

# MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

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## 2005 MMTA STATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS



Lindsay Hawkins

Teacher: Gail Gwozdz

Lindsey Hawkins, fourteen year old daughter of Allen and Dorcas Hawkins, has studied violin for eight years with Gail Gwozdz. In addition to her involvement at SSRR, Lindsey has participated at the NFMC Festival for six years in violin concerto and solo performance. She has also competed in the MMTA Concerto Festival strings division. In

addition to her violin studies, Lindsey studied piano with Janice Mesrobian for six years. During this time she participated in the Bach Festival, the NFMC Festival and the MMTA Concerto Festival. Lindsey also competed at SSRR in solo performance, ensemble, and sonata. Over the past two years, Lindsey has been involved with the National Christian Forensics and Communication Association as a national individual events competitor and as a Lincoln-Douglas debater. She enjoys developing her communication skills as she attends conferences sponsored by Communicators for Christ. Writing is also a strong interest of Lindsey's, and she is a staff writer for her home school newspaper. When she is not playing the violin, debating, or writing, Lindsey enjoys singing in her church choir. This summer she will participate in the Treehouse Players Children's Theatre of Hattiesburg's production of *Wonderland!*



Katie Wallace

Teacher: Dixie M. Clark

Katherine (Katie) Wallace, the seventeen year old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Ted P. Wallace, has studied piano for twelve years with Dixie M. Clark in Starkville. She has qualified for SSRR for nine years and has been awarded 1st place gold medals in Levels IA, IB, and Original Composition Competition, and first alternate in other levels. Katie attended Mississippi Piano Showcase at

MSU four years, three as state scholarship recipient of the National Federation of Music Clubs, and attended Mississippi Keyboard Camp as a NFMC District IB scholarship winner. She has received Superior ratings from the Mississippi Federation of Music Clubs for eleven years. Katie is home educated, entering her senior year. As an active member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, she sings in the Worship Team Ensemble, and is traveling on a youth mission trip to England this summer. She has studied ballet and clogging, played volleyball, and enjoyed participating in the 2005 Jr. Miss Scholarship Pageant.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*"While some things grow, others have to diminish. Just as the decay of last year's fallen leaves provides nutrients for new growth this spring, some institutions must be allowed to decline and decay... so that their capital and human talents can be released and recycled to create new organizations." ~ Fritjof Capra<sup>1</sup>*

Is MMTA "fallen leaves" or "new growth"?

**MMTA mission statement:** *The Mississippi Music Teachers Association is a nonprofit organization whose purpose and goals 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 funds are used solely to accomplish these objectives.*

How does MMTA address its mission? Globally, how are teaching, performance, composition and research being addressed? What is necessary for MMTA's future survival?

Nonprofits need to learn how to communicate better and educate the general public about what they do. They also need to carve out a niche to find their unique "edge" and use it to their advantage. As a whole, MMTA needs more and better public relations and communications strategies – ways to attract new members and stimulate growth. Better use of technology is one answer!

MMTA has taken a step forward in doing this with its new website, [www.msmusicteachers.org](http://www.msmusicteachers.org). With this well-designed site, our association will project an image of professionalism and better address future needs. We can now provide necessary, accurate information to our membership in a more timely and cost efficient manner. The public can see who we are and what we do.

The demands on board members are increasing, so there is a need to make better use of time and funding. Income must be increased (to match an increasing outflow of money) and reallocation of funds with some restructure of processes will have to occur in order to survive.

Successful organizations must understand better the changing clientele/constituent base in order to have good retention and recruitment of membership. Board members need to increase their skills and become more active. They must have a foot in two worlds: the organization's and the "outside" world, in order to encourage growth and interest in their organization.

In an article about nonprofit organizations, Paul Connolly states that, "Some organizations need to educate board members regarding technology issues. Many boards do not understand that an organization's lack of technological where-with-all will severely affect its survival. Likewise, many boards fear the issue because of the expense involved with what some view as superfluous to the mission."<sup>2</sup> How can technology help us improve our mission?

More and more I believe that technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is not superfluous, but necessary! It cuts costs, saves time, and helps communicate a mission to the public and the membership. Don't forget, most new membership has grown up in the computer age. We must plan ahead, so that future volunteers will find running the organization a manageable task.



Joanna Burnside, MMTA President

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

We must make sure that MMTA develops a technology plan. Connelly states that some nonprofits will need top-of-the-line technology in order to stay competitive with the for-profit sector; there is a need for efficient infrastructure, a need to automate administrative support, and for survival, the organizational board must assure these things occur.<sup>3</sup>

Technology will increase proficiency and help enhance future growth of MMTA. Over the next several years some nonprofits will thrive and some will not. In order to be "new growth" and not "fallen leaves," MMTA needs to embrace change and have the willingness to adapt. By planning for the future, MMTA can address environmental challenges and capitalize on new opportunities.

*Joanna Burnside, NCTM*

### Sources

<sup>1</sup>*Fritjof Capra 1997, p.5*, Turn, Turn, Turn: Understanding Nature's Cycles. Talk Given at A Garden in Every School Conference. Transcript found on the Center for EcoLiteracy web site at:

[www.ecoliteracy.org/pdf/turn.pdf](http://www.ecoliteracy.org/pdf/turn.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>Paul Connelly, Organizational Effectiveness and Philanthropy. *Philanthropy News Digest*, February 27, 2002.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.



