

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
AFFILIATED WITH MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2009

2008 Fall Conference Highlights



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Message from the President



Dear MMTA Members,

I am truly honored to be serving as Mississippi Music Teachers Association's president for the next two years and look forward to working with each of you as we learn and grow as an organization. Please feel free to share your needs and goals throughout my term and I will do my best to help us realize these goals. As I accepted the many boxes from Angela, I realized what a rich history this group has. It was fun to browse through old newsletters and conference booklets to see all the many exciting programs and activities that make MMTA the important organization that it is. I am confident we will have a strong future with such a firm foundation.

As the former president-elect, I would like to briefly report on the 2008 State Conference held Oct. 30, 31, and Nov. 1 at Mississippi College. We had well over 70 people attend our three-day conference. There were two recitals presented with approximately 40 in attendance on Thursday evening for our "New College Faculty Showcase Recital," and over 50 for our MMTA Conference Artists Chamber Music Recital featuring the Silverwood Quartet. Following each of our recitals, MMTA members and guests enjoyed receptions provided by Vicksburg Music Teachers and Music Forum of Jackson. Thanks to those members who help provide lovely conclusions to our musical events.

The "New College Faculty Showcase Recital" highlighted faculty from Delta State University, Mississippi State University, Millsaps College, University of Southern Mississippi, and William Cary University. All who heard the Silverwood Quartet on Friday evening thoroughly enjoyed the eclectic variety in their programming. The commissioned work by Mark Snyder of Delta State University was beautifully performed by our very own, Andrea Cheeseman along with her computer, who was O.K. too.

And while we thoroughly enjoyed guest presenters Barbara Kreader, Jane Abbott-Kirk, and Julie Romeo, as organizer, I am most grateful for our talented members who offered their expertise in presenting six additional sessions: Ian Hominick, Annette Joe, Melody Hanberry, Sandra Polanski, Libby Vanatta, and Angela Willoughby.

The MMTA Pre-college Concerto Competitions were successfully held on Saturday afternoon during our conference. I offer many thanks to Janet Gray for organizing this event. And as always, the MTNA competitions went smoothly in large part to Sharon Lebsack and her many hours spent pulling so many loose ends together.

Finally, I attended the Southern Division Conference in Petersburg, VA, January 16-19. During the conference we learned that the MTNA national committee on competitions has voted to eliminate the concerto component of the MTNA Sr. and Young Artists Piano competitions. I was also asked by Richard Scott, Director-Elect for Southern Division, to gather any ideas you may have on membership recruitment and retention. I will happily relay any ideas you may have back to him for his report to national. Congratulations are in order for two of our Mississippi competitors who were recognized at Southern Division: **Young Artists Chamber Music group, The "Krang Quartet"** (saxophone quartet, coached by Lawrence Gwozdz) from USM was the **winner** and will advance to the national competitions; and **in Junior Piano Taide Ding**, (student of Ian Hominick), was named **alternate**. All of our competitors represented Mississippi well at the Southern Division Competition as I and other Mississippi representatives monitored for several events.

Again, I look forward to serving Mississippi Music Teachers Association for the next two years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Heard

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Dear MMTA Members,

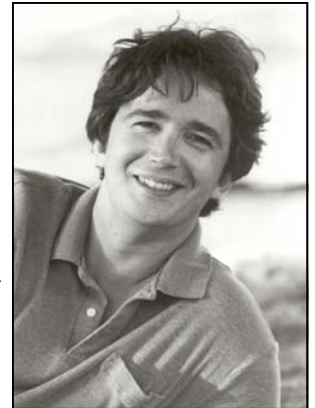
I would like to invite MMTA members to submit a proposal for a presentation during the November, 2009 MMTA Convention in Oxford.

Topics focusing on literature, pedagogy, theory, history, technology, performance, etc. are some of the most obvious areas of interest but

feel free to propose anything you feel might be pertinent to a wide range of membership.

