

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring Pictures from the 2016 MMTA
Collegiate Competitions

**Plan to attend our 2016 Conference
November 4-5 at Delta State
University in Cleveland.**

Message from the President

Hello everyone! I hope that the end of the semester treated you well, and that you are now able to look forward to some down time during the summer months.

This spring has been busy but very rewarding. I had the opportunity to attend and monitor the MMTA Collegiate Competitions held on March 5 at USM. Special thanks to Sheri Falcone who made sure that every detail was taken care of for this event. The students who competed were very gracious and seemed to enjoy and benefit from the experience. Once again this year we had to combine several students into one category so that we could hold the competitions, but we did see a slight increase in competition entries. We still need to work to improve our competition numbers.

I had a wonderful time at the MTNA Conference in San Antonio. I enjoyed reconnecting with professors and friends, and made many new acquaintances. I had the opportunity to attend Pedagogy Saturday and portions of the Marvin Blickenstaff masterclass which were both wonderful. I also enjoyed attending the Gala Banquet. The states of Mississippi, Alabama, and South Carolina shared a table, and Janet Gray accepted her award for Foundation Fellow. Mississippi contributed a \$50 gift from the Kitchen Table (a lovely culinary store in Hattiesburg) for the State Pride Raffle which included a nice assortment of Mississippi cheese and lemon straws. I also attended the Southern Division Business Meeting and reception where I gave the President's Report for our state.

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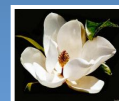
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Message from the President (continued)

We look forward to the upcoming May 21 Pre-College Finals competitions which will be held at Ole Miss. Special thanks to Karen Murphy for her hard work in preparation for this event. And thanks in advance to Ian Hominick, Stacy Rodgers, and the faculty and staff at Ole Miss who will serve as our hosts. A special thank you to all of the district chairs and teachers who helped organize the district evaluations and to Dixie Lawson who did an excellent job with proofing, organizing, and providing the materials for each of the evaluations which were held on April 2 and 9.

Please make plans now to attend our 62nd annual conference at Delta State University on November 4-5. Plans are already underway for a wonderful event. A special thank you is due to Alice Ballard for all of her work and preparation, and for submitting the MAC grant application on our behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Elder

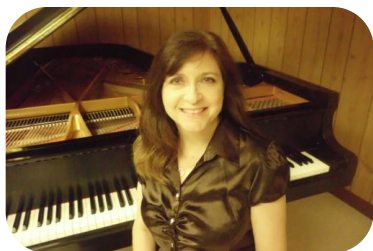
MMTA President
ellen@ellenelder.com



Ellen Elder



President-Elect's Message



Alice Ballard

Plans are already underway for our 2016 MMTA Conference, which will be held November 4-5 at Delta State University in Cleveland. This year's conference recital artist is Dr. Louis Nagel, professor of piano and piano literature at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance. Dr. Nagel will present a concert, free and open to the public, which will take place Friday, November 4 at 7:30 p.m. Our guest clinician is Dr. Julie Jaffee Nagel, consultant and author of the book "Melodies of the Mind." Dr. Nagel will

present sessions on mental health and performance anxiety. I appreciate Ellen Elder's work in securing the Nagels as our guest artist and guest clinician.

The commissioned composer for 2016 is one of our own members, Dr. Benjamin Williams, Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Composition at Mississippi College. He will write a composition to be premiered Friday afternoon. Dr. Rebecca Bellelo, founder of Piano Pathways Music Center for Children and Adults located in Baton Rouge, will be our IMTF luncheon speaker and will judge the pre-college piano concerto competition. Thank you, Valentin Bogdan, for securing our commissioned composer, and thank you, Victoria Johnson, for getting our IMTF speaker for this year's conference!

The need for offering Continuing Education Units (CEUs) at our state conference was discussed at the last MMTA Board meeting. Since no one took advantage of the CEUs this past year, the Board decided to discontinue offering them.

Stephanie Holmes helped me a great deal as I prepared to submit this year's Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) Grant. She shared numerous videos and pictures of the 2015 conference sessions and concerts. Thank you, Stephanie, and thank you, Chris Ballard, for helping create a summary DVD which I included with our new MAC grant request. The request for \$5000 was submitted on March 1. I am eagerly awaiting word on the MAC review committee's decision.

Last year's conference was excellent because so many members participated by sharing their talents and expertise. As our 2016 conference begins to take shape, I urge all MMTA members to plan to take part and to contribute to the success of the conference. Each of you has a great deal to offer, and your unique perspective needs to be heard in our state!