2005 Syllabus Committee members at the end of a very productive meeting held at the Eudora Welty Library in Jackson on June 4. Pictured standing L-R: Janice Mesrobian, Jeanne Evans, Janet Gray, and Kristina Havard. Seated: Jacquelyn Thornell, Committee Chair. (Others serving on the committee are listed below.)

## Pre-College Syllabus News

The 2005 Syllabus Revision Committee met on June 4 to work on improvements to our Pre-College Syllabus. This committee is working to provide a more "user friendly" syllabus that promotes a positive and educational outcome for teachers and students. The committee will address the following:

1. Adjustments to requirements on various levels
2. Organization and presentation of materials / Layout
3. Review of requirements and procedures of SSRR
4. Review of SSRR adjudication processes;

for example, how judges choose winners

If you would like to contact one of the committee members concerning Pre-College Activities, please feel free to do so. The next scheduled meeting is July 9, 2005. The meeting will be held at the Eudora Welty Library in Jackson, from 10:00 to 2:00.

### 2005 Syllabus Revision Committee

Jacquelyn Thornell, Chair, [jsthornell@bellsouth.net](mailto:jsthornell@bellsouth.net)  
 Donna Banks, [dbanks@deltastate.edu](mailto:dbanks@deltastate.edu)  
 Joanna Burnside, [inkki@aol.com](mailto:inkki@aol.com)  
 Jeanne Evans, [ajevans@cablelynx.com](mailto:ajevans@cablelynx.com)  
 Janet Gray, [hgraycpa@bellsouth.net](mailto:hgraycpa@bellsouth.net)  
 Ellen Gunn, [eygunn@bellsouth.net](mailto:eygunn@bellsouth.net)  
 Gail Gwozdz, [foxyfiddle@yahoo.com](mailto:foxyfiddle@yahoo.com)  
 Kristina Havard, [kristina\\_h\\_fl@yahoo.com](mailto:kristina_h_fl@yahoo.com)  
 Annette Joe, [edjoe@netdoor.com](mailto:edjoe@netdoor.com)  
 Janice Mesrobian, [jmesrob@msn.com](mailto:jmesrob@msn.com)  
 Peggy Oakes, [oakesp@bellsouth.net](mailto:oakesp@bellsouth.net)  
 Stephen Redfield, [redfieldviolin@hotmail.com](mailto:redfieldviolin@hotmail.com)  
 Carol Schutzmann, [PianoMom7@aol.com](mailto:PianoMom7@aol.com)  
 Rosangela Sebba, [rys3@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:rys3@colled.msstate.edu)  
 Bruce Tychinski, [bruce.tychinski@snc.edu](mailto:bruce.tychinski@snc.edu)

*Student to MMTA audition judge: "Do I get extra credit if I add the IV chords to my I-V-I cadences?"*



Angela Willoughby,  
President-Elect

## PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

Plans are being made for the annual conference to be held at the University of Mississippi in November. Ian Hominick, local liaison, did a splendid job of early planning with suggestions and reservations for all of the necessary events, and some great ideas for added enjoyment as well. Hotel blocks are all reserved and listed on the website. Highlights of the conference are also listed on the site with short bios of key personnel.

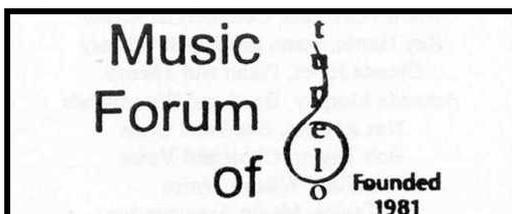
As for the competition portion of the conference, the facility at Ole Miss offers the possibility of efficiency in every way. With the exception of a piano venue at the Ford Center and the organ venue at Paris-Yates Chapel, the rest of the competition will be held in one building. The newly renovated Scruggs Hall (the Music department) has wide halls, many classrooms, a band hall and choral rehearsal room, a small auditorium, and several rooms appropriate for workrooms, meetings, and hospitality. In addition, the Ford Center for the Performing Arts is available to us for the length of the conference and offers a large state-of-the-art performance hall, a versatile "rehearsal" room with banquet facilities, a large lobby, and meeting rooms. As soon as all the details are finalized, pertinent information will be posted on the website concerning schedules and reservation information on the Past Presidents' Luncheon and the Conference Banquet.

Conference artists this year are the Ceruti String Quartet, artists-in-residence at the University of Memphis. An added treat this year is a ragtime presentation concert by "Old-Time Piano Playing" champion, Brian Holland. This concert is co-sponsored by the Piano Series at Ole Miss, and was arranged by Ian Hominick. It promises to be a great addition to our program, and a lot of fun!

I submitted the Mississippi Arts Commission Grant this spring with high hopes on the first of March. The maximum amount available this year is \$5000. I suspect that we can only expect about half of that, based on previous years' grants, but we never really know. The on-going budget considerations for the state make the investment of effort seem risky, but we usually do receive some funds. Also, the Arts Commission logo on our programs (when we receive support) adds a degree of credibility. As I was gathering the materials and "wading through" the sea of information and requirements, I did feel like our yearly application for the funds lends support to the stability of our organization and I felt greatly appreciative of the work of all those dear souls who had attempted this before me! We will receive an answer from the Commission probably some time in June.

