail.com

VP for Public Relations (Newsletter Editor)

Stephanie Holmes
226 Hillcrest Dr
Kosciusko, MS 39090
Phone: 662-417-1390
Work: 662-289-3575
seholmes2@hotmail.com

Secretary

Yvonne Young-McGrath
753 Canterbury Dr
Biloxi, MS 39532-4303
Phone: 228-617-9127
mcmomx4@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Michael Rushing
1034 RN Whitfield St.
Florence, MS 39073
Phone: 601-573-1068
mrushing@mc.edu

Appointed Officers

Chair of Theory □ Composition

Benjamin Williams
1221 Cliffdale Dr
Clinton, MS 39056
Phone: 601-925-7739
benwilliams@mc.edu

Chair of Independent Music Teachers Forum

Rosangela Yazbec Sebba
P.O. Box 6240
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone: 662-325-2854
rys3@colled.msstate.edu

Chair of College Faculty Forum

Angela Willoughby
100 Murial St
Clinton, MS 39056
Phone: 601-906-8040
willough@mc.edu

Chair of Certification

Joanna Burnside
148 Jervis Mims Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-310-1807
Joanna.burnside@mgccc.edu

Assistant to the VP for Public
Relations

Position not filled

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Performance Area Chairs

Brass

Douglas Mark
Delta State University
Department of Music
PO Box 3256
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: 662-846-4607
dmark@deltastate.edu

Chamber Music/Jazz

Jung-Won Shin
Delta State University
Department of Music
PO Box 3256
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: 662-846-4123
jshin@deltastate.edu

Guitar

Nicholas Ciraldo, DMA
University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive #5081
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Office: 601-266-5401
nicholas.ciraldo@usm.edu

Piano

Karen Fosheim
PO Box 3256
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: 662-846-4622
kfosheim@deltastate.edu

Strings

Alexander Russakovsky
University of Southern Mississippi
School of Music
118 College Drive, # 5081
Hattiesburg, MS 39406
Phone: 601-266 6851
arussakovsky@hotmail.com

Voice

Phyllis Lewis-Hale
Jackson State University
Department of Music
P.O. Box 17055
Jackson, MS 39217
Phone: 601-979-2984
phyllis.lewis-hale@jsums.edu

Woodwinds

Shelley Collins
Delta State University
Department of Music
PO Box 3256
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: 662-846-4617
scollins@deltastate.edu

Collaborative Arts

Theresa Sanchez, NCTM
907 N 34th Ave
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-271-8700
theresa.sanchez@jcc.edu

Local Affiliates

Golden Triangle Music Forum

Ricki Prewitt
11 Lakes Boulevard
Starkville, MS 39759
Phone: 662-324-9393
Cell: 662-312-3136

Gulf Coast MTA

Yvonne Young-McGrath
753 Canterbury Dr
Biloxi, MS 39532-4303
Phone: 228-617-9127
mcmomx4@hotmail.com

Hattiesburg Music Teachers
League

Ellen Price Elder
116 Poplar Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-467-9745
Work: 601-318-6179
ellen@ellenelder.com

Jones County MTA

Janine Beasley
3122 N 5th Ave.
Laurel, MS 39440
Phone: 601-649-9240
music@beasinc.com

League of Meridian Music
Teachers

June Williams
100 38th St.
Meridian, MS 39301
Phone: 601-482-4107

Music Forum of Jackson

Greta Barbour Mills
817 Arlington St
Jackson, MS 39202-1619
Phone: 601-353-5305
gretabarbourmills@att.net

Music Forum of Tupelo

Peggy Oakes
2012 Strain St.
Tupelo, MS 38804
oakesp@bellsouth.net

Vicksburg MTA

Jeanne Evans
3140 Drummond St
Vicksburg, MS 39180-4912
Phone: 601-634-0826
ajevans88@bellsouth.net

From the MMT Editor

My pastor plays the guitar at several restaurants around Kosciusko and Jackson. He recently told me about a conversation he had with one of his friends. Don made the comment that he wanted to be a better musician. His friend told him that he was a good musician simply because he had the gift of music. He just had to learn how to tap into that gift better.

I believe that every child I teach has musical ability. Some may just have more than others! However, it is my job to teach them how to tap into that ability and become the pianist they are meant to be. As pre-college auditions approach (Are they really in a month?!?), I hope to teach my students how to reach their potential. I hope you'll do the same.

Happy 2012!



Stephanie Holmes

Editor

Mississippi Music Teacher

Stephanie Holmes, editor

226 Hillcrest Drive
Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090



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.