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ballard

MMTA President-Elect

Vice President for Pre-College Performances

The 2016 MMTA Pre-College Finals event was held on Saturday, May 21, at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Although the student numbers were down a little the number of participating teachers was higher than the previous year. This is good news!

Six Outstanding Pre-College Student Achievement Awards were given and 217 High Composite Score certificates were awarded with several ties for the highest scores in various levels. A total of seventeen plaques were

awarded: eleven for high composite scores and six for achievement award winners. Ten judges worked during the day; including eight piano judges, one voice judge and one strings judge and the day ended about a little earlier than in previous years which helped with travel.

Box lunches by McAlisters Deli were available for purchase for \$8 and Program Books for \$4. Also, the new gold medals made by Pine Belt Trophy received many compliments.

The success of this year's Pre-College Finals is due to the cooperation and hard work by many persons including: Dr. Ian Hominick - Facilities Coordinator for Ole Miss; Dr. Ellen Elder - Awards Presenter; Adrienne Park - Lunch Coordinator; Stephanie Holmes - Photographer; Barbara Tracy for her work with a new software program to help facilitate the computation process in the workroom; the District Chairs for their work and cooperation in getting me the necessary paperwork; and all the many teachers who were cheerfully present in recital rooms, the workroom and at the information table. We are also appreciative to Dr. Robert Riggs, Chair of the Department of Music at Ole Miss, for allowing us to use the music building for this annual event. A big thank you to everyone!

In 2017, the District Evaluations will be held on the first two Saturdays in April with Group B evaluations on April 1, and Group A, on April 8. Next year's Pre-College Finals will be on May 13th and the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

Also, next year's State Finals Recital Schedule will once again be posted on the MMTA website approximately two weeks prior to Finals in 2017. The performance order for all recitals next year will be Z-A.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make 2016 State Finals a success!

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy, NCTM

Vice-President for Pre-College Performances



Karen Murphy

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions



Sheri Falcone

Greetings everyone and happy end of the school year!

The MMTA Collegiate Competitions were held on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. There were a total of 26 entries, of the 26, 25 competed. Unfortunately, we had no Brass and chamber ensemble contestants and only 1 entrant for the emerging artist. We also had to combine the Freshman/Sophomore strings with the Junior/Senior strings due to a low number. I would like to personally thank Dr. Ellen Elder and Dr. Elizabeth Moak, for helping and assisting me with the duties as the Vice President. Thank you Dr. Phyllis Lewis-Hale for helping out when you could during the competition. I

could have not done it without their help! I would also like to extend a heart-felt thank you to the faculty/staff from the University of Mississippi for graciously hosting and assisting the MMTA competitions, and the members of the board for total commitment in making this event so successful. Thank you all so much; it truly was greatly appreciated!

There were a total of 4 judges this year, 1 string, 1 piano, 1 voice and 1 woodwind. Out of the 4 judges, 2 adjudicated the Graduate Solo competitions (string and piano judge). I commend them on their hard work and dedication on a long day of adjudicating.

Below is the breakdown of entries in each division:

Fr/Soph Piano: 6

Piano Concerto: 2

Fr/Soph. Voice: 5

Jr. /Sr. Voice: 2

Strings: 2 (we combined the Fr/Soph with the Jr/Sr

Woodwinds: 2

Graduate Solo Division: 6

Concern for student participation is still a problem. The numbers this year were slightly higher (26 entries compared to 22 entries in 2015). We hope that future competitions will have more entrants and attendees since this is a great opportunity for students to hone their musical skills and gain performance experience. This event also affords the students the opportunity to discover their musical potential and work towards their future goals and career plans as aspiring musicians. I would like to continue to encourage you and your colleagues to enter your students in the MMTA as well as the MTNA Competitions for the upcoming year. Please encourage your colleagues to be a part of Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

Have a great summer!

Sheri A. Falcone

VP for Collegiate and National Competitions

Vice-President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

At the end of the 2015-2016 year MMTA had 171 members. As of April 30, 2016, 27 members are listed for the 2016-2017 year.

Handmade Designs has announced a rate increase for web changes. Effective April 1, 2016, the standard rate is \$80/hour; 501(C)3 non-profits and MTNA members will continue to receive a 15% discount (\$68/hour). Billing is in 15 minute increments.

National MTNA membership dues have changed for the year 2016-2017, as follows:

National Active Member Dues	\$75.00
National Senior Member Dues	\$56.25
National Collegiate Member Dues	\$19.00

National 2015 – 2016 membership finished on a positive note for the first time in 11 years. Hopefully this is a trend. A concern is the non-renewing members, primary reason given is that dues are too high for value received.