There was additional information requested this year, including recordings of performances at previous conferences and/or samples from artists invited for this coming year. In light of this new requirement, performance area chairs should consider requesting and/or obtaining samples from invited artists, although I was able to direct attention to websites of artists for this year. I also included a recording of the premiere of the commissioned composition for 2002, since I happened to have that from my own performance. Perhaps in the future we could discuss the possibility of having guest recitals recorded for inclusion in grant materials for coming years. After the grant results are known, we will be able to see the importance of that since the Mississippi Arts Commission reviews results with applicants so that we may improve our chances in years to come.

*Angela Willoughby, NCTM*



Ford Center on Ole Miss Campus, site of MMTA 2005 Fall Conference



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### FOR THE MUSIC TEACHER

- Encourages improvement in teaching through continuous self-study and planning.
- Raises the likelihood for a higher level of teacher competency and effectiveness.
  - Provides a goal for personal professional achievement for music teachers
  - Increases the potential for earning power for music teachers.
  - Improves the level of professionalism within the field of music teaching.
  - Identifies for the public competent music teachers.

### Attention Uncertified Members

On January 10, 2004, the MMTA Board voted to reimburse the first 10 newly certified teachers in the next two years.

***This is how the program will work:***

- 1. Decide to get your certification***
- 2. Do it before January 10, 2006***
- 3. Submit documentation to the MMTA Executive Committee that you paid the MTNA Certification fees***

***If you are among the first 10 MMTA members to apply for this program, you will be reimbursed for your certification fees.***

For information, check the certification page on <http://msmusicteachers.org>



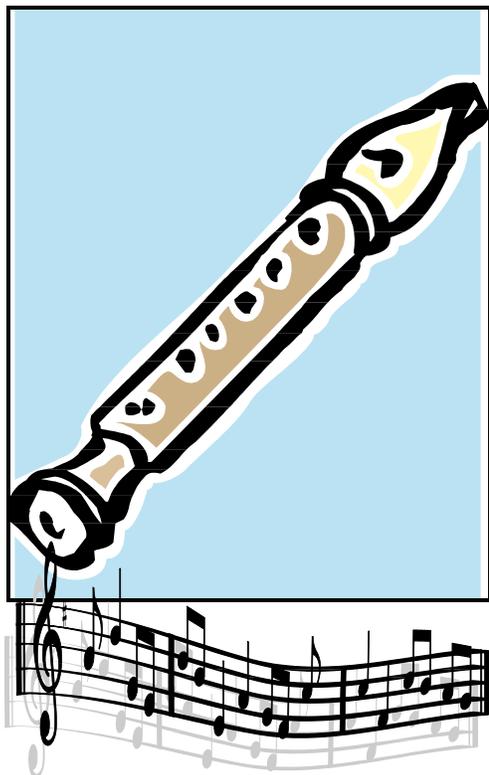
### **Golden Triangle Music Forum**

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 Vice President—*Harold Thompson*  
 Secretary/Treasurer—*Dixie Clark*  
 Publicity—*Linda Inmon*  
 Pre-College Chair—*Edna Mae McCoy*

Affiliated with MMTA and MTNA

# Fall 2004 Collegiate Winners

*(continued from Spring Issue)*



Tiffany Stover  
Woodwind Concerto Winner



Tabatha Ash  
Fr-Soph Voice Winner



Clint Spell, Brass Concerto Winner



**President - Patsy Simpson, NCTM**  
**2005-2006 President—Gena Everitt**

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



# Fall 2004 Collegiate Winners

*(continued from Spring Issue)*



Misty Rondeau, Young Artist  
Woodwind



Junior Senior Chamber Winners (MSU Reeds and Keys)  
Marcus Washington, Cindy Wharton, Bill Harned



Rebecca Carter, Jr-Sr  
Woodwind Winner



John Egger, Jr-Sr Brass Winner



Megan Counts, Fr-Soph Brass Winner

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## Pre-College Report



Once again lots of teachers and students worked hard in preparation for Auditions, with 610 student entries (some students are in more than one event). Of that number, 378 events qualified for SSRR, and 269 participated. More than 70 teachers entered students in 11 districts.

Many years ago, after I attended my first Louisiana MTA Board Meeting as a stand-in for our local president, I came home, frustrated by the long, long meeting (til midnight!) with bickering, wasted time, and a few personal insults, and wrote a long letter to Dr. Sigfred Matson, asking why he continued to work so hard and long for MMTA and MTNA. I vented all my frustrations in my letter. I knew better than to mail it as it was. How many times had I heard him say, "If it can't be addressed in one page, it's not too important."? I had to let my letter cool, then severely edit! After a couple of days, I mailed my one-page letter, but before Dr. M got my letter, I had my answer. My oldest daughter called from MSU to tell me that she was changing her major to vocal music education. (She had reminded me many times, beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade that she would never major in music.) I had my answer. Dr. Matson did it for the same reason most of us do it – work long hours, sometimes frustrating—for our children—for all the children we teach and for our communities. Our student activities provide a standard of excellence that inspires greater achievement than many students would otherwise aspire to.

I learned another important lesson when I was told that board meetings had always been like that on the eve of convention, after drinks and dinner. But a new president seemed not to understand, "We always do it this way." He decided that we would have the board meeting first, followed by the dinner! The meetings become efficient and more productive.

Joanna has appointed a committee to revise the Syllabus. This won't be easy, but all disciplines and all areas of the state are represented. I am excited about taking a great idea, and revising it with knowledge gleaned from teachers who are committed to MMTA and to our children.