Listed below are titles of the presentations from last November which may be helpful in forming ideas:

- "My Experience with Recreational Music Making"
- "Cracking the Code of the Reluctant Practicer"
- "Preparing for MTNA Certification"
- "Preparing Students for Festivals and Competitions"
- "Schizophrenia in the Studio: Removing the Inhibitions"
- "Technology Tools For Your Teaching Studio"



Ian Hominick

Procedure: Email a brief description of your proposed topic, including the title, to Ian Hominick, ihominic@olemiss.edu.

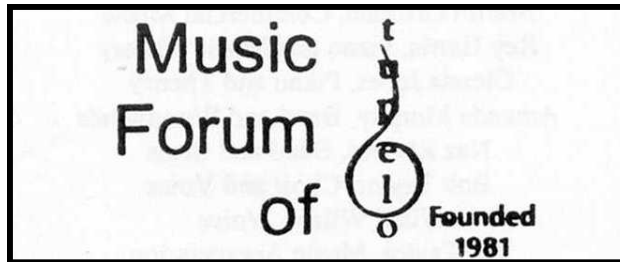
Topic Submission Deadline: June 1

Session Length: 45 minutes

Please contact me with your ideas!

--

Ian Hominick
 Department of Music
 University of Mississippi
 University, MS 38677
 Tel. (662) 915-1282
ihominic@olemiss.edu





Fall Convention 2008

Candid shots



President - Kathie Lott

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



Golden Triangle Music Forum

President—*Laura Stokes*
 Vice President—*Harold Thompson*
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 Pre-College Chair—*Edna Mae McCoy*

Affiliated with MMTA and MTNA

Winners at Convention

See names and categories on MMTA

Website for all Fall 2008 winners



MMTA Past Presidents

1956-2008

- 1955-56 Mark Hoffman
- 1957-58 Roger Phelps
- 1959-60 Grady Cox
- 1961-62 George Mums
- 1963-66 Jack Lyall
- 1967-70 Sigfred Matson
- 1971-72 Jonathan Sweat
- 1973-74 Virginia Hoogenakker
- 1975-76 William Rutledge
- 1977-78 Desmond Kincaid
- 1979-80 George Imbraglio
- 1980-81 Harold Thompson
- 1982-84 Natalia da Roza
- 1984-86 Pat Tuley
- 1986-88 Paul Anderson
- 1988-90 Annette Joe
- 1990-92 Darwin Brooks
- 1992-94 Theresa Sanchez
- 1994-96 Joel Harrison
- 1996-98 Sharon Lebsack
- 1998-00 Carol Schutzmann
- 2000-02 Graham Purkerson
- 2002-04 Donna Banks
- 2004-06 Joanna Burnside
- 2006-08 Angela Willoughby



Winners at Convention continued



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October 31, 2008



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Carol Schutzmann

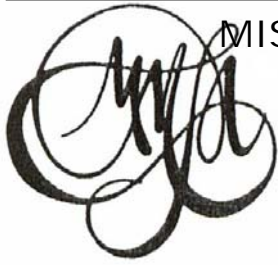
Introducing our 2009 MMTA Commissioned Composer

Justin Sharp

A native of Sebastopol, Mississippi, Justin Sharp is a pianist and composer whose compositions span a variety of styles and mediums, including both acoustic and electronic music. He received a Bachelor of Music degree from Mississippi College in 2002, where he studied with James Sclater. In 2005, he received a Master of Music degree from The University of Texas at Austin and is currently at the University of Texas as a doctoral candidate. There, he has studied composition with Kevin Beavers, Kevin Puts, Dan Welcher, Donald Grantham and electronic music with Russell Pinkston. His compositions have been recently featured on *Around the Town Sounds*, a weekly radio program produced by KOOP radio in Austin, TX. Performances of his music have also been included on the *Wet Ink* concert series, *E.A.R.S.*, and *Hammer/Nail* concerts. On December 6, 2006, the University of Texas New Music Ensemble, conducted by Dan Welcher, premiered his *Conflux Anima*, a work for small chamber ensemble. Sharp has received awards from MMTA, the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters and his works have been featured on numerous music festivals, recently being commissioned by the Angelo State Brass Choir where his *Suite for Brass Choir* was premiered at the 2008 Angelo State Brass Festival.