Website changes:

- Added Janet Gray's name to Foundation Fellow list
- Uploaded update to Evaluations Guidelines per Dixie Lawson
- Changed Collegiate Competition application to reflect non-member fee changes
- Changed Chamber Music Competition application to reflect non-member fee changes
- Sent Southern Division Winners list to membership
- Updated Jackson District Evaluations Chair to Jacquelyn Thornell
- Uploaded Winter MMT
- Uploaded Collegiate Competitions Booklet to website for Collegiate Competitions
- Sent MMTA Collegiate Competitions Results to membership
- Uploaded Evaluations District Chair Documents
- Added Evaluations Certificate template to District Chair Documents
- Uploaded Evaluations Testing Documents
- Updated Events Calendar for 2016-2017 Calendar Year for State Conference, MTNA State Competitions, and MMTA Pre-College Concerto Competitions

Ongoing:

- Miscellaneous updates as needed
- Continue to send mass emails to members as requested

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Beasley

Treasurer's Report



Chris Ballard

This Financial Report covers the time period of January 23, 2016 to May 1, 2016. The main activity having to do with MMTA finances that occurred during this period was the District Pre-College Evaluations. Following is a breakdown of income, expenses, and profit from each district:

MMTA 2016 Spring Pre-College Auditions

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Profit</u>
Ellisville	2975.00	1715.11	1259.89
Golden Triangle	1610.00	605.00	1005.00
Goodman	390.00	118.50	271.50
Gulf Coast	1120.00	517.53	602.47
Hattiesburg	1750.00	732.18	1017.82
Jackson	3700.00	2087.63	1612.37
Oxford	720.00	519.71	200.29
Tupelo	680.00	414.68	265.32
<u>Vicksburg</u>	<u>1255.00</u>	<u>765.86</u>	<u>489.14</u>
<u>Totals</u>	<u>14,200.00</u>	<u>7476.20</u>	<u>6723.80</u>

Much of the profit will be used for the expenses that will be incurred at the Pre-College Finals to be held in Oxford, MS on May 21.

As always, if I can be of help to any of you concerning MMTA money matters, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Some students were left off or their names were misspelled on the State Finals Results in the Spring *MMT*. We would like to apologize for the oversight. The corrected list is on the following pages.

Piano Performance Level 3 and below

Gold Medal:

Caroline Lucassen (Karen Murphy)

2nd Place:

James Chapman (Brenda Sullivan)

Katie Chung (Katie Wallace)

Matthew Hatchett (Donna Reed)

Claire Rhee (Katie Wallace)

Gabrielle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

Crystal Zhang (Rachel Heard)

3rd Place:

Andrew Meng (Katie Wallace)

Jesse Zheng (Edna Mae McCoy)

4th Place:

Jade Agler (Carol Mahler)

Sarah Han (Katie Wallace)

Bruce Pang (Isabella Ivshin)

Honorable Mention:

Seth Dorroh (Ouida Thomas)

Riley McCardle (Laura Broughton)

Ryan Wu (Isabella Ivshin)

Linda Zhang (Adrienne Park)

Mason Cordell (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Gabriel Hernandez (Jacqueline Thornell)

Aaron Lu (Rachel Heard)

Angelina Tan (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Performance Level 4

Gold Medal:

Emily Lu (Isabella Ivshin)

2nd Place:

Will Bassett (Ruth Keyes)

Kabir Gupta (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Cavie Mayeu (Sarah Little)

Virginia Powell (Laura Broughton)

3rd Place:

Maggie Beazley (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Caleb Blankenship (Marilyn Huff)

Brody Creel (Laura Broughton)

Andy Lu (Debbie Barnes)

Grace Yant (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Megha Yeddula (Sandy Coutoumanos)

4th Place:

Addy Coleman (Laura Broughton)

Katie Farthing (Barbara Tracy)

Emma Cait Freeman (Laura Broughton)

Natalie Sims (Laura Broughton)

Honorable Mention:

David Brett (Janice Mesrobian)

Piano Performance Level 5

Gold Medal:

Ishan Datta (Stacy Rogers)

Leo Mei (Jacquelyn Thornell)

Richard Zheng (Carol Durham)

2nd Place:

Joseph Agler (Carol Mahler)

Andrew Liu (Kay Johnson)

3rd Place:

Hal Duff (Joshua Trent Smith)

Richard Li (Isabella Ivshin)

Henlee Middleton (Linda Carnes)

Vivek Nagarajan (Edna Mae McCoy)

Reese Plumlee (Janice Mesrobian)

Vinny Sun (Karen Fosheim)

Yolanda Tian (Janice Mesrobian)

Kinley Hogue (Ellen Gunn)

Raymond Huang (Debbie Barnes)