Meridian Community College proved to be an excellent site for SSRR. Administrators welcomed Jan Mesrobian and me last spring, enthusiastically supporting our SSRR. We found five recital areas with adequate seating and space for presentation of awards, workroom, and lunch all in one building! Unfortunately, two of the "recital" rooms had no piano! Mississippi Music to the rescue! Mike Guillot, manager of Mississippi Music's Jackson store delivered two Yamaha grand pianos for our use, as well as Clavinovas for demonstration. Many used the Clavinovas to warm up.

Our District Chairs made copies, arranged for testing areas, engaged judges and coordinated Auditions. When most teachers were back in their studios reviewing their students' evaluations, our chairmen were recording scores, completing income and expense forms and SSRR Eligible reports. Then it was time for SSRR preparation. Again this year, Kay Johnson made numerous phone calls, Carolina Whitfield-Smith and I spent hours at the computer creating the recital book and certificates, Ian Hominick recruited judges, Sandra Polanski made a poster befitting the Outstanding Achievement Awards, and Carol Durham coordinated in the workroom with quiet efficiency. Numerous teachers worked as announcers, monitors and time keepers. Many thanks!



Another successful SSRR!



Jacquelyn Thornell,  
VP for Pre-College  
Activities

Mark your calendars: Audition dates for 2006: April 1 and 8.  
May 6 is the date for 2006 SSRR at University of Mississippi.

*Jacquelyn Sullivan Thornell, NCTM* [jsthornell@bellsouth.net](mailto:jsthornell@bellsouth.net)

*Mississippi Music Teachers Association* SSRR Awards 2005



*Note: Awards are for piano unless another instrument is listed.*



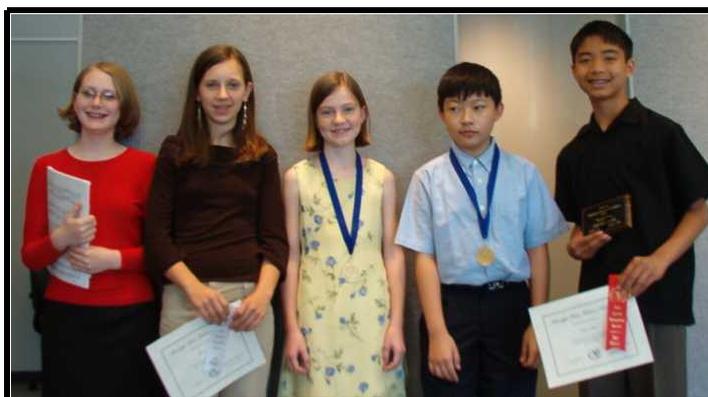
Preparatory Gold Medal: Meng Meng Fang (Dixie Clark), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Grant Zou (Isabella Ivshin), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kristne Gao (Edna Mae McCoy), Brittany Lee (Beth Parker), Casey Park (Nedra Carter), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Linda Cheng (Edna Mae McCoy), Hon Men: Sarah Romero-Chang (Jacquelyn Thornell), Highest Comp.: Kristin Gao (Edna Mae McCoy)



Level II Gold Medal: Austin Nicholson (Steve Russell), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Erin Dyer (Stacy Rodgers), Highest Composite: Rachel Romero (Dixie Clark)



Level IA Gold Medal: Rosalie Doerksen (Diane Wang), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dora Chen (Fen Fang Chen), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Goodloe Chilcutt (Edna Mae McCoy), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Benny Zhang (Cristina Moreland), Honorable Mention: Annie Lu (Isabella Ivshin), Highest Composite: Reid Black (Mildred Dickson)



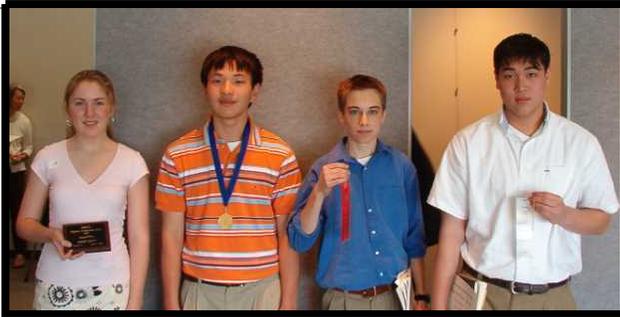
Level III Gold Medal: Andrew Li (Isabella Ivshin), Mary Catherine McKibben (Dixie Clark), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Angelo Sayo (Beth Cape), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Rachel Gunn (Jacqueline Blount) Gwen May (Jan Mesrobian), Highest Composite: Angelo Sayo (Beth Cape)



Level IB Gold: Traci Theisen (Cristina Moreland), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Natalie Payne (Kay Johnson), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Brian Xu (Dixie Clark), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Monique Ma (Carol Durham), Honorable Mention: Catherine Feng (Harold Thompson), Mike Steere (Charlotte Craig), Highest Composite: Katie Howell (Steve Russell), Samiha Karim (Nedra Carter), Brian Xu (Dixie Clark)



Level IV Gold Medal: Gabrielle Richardson (Vincentine Williams), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shaozin Lu (Rachel Heard), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Rachel Mast (Frankie Harpole), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Elizabeth Benson (Judith Allen), Highest Composite: Rachel Mast (Frankie Harpole)



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Level V Gold Medal: Bowen Zhou (Karen Laubengayer), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Colin McDearman (Annette Joe), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jonathan Feng (Harold Thompson), Highest Composite: Mary Gray (Peg Oakes)