Justin Sharp



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Fixed Assets

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Equity

Opening Bal. Equity 21,399.51

Retained Earnings -340.79

Net Income 3,042.16

Total Equity 24,099.88

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY **24,099.88**



Andrea Cheeseman
Treasurer

Conference 08

Candid shots?



Receptions are always so beautifully done



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Mike Boyd, Guitar	Kay Guiles, Piano
Carrie Strickland, Brass	Theresa Sanchez, Piano
Susan A. Smith, Voice	Greg Smith, Voice
Michael Rushing, Piano	Mark Taylor, Choir
Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band	

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WORKSHOP



Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

Hattiesburg Music Teacher League Report

The HMTL held its first meeting of 2009 on Saturday, January 24, at Mississippi Music. This was held in conjunction with a work day for teachers participating in our local NFMC Festival coming up in February. After the conclusion of the work day and business meeting, Dr. Victoria Johnson presented a program, "Teaching the Millennial Generation," which proved to be both informative and helpful to our members. Vickie is a new member of the HMTL, having moved to Hattiesburg last summer from Baton Rouge, where she had been the head of the Piano Pedagogy Department at the LSU School of Music.

Another new league member is Melanie Heusser, who was introduced at the meeting. Melanie moved to Hattiesburg with her family from Alaska and she teaches both traditional and Suzuki piano.

Our spring semester promises to be a very busy one, as usual. HMTL student recitals are scheduled for both February 14 and April 18 in the recital hall of Mississippi Music. Our NFMC Junior Festival will be held at William Carey University on February 21 and our MMTA Pre-College Auditions will be held at USM on April 4. A special highlight of our year is the annual HMTL Spring Concert, which features performances by outstanding students of league members. Our Spring Concert will be held in the Lucille Parker Art Gallery at William Carey University. Our year concludes with a general business meeting and luncheon, which is scheduled for May 14 at Season Restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Laura Broughton, NCTM

HMTL President



League of Meridian Music Teachers

The League of Meridian Music Teachers reports that they currently do not have a President serving as of publication of this issue..

Joyce Tillery is serving as the MMTA auditions' contact person for Meridian and they do plan to go ahead with auditions as normal. Her phone number, should you need to contact her, is listed with the MMTA officers at the back of this Mississippi Music Teacher issue under League of Meridian Music Teachers.

LOCAL AFFILIATE NEWS—GULF COAST MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

PAUL SHEFTEL, renowned pianist, composer and pedagogue, was a guest on the Mississippi Gulf Coast on October 4, 2008, courtesy of Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association and grants from Mississippi Music Teachers Association and Music Teachers National Association.

Mr. Sheftel was presented at Jefferson Davis Campus of Miss. Gulf Coast Community College. His workshop for Coast music teachers encouraged new ways to stimulate [music] student retention in this age of so-much-to-do-in-so-little-time. The morning sessions consisted of computer technology in the teaching studio. Many aspects of note-reading, theory and chord analysis are now accessible for instruction through digital keyboards and computer technology. Mr. Sheftel is integral in the development of programs through time-warptech.com. I certainly found them very interesting and encourage any tech-savvy teachers to investigate them also!

The afternoon session of Mr. Sheftel's workshop focused on approaching the student in a private lesson. A special guest was Blake Migues, teenage student of a local GCMTA member. Mr. Sheftel and Migues had previously met and worked a lesson via web-cam! The success of that encounter was proved as young Migues played. Then Mr. Sheftel asked Mr. Migues to cooperate in a demonstration of other teaching techniques and perspectives.