Sarah LeRoux (Carolina Whitfield-Smith)

Alan Meng (Katie Wallace)

Brooke Yant (Sandy Coutoumanos)

4th Place:

Trinitee Augustine (Elsie Barnes)

Elizabeth Casey (Janine Beasley)

Olivia Hill (Paula Henderson)

Mary Elizabeth Kees (Jane Fox)

Lauren Moss (Janine Beasley)

Lauren Walker (Debbie Barnes)

Joshua Yates (Katie Wallace)

Piano Performance Level 6**Gold Medal:**

Christina Danford (Ellen Elder)

Bonnie Littlejohn (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Sam Powell (Laura Broughton)

Luke Zhang (Adrienne Park)

2nd Place:

Jonathan Bai (Janice Mesrobian)

Ian Marks (Ellen Gunn)

Anabel Morgan (Donna Reed)

Laura Simpson (Adrienne Park)

Joy Wang (Isabella Ivshin)

Jessica Yan (Karen Murphy)

3rd Place:

Tom Henry Brister (Sandy Coutoumanos)

Joy Han (Katie Wallace)

Anna Hill (Paula Henderson)

Piano Performance Level 7**Gold Medal:**

Matthew Li (Rachel Heard)

Max Zhang (Ellen Elder)

2nd Place:

David Jelinek (Joshua Trent Smith)

3rd Place:

Karlene Deng (Katie Wallace)

Abigail Krutz (Jung-Won Shin)

Albert Xu (Jacquelyn Thornell)

Piano Performance Level 8**Gold Medal:**

Vinson Lu (Rachel Heard)

2nd Place:

Edward Hu (Ian Hominick)

Michelle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

Piano Performance Level 10**3rd Place:**

Jackson Creel (Laura Broughton)

Sam Gaines (Donna Reed)

4th Place:

Izak Hanson (Karen Murphy)

Joy Faith Jennings (Victoria Johnson)

Derrick Taylor (Elsie Barnes)

Isaiah Way (Carol Mahler)

Honorable Mention:

Molly Grondin (Jacquelyn Thornell)

John Kees (Jane Fox)

Sarah Crosby McKay (Joanna Burnside)

Kevin Miao (Ellen Elder)

Victoria Wang (Isabella Ivshin)

Phoebe Xu (Rachel Heard)

Victor Yen (Rachel Heard)

Piano Performance Level 9**Gold Medal:**

Caleb Owens (Jung-Won Shin)

2nd Place

Gloria Zhang (Edna Mae McCoy)

3rd Place:

Lori Feng (Rosângela Sebba)

Victoria Gong (Judith Allen)

Hamilton Wan (Harold Thompson)

4th Place:

Lindsay Simpson (Adrienne Park)

Gold Medal:

Calendula Cheng (Ian Hominick)

2nd Place:

Julia Jia (Annette Joe)

Samantha Simpson (Ian Hominick)

3rd Place:

Steven Chung (Isabella Ivshin)

Katie Simpson (Sandy Coutoumanos)

4th Place:

Emma Adkins (Ruth Keyes)

Shelby Davis (Ruth Keyes)

Piano Performance Level 11**Gold Medal:**

Jesse Li (Rachel Heard)

2nd Place:

Jim Yen (Rachel Heard)

3rd Place:

Madison Thornton (Susan Fairchild)

Nathan Yin (Karen Laubengayer)

4th Place:

Chelsea Musgrove (Marilyn Huff)

Piano Performance Level 12**Gold Medal:**

James Zhou (Karen Laubengayer)

2nd Place:

Sadie Henderson (Ellen Elder)

Caroline Rhett (Ellen Elder)

3rd Place:

Katelyn Lott (Brenda Sullivan)

Piano Ensemble Division A**Gold Medal:**

Katie Chung and Claire Rhee (Katie Wallace)

2nd Place:

Lilly Bassett and Will Bassett (Ruth Keyes)

Piano Ensemble Division B**Gold Medal:**

Jade Agler and Joseph Agler (Carol Mahler)

2nd Place:

Kinley Hogue and Ian Marks (Ellen Gunn)

Piano Ensemble Division C**Gold Medal:**

Gabrielle Sun and Michelle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

2nd Place:

David Brett and Will Brett (Janice Mesrobian)

3rd Place:

Sidharth and Vivek Nagarajan (Edna Mae McCoy)

Piano Ensemble Division D**Gold Medal:**

Karlene Deng and Lori Feng (Katie Wallace and Rosângela Sebba)

Piano Ensemble Division E**Gold Medal:**

Sadie Henderson and Caroline Rhett (Ellen Elder)

Wil Estes and Chelsea Musgrove (Marilyn Huff)