Level VIII Honorable Mention : Meleah Bertelmann (Carol Durham) Highest Composite: Jonathan Szymanski (Sue Hover)



Level VI Gold Medal: Becky Armour (Theresa Sanchez), Hank Hwang (Annette Joe), Molly Savoy (Janet Gray), Emily Sawyer (Isabella Ivshin), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sam Bateman (Jan Mesrobian), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Greg Sorensen (Jan Mesrobian), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Joseph Richards (Nedra Carter), Highest Composite: Sam Bateman (Jan Mesrobian)

Sonata/Sonatina Division A Gold Medal: Casey Park (Nedra Carter)



Level VII Gold Medal: Greg McCloud (Joan Harris), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chelsea Lindley (Peggy Oakes), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Samantha Nowicki (Ellen Gunn), Whitney Follin (Senita Webb), Highest Composite: Nathan Jones (Ellen Gunn)



Sonata/Sonatina Division B Gold Medal: Dora Chen (Fen Feng Chen), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Monique Ma (Carol Durham), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Brian Xu (Dixie Clark), Natalie Payne (Kay Johnson), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Traci Theisen (Cristina Moreland)

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Sonata/Sonatina Division C Gold Medal: Andrew Li (Isabella Ivshin), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Shaoxin Lu (Rachel Heard), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Gabrielle Richardson (V. Williams), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: David Harrison (Louise Adams)



Sonata/Sonatina Division E Gold Medal: Dee Wu (Isabella Ivshin), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Katy Saxton (Joan Henderson-Leese), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kaylina Madison (Joan Henderson-Leese), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Jessica Sawyer (Isabella Ivshin)



Theme & Variations – Division B Gold Medal: Erin Dyer (Stacy Rogers)



Sonata/Sonatina Division D Gold Medal: Emily Sawyer (Isabella Ivshin)



Theme & Variations – Division C Gold Medal: Gabrielle Richardson (Vincentine Williams)



Ensemble Division D Honorable Mention: Jonathan Feng/Eulen Jang (Harold Thompson)



Ensemble Division C Gold Medal: Ali Alexander/Lexie Smith (Ellen Gunn)



Ensemble Division B Gold Medal: Catherine Feng/Alexander Zhu (Harold Thompson)



Ensemble Division E Gold Medal: Darren Scoggin/Ben Weber (Ellen Gunn)



Voice - Division VI Gold Medal: Katie Chmelicek (B. Stephenson), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lily Grace Hudson (Dixie Clark), Julia Webb (Barbara Stephenson), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Emily Ross (Dixie Clark)



Flute - Division C Gold Medal: Boram Lee (Karen Bates)



Voice - Division V Gold Medal: Caitlin Broom (Barbara Stephenson)



Voice - Division VII Gold Medal: Samantha Nowicki (B. Stephenson)



Voice - Division VIII Gold Medal: Ellen Johnson (Laura Broughton)



Strings – Division A Gold Medal: Isabella Palakpak (Dolores Saenz), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Wynter Hilbun (Gail Gwozdz), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Rebecca Reeves (Gail Gwozdz), 4<sup>th</sup> Place Trista Magee (Gail Gwozdz)



Strings – Division B Gold Medal: Traci Theisen (Gail Gwozdz), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Josie Lassen (Gail Gwozdz), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Alex Fan (Gail Gwozdz)



Strings – Division C Gold Medal: Hannah Roberts (Gail Gwozdz), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Nathan Lin ( Delores Saenz), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Henry Wang (Gail Gwozdz)



Strings – Division D Gold Medal: Boram Lee (Gail Gwozdz), Lindsey Hawkins (Gail Gwozdz), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Timothy Lin (Gail Gwozdz), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jessica Lyga (Jennifer King), 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Arielle Barrientos (Jennifer King)



Strings – Division E Gold Medal: Cierra Thornton (Jennifer King)

Theme and Variation—

Division E Honorable Mention:  
Darren Scoggins (Ellen Gunn)- see picture with Ensemble E Piano

Theme and Variation—

Division D Honorable Mention:  
Molly Savoy (Janet Gray)- see picture with Level VI Piano



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*tracy@vicksburg.com. Please include the title of the product, the company that produces it, cost, and a short description of the product and how it has been helpful in your studio.*

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***Moonlight Fantasy*** by Melody Bober, Late Intermediate, \$2.95, FJH Music (commissioned by HMTL for their Composer Festival Workshop with Melody Bober on Friday, Nov. 18 from 9:30 - 11:30 AM) The HMTL requests that piano teachers wait to purchase the piece at the festival workshop so they can buy it at a special discount and have it autographed by Melody Bober. Special thanks to Laura Broughton for sharing this information. The first paragraph that follows is a verbatim description of the piece from Melody Bober, and the final paragraph contains Laura's comments after playing the piece many times and after teaching it to a student.

"Moonlight Fantasy" is a late intermediate rhapsody that will challenge the pianist with a variety of scale passages, arpeggios, left hand melody, and changes in tempo, key and mood. Just as the moon gives a luminous reflection in the night sky, so this piece will be a bold reflection of the performer's skill and musicianship.

This is a dramatic piece with a virtuoso flair that will be a welcome addition to the late intermediate repertoire. Your students will love showing off their skills with this solo at a studio recital or during an audition.