Sheftel presented a public performance at MGCCC/Jeff Davis that evening. In addition to performing excerpts from many standard pieces of literature, Mr. Sheftel enlightened us on concepts for determining performance styles according to various historic periods. His performance and insights were very well-received.

Aside from this visit by Mr. Sheftel, Gulf Coast has been taking care of routine business. We have been preparing for our annual Gulf Coast Music Festival (fund-raiser), Pre-college evaluations, and making plans for our Senior Award. GCMTA finally has a tax i.d. as of January 2009, so we can officially enjoy benefits of non-profit status through the National association. Our usual Christmas Luncheon at the Gautier home of Peggy Peterson was, as always, a wonderful fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Young-McGrath, B.M.

Pres., Gulf Coast Music Teachers Assoc.

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LOCAL AFFILIATE NEWS— JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

JCMTA held its annual Showcase Recital on Sunday, November 16, 2008, showcasing students in piano performance and including for the first time this year, our student composers.

On Saturday, January 16, 2009, the association held its 28th annual Solo and Sonata Competition with Dr. Ian Hominick as adjudicator. Students from the sixth through twelfth grades participated in this event.

Association meetings were held prior to both of these events. We will also have brief business meetings at the Ensemble Festival and MMTA auditions, in addition to having a luncheon meeting in June and a meeting in July to determine literature for the upcoming Solo and Sonata Competition, and to select the Ensemble Festival music list.

Upcoming events include the thirty-fifth annual Ensemble Festival on Saturday, February 28, 2009 and the local MMTA Auditions on Saturday, March 28, 2009.

Janine Beasley, President

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Ian Hominick

Stacy Rodgers

Diane Wang

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LOCAL AFFILIATE NEWS—VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Barbara Tracy President

The first event of the year for VMTA was the annual Boys' Recital on November 9 at First Christian Church. A workshop hosted by Ian Hominick was held on January 31 at the Southern Cultural Foundation. The title of the workshop was Music Choreography and included the performance of several pieces and a discussion of how to make the music happen. The workshop was facilitated by a local affiliate grant from MMTA. Students of all ages were invited along with teachers and others interested in piano music. Door prizes were included as an incentive for student attendance. The workshop was presented in honor of Shelby Martin, who passed away in December 2008. Shelby organized VMTA and served as our first president. She also provided musical inspiration to many students and teachers during her 50 years of teaching in Vicksburg.

Upcoming events include a Sacred Songs and Solos recital in February, Beginners' Recital in March, MMTA auditions on April 4, and Vicksburg Honors recital in April.

Barbara Tracy, President

January 31, 2009

LOCAL AFFILIATE NEWS—MUSIC FORUM OF TUPELO
--

Music Forum of Tupelo has been very busy preparing for the annual Federated Music Clubs Junior Festivals with teachers from Pontotoc, Blue Mountain, Houston, and Tupelo. This is always a busy time and three scholarships to piano camp were awarded this year to worthy students.

We have also had one recital and another to come in the spring. So many of our students are involved in other activities (show choirs, basketball, etc.), as I am sure many of yours are that it is difficult for them to find time to practice.

Of course we are also now gearing up for MMTA's local auditions so there are always new challenges to keep us focused on the growth and improvement of our students.

Peggy Oakes President

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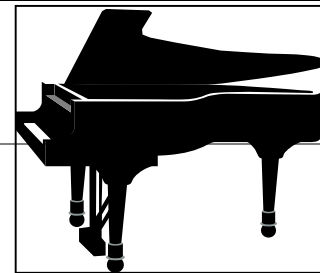
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Phyllis Lewis-Hale phyllis.lewis-hale@jsums.edu
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MMTA Performance Area Chairs

FROM THE STUDIO: **MUSIC TEACHING PRODUCTS**

Please send your favorite successful teaching product information to the MMT Editor via email: dbrooks@network-one.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.