Sonata/Sonatina Division A**Gold Medal:**

Katie Chung (Katie Wallace)

2nd Place:

Gabrielle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

3rd Place:

Jade Agler (Carol Mahler)

Sonata/Sonatina Division B**Gold Medal:**

Andrew Liu (Kay Johnson)

2nd Place:

Joseph Agler (Carol Mahler)

Ian Marks (Ellen Gunn)

3rd Place:

Beau Hinton (Janice Mesrobian)

Sarah LeRoux (Carolina Whitfield-Smith)

Richard Zheng (Carol Durham)

Sonata/Sonatina Division C**Gold Medal:**

Edward Hu (Ian Hominick)

Matthew Yin (Karen Laubengayer)

2nd Place:

Michelle Sun (Janice Mesrobian)

3rd Place:

Karlene Deng (Katie Wallace)

Theme and Variations Division DSonata/Sonatina Division D**Gold Medal:**

Samantha Simpson (Ian Hominick)

2nd Place:

Lori Feng (Rosângela Sebba)

3rd Place:

Calendula Cheng (Ian Hominick)

Gold Medal:

Gloria Zhang (Edna Mae McCoy)

2nd Place:

Grace Miller (Ruth Keyes)

3rd Place:

Shelby Davis (Ruth Keyes)

Theme and Variations Division ETheme and Variations Division A**Gold Medal:**

Claire Rhee (Katie Wallace)

Gold Medal:

Kayla Shelby (Elsie Barnes)

2nd Place:

Gabrielle Foster (Edna Mae McCoy)

Theme and Variations Division B**Gold Medal:**

Yolanda Tian (Janice Mesrobian)

2nd Place:

Jessica Yan (Karen Murphy)

3rd Place:

Joseph Agler (Carol Mahler)

Strings Solo Division A**Gold Medal:**

Joseph Sun (Gail Fox)

2nd Place:

Gabby Davis (Carol Mahler)

Theme and Variations Division C**Gold Medal:**

Matthew Li (Rachel Heard)

2nd Place:

Gracie Bassett (Ruth Keyes)

Strings Solo Division B**Gold Medal:**

Jade Agler (Carol Mahler)

2nd Place:

Connor Carlisle (Susan Gaston)

Strings Solo Division D**Gold Medal:**

Cecilia Escobedo (Carol Mahler)

2nd Place:

Ryan Wang (Gail Fox)

Strings Solo Division F

Gold Medal:

Daniel Jones (Christopher Thompson)

2nd Place:

William Bradford (Christopher Thompson)

Vocal Performance Level 9

Gold Medal:

Ané Scott (Shawn Morgan)

2nd Place:

Nicholas Brown (Sarah Little)

Vocal Performance Level 10

Gold Medal:

Perry Leffler (Shawn Morgan)

2nd Place:

Jodi Bullock (Sarah Little)

3rd Place:

Ashley King (Shawn Morgan)



Mississippi Music Teachers Association

COLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS

MARCH 5, 2016

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Piano Solo Competition

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: *Angela Powell, student of Dr. Rachel Heard*

Second Place: *Nick Joslin, student of Mr. Brian Murphy*

Honorable Mention: *Gabrielle Paricka, student of
Dr. Joanna Burnside*

Woodwinds Solo Competition

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: *Tanner Crabtree, student of Mrs. Meri Newell*

Second Place: *Kennedy Jarrell, student of Mrs. Meri Newell*

Honorable Mention:

Strings Solo Competition

First Place: *Nicolas Garzon, student of Dr. Hsiapoei Lee*

Second Place: *Ana Maria Diaz Herrera, student of
Dr. Hsiapoei Lee*

Honorable Mention:

Concerto Competition

First Place: *Minji Kim, student of Dr. Jung-Won Shin*

Second Place: *Christopher Cunningham, student of
Dr. Rachel Heard*

Honorable Mention:

Voice Solo Competition

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: *Reagan Arnold, student of Dr. Susan Smith*

Second Place: *Aja Brimm, student of Dr. Phyllis Lewis-Hale*

Honorable Mention: *Stephen Harris Jones, student of
Dr. Susan Smith*

Junior/Senior

First Place: *Hillary Watkins, student of Dr. Phyllis Lewis-Hale*

Second Place: *Abby Weinstein, student of Dr. Janette Fontaine*

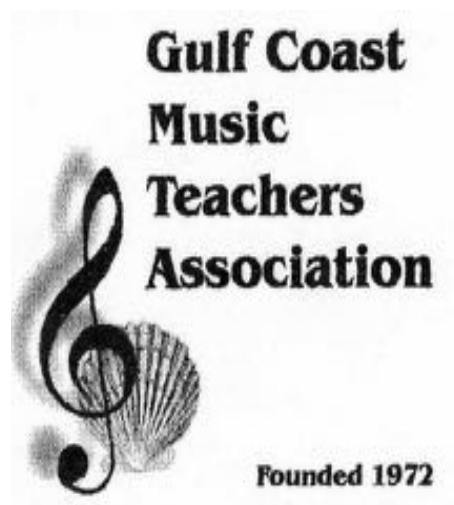
Honorable Mention:

Graduate Solo Competitions

First Place: *Andrei Jan Hoffman Uller, student of
Dr. Nicholas Ciraldo*

Second Place: *Andrea Restrepo, student of
Dr. Alexandra Russakovsky*

Honorable Mention: *Jairo Garcia, student of Dr. Ellen Elder*



Competition Winners



**Freshman/Sophomore
Woodwinds**



Freshman/Sophomore Piano Solo



Strings Solo



Piano Concerto



Junior/Senior Voice



Graduate Solo

Affiliate News

Vicksburg Music Teachers League

Our Vicksburg group finished out the year with an Honors Recital, for all students who earned a Superior rating in performance at our local Evaluations. It's always nice to hear how well students prepare music for Evaluations.

We met to plan our 2016-17 Season, and it looks like another busy year. The annual Boys Recital is the day before Halloween, so you can guess what the theme is. The guys really like this fellowship of musicians. We plan another "For the Love of Music" recital in the early Spring. Last year, we implemented this as a mini-fund raiser, to help cover program printing and miscellaneous costs for the year. It was gratifying to see the support from our families.

In addition to the regular recital activities, Barbara Tracy is organizing an American Guild of Organists concert and workshop in the Fall. Wilma Jenson will give an organ recital on Friday, October 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Vicksburg. On Saturday, October 15, from 10:00 a.m. until noon, Wilma Jenson will give a workshop on technique, geared toward pianists. Also at First Presbyterian Church, in Vicksburg.

Our members in Vicksburg are: Jeanne Evans, President; Judith Allen, Judy Buys, Linda Carnes, Denise Ragsdale, Kim Steen, and Barbara Tracy.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Evans



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



Music Forum of Jackson owes a debt of gratitude to our outgoing president, Brenda Sullivan for her two years of outstanding leadership. Her enthusiasm and creativity, supported by her methodical dependability, kept us on a forward track of professional development for ourselves as teachers, and musical development for our students.

Our Area MMTA Auditions (ably coordinated by Jacquelyn Thornell) at Hinds Community College brought participation by 92 students of 16 teachers; 62 of these students qualified for the State Finals.

Members met at Anjou for our annual Spring Luncheon to celebrate an active year, enjoy fellowship, and elect a new slate of officers.

Preparations for 2016-2017 began on June 16 with a Budget Committee meeting and continued on June 30 with a Board Meeting. We are planning our programs, which will begin with an August Music Give Away/Music Swap event. We are also planning a coffee chat program on Technology in Teaching, and a presentation by Dr. Angela Willoughby. Our annual Sonata/Sonatina Festival for students of Music Forum of Jackson is scheduled for November 19th at Millsaps College with Donna Reed and Patsy Simpson serving as co-chairpersons.

Please take note that the Forty-Eighth annual Bach Festival has been scheduled for February 4, 2017 at Hinds Community College in Raymond, again chaired by Kathie Gunn Lott. Watch your mailbox for the new brochure or contact Kathie at kclott@bellsouth.net

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Durham
President, MFJ

Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

The months of April and May have been very busy for our members as usual. Our district MMTA Pre-College Evaluations were held on April 2 and Dixie Lawson did a great job as our district chair, as always. A large number of students who participated in our evaluations were eligible to compete in Finals.

A large student recital was held in the recital hall of Mississippi Music on April 16. These recitals provide an excellent performance opportunity to help prepare our students for spring evaluations and recitals.

The annual Spring Concert for outstanding high school students was held on April 24 in the Winters School of Music at William Carey University. Anne Kathryn DeViney did a fine job as chair of this special event, and two graduating seniors were presented with senior awards from the league.

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to our own Dr. Lois Leventhal, who has just retired from the USM School of Music after a very successful 40-year teaching career. She will move to Hull, MA to be with her husband and to begin her well-deserved retirement. We will all miss her greatly!

Our last official function of this academic year was our business meeting and luncheon, which was held on May 12 at the Purple Parrot Café. New officers and event chairs were elected at our meeting and they will serve in their positions from 2016-2018. We welcome our new league president, Vickie Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura

Laura Broughton, D.M.A., NCTM

(Outgoing) HMTL President



JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

May 1, 2016

The JCMTA annual Solo and Sonata Competition was held on Saturday, January 23, 2016. The competition is for students sixth through twelfth grade. 27 students were entered for this event.