## Meet the New Board Members

Gena Everitt is currently teaching voice at Belhaven College. She previously taught at Hinds CC and Jones County Junior College. Gena maintained a private voice and piano studio for 27 years. She is a member of Music Forum of Jackson, Chaminade Music Club, National Association of Teachers of Singing and received Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.



Gena Everitt

Gena serves as MMTA Secretary and will be beginning a term as president of Music Forum of Jackson.



Cheryl Coker

Cheryl Coker, Vocal Performance Chair, received her BMed and MM in vocal performance from the University of Southern Mississippi and the DMA in vocal performance at the University of Minnesota. As a soprano soloist, she has performed with the USM Symphony, Tupelo Symphony, the Mississippi Symphony, and in numerous churches. These performances have included such works as Haydn's *Creation*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, and Honegger's *King David*. Operatic and theatrical roles include Carlisle Floyd's *Flower and Hawk*, Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*, and Jones/Schmidt's *The Fantasticks*. She is an active member of NATS, MTNA, CMS, and other professional music organizations and has served as an officer at various levels in several of these organizations.

She is especially interested in the role of women in music, and her DMA work included an in-depth study of women in music. She co-chaired a conference held at Millsaps College in 2003 entitled *Voices of Women in the Arts - The Sphere of Musical Composition* and premiered a work written by Judith Zaimont entitled *Virgie Rainey - Two Narratives* (for soprano, mezzo soprano, and piano) at this conference and also performed it in Minneapolis. She has served on the Millsaps faculty since 1984.



## LOCAL AFFILIATE NEWS

### GOLDEN TRIANGLE MUSIC FORUM

The past 2004-2005 school year proved to be a busy one for the Golden Triangle Music Forum! Our first meeting of the year was held on June 26, 2004, at the home of Harold Thompson and then a wonderful lunch at Harvey's Restaurant. On September 18, 2004, we met at Dixie Clark's home to finalize details for upcoming events, enjoy wonderful refreshments, and talk shop. November 4-6, 2004, was State Convention at Hinds Community College, and GTMF was well represented. We had our first GTMF Student Musicale coordinated by Dixie Clark on November 13, 2004, at the Mississippi State Music Department's Choral Building and all studios were represented. GTMF had an informal meeting at the home of Laura Stokes on January 8, 2005 to prepare for the spring semester. A Dutch treat lunch followed. January 27, 2005, was the date of the Area Keyboard Festival at which all members were either judging or had students participating! January 31, 2005 was a special day for GTMF as we sponsored a marvelous concert given by Constance Carroll at McComas Hall on Mississippi State University Campus. GTMF coordinated and served an elegant reception afterwards. Starkville Piano Symposium, coordinated by Laura Stokes, was held Saturday, February 12, at the Music Education Department at Mississippi State University. The Symposium Honors Recital, recognizing Superior performances by students at the Symposium, was held on February 17 at the First Baptist Church Chapel in Starkville.

The Federated Festival was held on February 26 at First Baptist Church in Columbus and was gracefully organized by Jessica Riddell. On March 5, we had an excellent Master Class by Master Teacher Amanda Pennick of Alabama. Many students participated in this master class. Edna Mae McCoy did a marvelous job, as usual, coordinating the local MMTA Auditions held at First Baptist in Columbus on April 9. This was followed on April 28 by the second annual Jean Taylor Memorial Scholarship Concert featuring students who qualified for SSRR on May 14. Dixie Clark did a wonderful job of coordinating this recital. The two judges for the evening were Rosangela Sebba of Starkville-MSU and Sandy Coutamanous of Tupelo. Clay Taylor, Sr. presented the awards to the winners of each category. We had a total of 36 students who participated and many winners. A total of over \$1100.00 was given in scholarships that evening. This year has been a rather successful one for all students and teachers! We are looking forward to another exciting year this fall!

*Laura Stokes*

### Meet the New Board Members (to be continued in Fall 2005 MMT)



Rosangela Yazbec Sebba

Rosângela Yazbec Sebba is a native of Brazil where she frequently performed in recitals as soloist and/or accompanist and won many first prizes in national competitions. In 1990 she won the prize "Most Talented and Musical" in the National Piano Competition in São Paulo city, and was awarded a series of solo recitals in different cities in Brazil. Her Bachelor's degree is from Universidade Federal de Goiás, Brazil. In 1996 she received her Master's degree in piano performance at the University of Wyoming. At the University of Southern Mississippi, she graduated with her Doctoral degree in piano performance and pedagogy in the year 2000. Major teachers include Belkiss S. Carneiro de Mendonça, Gary Smart, and Stanley Waldoff. She also had master classes with: Arnaldo Cohen, Miguel Proença, Antonio Guedes Barbosa, Luis de Moura Castro, Jean Ives-Thibaudet, and John Browning. In the United States, Rosângela accompanied master classes of renowned artists such as: Winton Marsalis (trumpet), Emerson String Quartet (strings), Joseph Robinson (oboe), Csaba Erdelyi (viola), and Leontyne Price (voice). She also worked with the following conductors: Carlyle Weiss (UWYO), Angelo Dias (Brazil), Gary Adam (USM), Jay Dean (USM), Pablo Selzer (Chile), Helmut Hilling (Carnegie Hall-N.Y.), and Mark Malone (PRCC). She specializes in Brazilian music and has been giving lectures and lectures/recitals in Brazil, United States, Mexico and Costa Rica and has been recently featured in Marquis Who's Who in America 2004. Rosângela has held positions in the State Conservatory in Brazil, The University of Southern Mississippi, Pearl River Community College, and is currently the Assistant Professor at Mississippi State University, where she teaches piano lessons, piano class, theory and ear training. Many of her piano students are winners of first prizes in national piano competitions in Brazil. She frequently teaches piano lessons, intensive courses in piano technique and literature, Brazilian piano literature, and other workshops in Brazil. During summer time, Rosângela Sebba concertizes throughout Brazil, giving solo recitals and performances with orchestras. She is also an active accompanist, working with other colleagues in the Mississippi area.