I have recently used some new materials from FJH music called "In Recital." This series includes 4 sets of books: In Recital Throughout the Year (two volumes available), In Recital with Classical Themes, In Recital Duets, and In Recital with Christmas Favorites. All are edited by Helen Marlais, and all the books include CD's. The Classical Themes series is a good source of material for older beginners or adults. It includes good arrangements of some of the beautiful classical themes that many students have not even heard. The "In Recital Throughout the Year" volumes include some wonderful new teaching pieces by the FJH composers. Several duets are also included in the "Throughout the Year" or "Classical Theme" series. All the books include explanatory information and each series is offered with a book for each level starting with Early Elementary to Late Intermediate. Each book costs about \$7 and includes about 8-13 selections.

Check out your music store or music website for these new products.

"In Recital" by FJH Music



FROM THE MMT EDITOR

This first attempt of mine to produce a MMT has been a very educational one to say the least. I realize that there are probably several errors and omissions that I regret, but I thank all of you who have been so helpful in its preparation. Each Spring it seems that our obligations increase. Other teachers tell me about their students, the workloads, busy schedules that never seem to end, and goals that they really want to achieve. Our organization, MMTA, will continue to be an asset to us as long as we actively participate and share our ideas with each other. Please send me news and photos of your local associations and State activities for inclusion in future issues.

I must thank Barbara Tracy, our former Vice President for Public Relations. And I must acknowledge that I am re-using many of her ideas in these publications. The Executive Committee authorized the purchase of the 2007 Microsoft Office Publisher program which I am using, but I am also using many of the original templates set up by Barbara in previous editions. I don't think that this first publication of mine would have happened on time without her assistance and advice. Please let me know if you have information that needs to be shared through our publications as early as possible before each issue.

dbrooks@network-one.com



L. Darwin Brooks

Calendar

March 7: Collegiate auditions at MS College

2009 Pre-College Audition dates:

March 28

Ellisville - Ellen Gunn

Gulf Coast - Carol Mahler

Golden Triangle - Edna Mae McCoy

April 4

Jackson - Kay Johnson

Hattiesburg - Cristina Moreland/Dixie Lawson

Meridian - Joyce Tillery

Tupelo - Janet Gray/Sandy Coutoumanos

Vicksburg - Barbara Tracy

Holmes CC (Goodman) - Donna Banks

Oxford - Adrienne Parks

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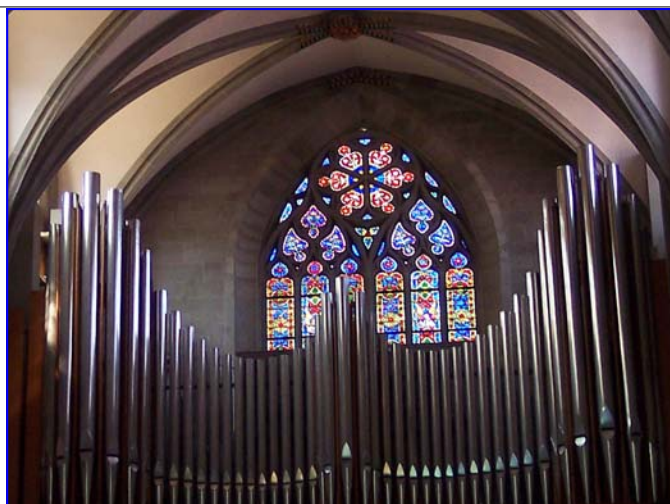
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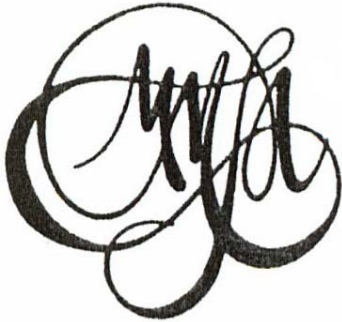
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2 ¼ x 1	\$70
2 ¼ x 2 ¼	\$120
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2 ¼ x 7	\$240
4 5/8 x 4 5/8	\$275
4 5/8 x 7 (half page)	\$500
7 x 9 ¼ (full page)	\$900

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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