The JCMTA annual Ensemble Festival was held on March 5, 2016.

A business meeting was held prior to both events.

Jones County Music Teachers Association participated in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations on April 9, 2016, at Jones County Junior College.

A meeting will be held during the summer to choose new officers and committee members, and to determine dates for Showcase Recital, Solo-Sonata Competition, and Ensemble Festival. Music for Solo-Sonata Competition and Ensemble Festival will also be selected.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Beasley



Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association
Affiliated with Mississippi Music Teachers Association
and Music Teachers National Association
Est. 1972

May 1, 2016

The round of festivals and auditions began here on the Gulf Coast with the Baptist Keyboard Festival in Pascagoula on January 28, followed by the Bach Festival in Raymond on February 6.

Just three weeks later, GCMTA held its own Music Teachers Festival, which was co-chaired by Dawn Nelson and Carol Mahler. The event was held at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jeff Davis Campus. A total of 74 piano, strings, and vocal performances were turned in by 66 students from the studios of 9 different teachers. Out of all the performances, 47 scored High Superior, qualifying these students to play in the Honors Recitals. During the Honors Recitals, three students were awarded 5-year awards of \$25 each. We appreciate Broussard's Piano Gallery, located in Mobile, Alabama, for providing these awards this year.

Our local MMTA Pre-college Evaluations took place on Saturday, April 9 at MGCCC-JD. Four teachers entered 28 piano and strings students. Dawn Nelson and Carol Mahler co-chaired this event.

This year, three high school seniors competed in GCMTA's Senior Awards Recital, which took place at Mississippi Music in Biloxi on Sunday afternoon, April 24. Allan Zieber won the \$500 First Place award. Taking the \$300 Second Place award was Ashton Gage. Elijah Allen was awarded the \$100 Third Place award. Dr. Sharon Hudson, piano faculty member at University of Mobile was the adjudicator. Vice-president Elsie Barnes organized this event.

The National Guild of Piano Teachers auditions will be held May 4-7, at MGCCC-JD. GCMTA members Martha Mayeu and Mildred Dickson are the NGPT area co-chairs.

Our June Luncheon Meeting and officer elections will be held at the home of Jeanie Pollard.

Respectfully submitted by
Carol Mahler, GCMTA President

Mark Your Calendar

November 4-5, 2016 - Fall 2016 MMTA Conference - Delta State University, Cleveland, MS

November 4, 2016 - MTNA State Competitions - Delta State University, Cleveland, MS

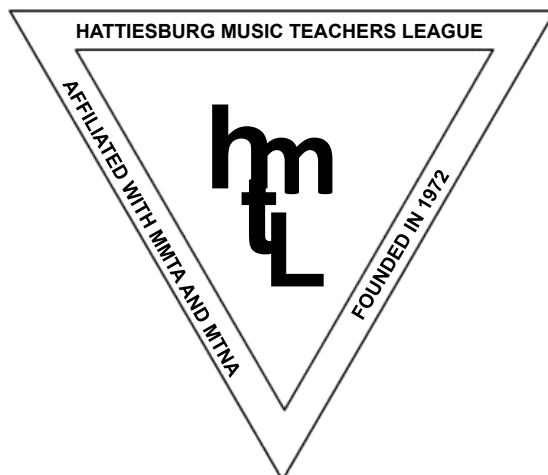
November 5, 2016 - MMTA Pre-College Concerto Competition - Delta State University, Cleveland, MS

April 1, 2017 - Group B MMTA 2016 Pre-College Auditions - Columbus/Starkville, Ellisville, Gulf Coast, Vicksburg

April 8, 2017 - Group A MMTA 2016 Pre-College Auditions - Goodman, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Oxford, and Tupelo

May 13, 2017 - MMTA Pre-College Finals - The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

Do you have an event you would like to be placed in the Mississippi Music Teacher? Contact Stephanie Holmes at sholmes057@gmail.com.



Jones County Junior College Music Department

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(601) 477-4094

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Mike Boyd, Guitar/Music Survey

Jeff Cannon, Band

Joel Dunlap, Concert Choir

Kay Guiles, Piano/Organ

Jennifer Hart, Voice/Theater

Nikki Johnson, Voice/Theater

Victoria Johnson, Piano

Lindsey Keay, Flute/Band

Meri Newell, Woodwinds

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Theresa Sanchez, Piano/Music Literature

Grey Shealy, Percussion

Susan A. Smith, Voice/Theory/JC Voices

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For information regarding degrees, audition requirements and scholarships, contact Dr. Don Odom, dean, at dodom@wmcarey.edu or at (601) 318-6178.