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## Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

The Hattiesburg Music Teachers League began the second semester with a General Meeting at Wolfe Gang Music. Biljac Burnside, piano technician, gave an extremely interesting and informative program, *A Technician's View of the Piano*. He included a "hands on" portion where we learned how to troubleshoot problems on our own should a piano technician not be on the premises when needed!

The League presented two student recitals at Mississippi Music in the months of February and April to prepare students for the upcoming festivals and pre-college auditions. In February Anne Kathryn Deviney chaired our MFMC Junior Festival for a third year. We had an excellent turnout of 179 students. Anne Kathryn's organization gets better each year! In April, Cristina Moreland and her assistant, Dixie Lawson, met the yearly challenge of MMTA Pre-College Auditions with their usual competency. HMTL had 64 students qualifying for SSRR (some, of course, are double entries).

Lois Leventhal, Camp Scholarship Chair, has announced that HMTL, together with the financial help of Wolfe Gang Music and Mississippi Music, will be sending one student to music camp. Becky Armour, tenth grade student of Theresa Sanchez will be attending the Mississippi Piano Camp.

In April, Nan Porter again organized and ran our Spring Concert for high school students. Nine pianists, three vocalists, one guitar and one violinist presented an excellent program. At the conclusion of the program, two graduating seniors were honored. Teachers participating were Laura Broughton, Susan Fairchild, Gail Gwozdz, Natasa Loncar, Jan and Robert Mesrobian, and Nan Porter.

Laura Broughton, Composer Festival chair, has done a great deal of pre-planning for our Composer festival, Nov. 18-19, 2005. Melody Bober will be our featured composer. We look forward to sharing her music with her and premiering a new Rhapsody which has been commissioned by the League. We hope teachers living near Hattiesburg will attend the Teachers' Workshop on Friday morning. Laura will be sending information to nearby affiliates.

The HMTL will conclude the year at the Spring General Meeting and Luncheon at Jody's Restaurant on May 19. The incumbent officers will begin the second year of their term: Janice Mesrobian, President; Immediate Past President, Lorrie Stringer; Vice President for Programs, Laura Broughton; Vice President for Membership, Kristina Havard; Vice President for Recitals, Gail Gwozdz; Vice President for Publicity, Susan Fairchild; Secretary, David Forbat; and Treasurer, Dixie Lawson.

*Janice Mesrobian, NCTM*

## Music Forum of Jackson

meeting of the year with a luncheon at Keegan's. It was a delightful time and fellowship for all of us. Annette Joe and Rachel Heard gave a brief report of the National Convention. Our nominating committee presented a slate of Officers for 2005-2006. The nominating committee members were: Jacquelyn Thornell, Annette Joe, and Kay Johnson. Our thanks go for their hard work. 2005-2006 officers are:

President, Gena Everitt; President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Patsy Simpson; Vice Pres. of Membership, Debbie Barnes; Vice Pres. of Programs, Rachel Heard and Lynn Raley; Recording Secretary, Patsy Simpson; Corresponding Secretary, Carolina Whitfield-Smith; Treasurer, Brenda Sullivan; Bach Festival Chair, Carol Durham; Sonata/Sonatina Festival, Sandra Polanski; MMTA auditions, Kay Johnson; Social Chair, Tricia Dennis; Publicity, Greta B. Mills; Pianothon, Greta B. Mills; Telephone, Annette Joe; Historian, Mildred Anderson. The Officers will be voted on at our July Luncheon as well as amendments to the Constitution.

I would like to say thank-you to all of the Music Forum Members for their gracious support during my two years as President. It has been certainly a joy to work with each of you. Best Wishes for your summer vacation.

Sincerely, *Patsy Simpson, NCTM*



*Melody Bober*

Music Forum of Jackson is concluding a very busy year. All of us are looking forward to some relaxing summer fun, before it starts all over again in a few months. We had our final

## VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Spring VMTA events included a Beginners' Recital on April 2 at Westminster Presbyterian Church featuring 13 beginner students. Piano Guild auditions were held in early March at First Presbyterian with Barbara Dodson from Hot Springs, AK, as adjudicator. Vicksburg MMTA auditions were held on April 9 at Bowmar Baptist Church. A special Vicksburg Honors recital was held at Hawkins UMC on April 24. All students who scored superior in performance at the Vicksburg auditions were included in the Vicksburg Honors recital. Students who qualified for SSRR were given special recognition.



*April 2005 Vicksburg Beginners Recital Participants*

In a May 8 lunch meeting at Pizza Hut, the group decided to put an ad in the Vicksburg Post to help encourage music study in Vicksburg. Jeanne Evans and Kim Steen worked on this. Katy Saxton, student of Joan Henderson-Leese, presented a senior recital on April 10. Katy plans to major in piano at Delta State University. Mary Katherine Gwin, student of Sheila Hess, presented her senior recital on May 22 and plans to go to USM next year. *Barbara Tracy*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Reminders

Don't forget to send in your dues.  
 MMTA Executive Board Meeting  
 on August 20, 2005, in Jackson,  
 place TBA  
 MMTA 2005 Conference  
 Nov. 3-5 at Ole Miss



Janet Gray, Treasurer

### *July 2004—April 2005*

<i>Income</i>		
Convention	\$6420.50	
Dues and interest	4244.94	
MMT	395.00	
Pre-College fees	13766.00	
	<b>Total income</b>	<b>24,846.44</b>
<i>Expense</i>		
Convention	11376.47	
Executive committee	3569.49	
Operating expense	701.84	
Newsletter/website	2410.38	
Pre-College	6347.17	
	<b>Total expense</b>	<b>24,405.35</b>
	<b>Net income year to date</b>	<b>441.09</b>

**Assets on hand** \$22,840.91

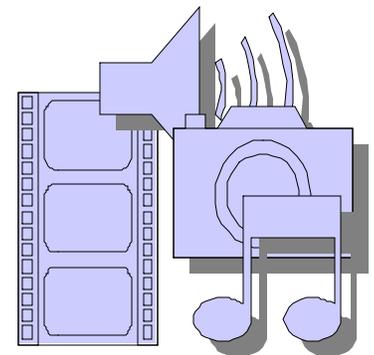
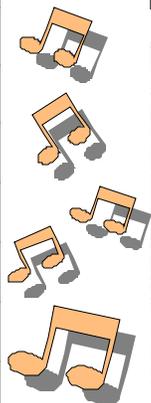
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900 S. Court St.  
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**Susan A. Smith, Chair**

**Sammy Barr, Band**                      **Meri Newell, Woodwinds**  
**Mike Boyd, Guitar**                   **Graham Purkerson, Piano**  
**Gary Cook, Brass**                     **Theresa Sanchez, Piano**  
**Susan A. Smith, Voice**               **Greg Smith, Voice**  
**Martha Tisdale, Piano**               **Mark Taylor, Choir**

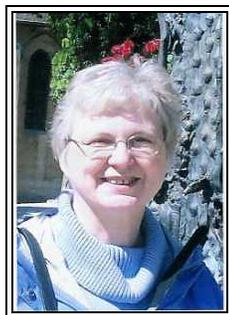
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## FROM THE EDITOR



As I think about the Summer MMT, I also think about vacation possibilities, beautiful blue skies with fluffy clouds, a less demanding schedule, sunshine, and that ad for a super-slimming swim suit. I also think about Joanna's message about the importance of publicity and communication for our organization and profession. Society has become dependent on advertising and publicity—it determines what movies we go to, what music is popular, what we should wear, and keeps us updated on the latest news about the "beautiful people." What impact does this have on music teachers? There will always be students who have to learn about music because it is part of their being, but many students who have not awakened their musical spark need to feel that music is "cool." Part of our mission is to educate parents and students about the joys and advantages of music study, and publicity is a vehicle for this to happen. Our website is accessible to teachers, parents, students, and anyone else who happens to run into us on a web search. Our newsletter is out there to show our music activities and congratulate our award winners (this issue alone features pictures of almost 100 pre-college award winners) and activity participants. It is also the communicator between members all over the state. Please remember that officer reports, local affiliate reports, pictures, and any information you provide is adding to more effective communication and is making music more accessible and "cool."

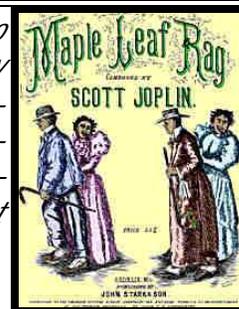


MMT Editor

*Barbara Tracy* e-mail: [tracy@vicksburg.com](mailto:tracy@vicksburg.com)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue, and please think how you can create positive publicity for music in the future. If you have a favorite music product that really adds to your teaching, please share this with our members in the *FROM THE STUDIO* column. Communication helps us grow as teachers, and the sharing process makes our organization stronger. A special thank you to Carolina Whitfield-Smith who has been pursuing advertisers to help keep us in the "black." Remember that our advertisers also have music publicity as a priority—please say thank you or thank them with your patronage.

*Get ready for Ragtime piano music at the 2005 Conference by testing your knowledge of Ragtime Era piano pieces and composers. Match the following—answers can be used twice or not at all.*



- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ___ 1. A Breeze from Alabama | Composers          |
| ___ 2. Who Let the Cows Out? | A. Percy Wenrich   |
| ___ 3. Fig Leaf Rag          | B. Scott Joplin    |
| ___ 4. Grace and Beauty      | C. James Scott     |
| ___ 5. The Grizzly Bear Rag  | D. Joseph Lamb     |
| ___ 6. Kitten on the Keys    | E. Eubie Blake     |
| ___ 7. Whipped Cream Rag     | F. Antonio Vivaldi |
| ___ 8. Fizz Water            | G. George Botsford |
| ___ 9. Top Liner Rag         | H. Cat Stevens     |
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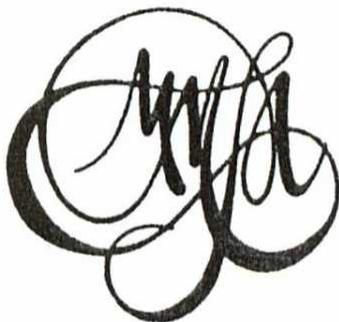
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4 5/8 x 7 (half page)	\$500
7 x 9 ¼ (full page)	\$900

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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