If you know of someone who would like to receive a hard copy of the *Mississippi Music Teacher* in the mail, please email Stephanie at sholmes057@gmail.com.

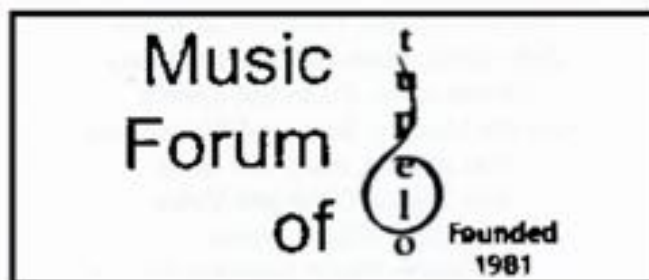
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MMTA Officers

President

Ellen Price Elder
261 Timberton Dr.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-467-9745
ellen@ellenelder.com

President Elect

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

Immediate Past President

Barbara Tracy
617 Holly Ridge Drive
Vicksburg, MS 39180
Phone: 601-638-6453
barbara9872@att.net

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

Sheri Falcone
505 Cottonwood Dr.
Starkville, MS 39759
Phone: 662-325-2865
sfalcone@colled.msstate.edu

VP for Pre-College Performances

Karen Murphy
101 Lake Pointe Lane
Starkville, MS 39759
Phone: 662-263-7912
kmurphy@colled.msstate.edu

VP for Pre-College Evaluations

Dixie Lawson
29 Scarlett St.
Purvis, MS 39475
Phone: 601-268-6216
capriccio1@gmail.com

VP for Public Relations (Newsletter Editor)

Stephanie Holmes
226 Hillcrest Drive
Kosciusko, MS 39090
Phone: 662-417-1390
sholmes057@gmail.com

Secretary

Yvonne Young-McGrath
753 Canterbury Dr
Biloxi, MS 39532-4303
Phone: 228-617-9127
mcgmomx4@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Chris Ballard
220 Devenport Circle
Raymond, MS 39154
gifblue@yahoo.com

Appointed Officers

Chair of Theory & Composition

Valentin Bogdan
900 5th Ave S #M
Columbus, MS 39701
Phone: 248-765-2785
valybogdan@yahoo.com

Chair of Independent Music Teachers Forum

Victoria Johnson
900 South Court Street
Ellisville, MS 39437
Phone: 601-477-2674
victoria.johnson@jcc.edu

Chair of College Faculty Forum

Ellen Elder
261 Timberton Dr.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601-467-9745
ellen@ellenelder.com

Chair of Certification

Jacquelyn Thornell
5929 Lake Trace Circle
Jackson, MS 39211
Phone: 601-952-0060
jsthornell@bellsouth.net

Webmaster

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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

Michael Patilla
Mississippi State University
Dept. of Music
P.O. Box 6240
Mississippi State, MS 39762
Phone: 662-325-2866
guitar@colled.msstate.edu

Piano

Elizabeth Moak
609 Woodbine Lane
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
Phone: 601-268-5524
elizabeth.moak@usm.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**

Katie Wallace
1223 Meadowlark Dr.
Starkville, MS 39759
Phone: 662-341-5117
wallacepiano5@gmail.com

Gulf Coast MTA

Carol Mahler
9428 Hidden Acres Road
Pass Christian, MS 39571
Phone: 228-586-1879
jmdoc@bellsouth.net

Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

Laura Broughton
7 Canal Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
Phone: 601-441-1248
drlaurab@comcast.net

Jones County MTA

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

Music Forum of Jackson

Brenda Sullivan
123 Summit Ridge
Brandon, MS 39042
Phone: 601-824-1301
brendaasullivan@bellsouth.net

Music Forum of Tupelo

L. Darwin Brooks
115 Locust Hill Rd.
Belden, MS 38826
Phone: 662-842-0673
dbrooks@network-one.com

Vicksburg MTA

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

From the MMT Editor

I am later getting the summer *MMT* out than I normally am. Many apologies! To quote the late, great Johnny Cash, "I've been everywhere, man." You can thank the start of a new school year for keeping me home long enough to get this newsletter finished.

As summer is winding down, I hope each of you had a wonderful summer. I hope you are all rested for the students coming your way very soon, or, in my case, who have already set foot in my classroom. 😊 Best wishes for the new school year!



Stephanie Holmes

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.

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Stephanie Holmes, editor

226 Hillcrest Drive
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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.