

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring Pictures from the 2012 MMTA
Collegiate Competitions

**Plan to attend our 2012
Conference November 2-3 at
Belhaven University in Jackson.**

Message from the President

It has been an interesting year for both MMTA and MTNA as we have sought to find acceptable solutions for issues affecting membership. The most notable dilemma was, of course, the ill-conceived notion of eliminating all non-piano competitions at the national level. After much discussion among state presidents and elected leaders, this earlier decision was rescinded after the national Board met in early December. One positive thing that has emerged from our discussions has been a dialogue. State Presidents have undertaken two teleconferences since November, the most recent one in March, aimed at an exchange of ideas on issues that affect us all ... recruiting, state conferences, membership retention, technology, etc. I think this closer communication bodes well for the

future exchange of ideas and the sharing of experience that will serve to assist those individuals who follow in our footsteps. Additionally, MTNA has now reintroduced their Leadership Summit for state leaders which will be held separate from the national convention and allow for far more in-depth interaction among members.

I had the pleasure of attending the MTNA National Convention in New York City in March, joined by colleagues Barbara Tracy, Pat Tuley, Kay Johnson, Annette Joe and Rachel Heard. As expected, the convention presented many fine presentations by the leading pedagogues of our field in addition to keynote presentations by Menahem Pressler, Benjamin Zander and Stecher & Horowitz. Although we did not reap any winners from the competitive events, our senior piano

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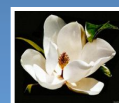
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Message from the President (continued)

representative, Taide Ding, played extremely well and did us proud. Our esteemed colleague Dr. Harold Thompson was honored at the MTNA Banquet as Mississippi's sixth Foundation Fellow.

I would like to express my appreciation for the fine work of the Executive Board and, especially, to several individuals who have distinguished themselves in their pursuit to improve both the scope and mechanics of MMTA. Phyllis Lewis-Hale did a tremendous job of recruiting vocal competitors to the March collegiate competitions and is a regular contributor at our quarterly Board meetings in Jackson. Barbara Tracy, as always, is super-efficient in her preparation of the MAC Grant proposal and planning for our Fall Conference. Alice Ballard has done tremendous work in preparing for the pre-college evaluations and Finals. She has had to deal with many changes and revisions and has devoted herself, without complaint, to this worthwhile but burdensome task. Ben Williams, with assistance from Rita Caviness, has been instrumental in cleaning up pre-existing theory tests and we will continue to draw on his technical expertise as revisions and updates continue. Janine Beasley's computer savvy has been most welcome at a



Ian Hominick

time when much of our material has been shifting on line and communication amongst membership has been critical. Stephanie Holmes continues to produce an impressive electronic version of MMT and her time and efforts are much appreciated by us all. Michael Rushing continues to crunch the numbers for us as treasurer and keep us honest and "in the black." I was especially pleased when Joanna Burnside accepted our invitation to serve as MTNA Certification Chair back in the Fall, drawing on a family legacy of service in this area. Ellen Elder has now mastered the art of running both the MMTA and MTNA competitions and has devoted much time and effort into making these run as smoothly as possible. Yvonne Young-McGrath has played a huge role as both Secretary and in rejuvenating the Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association.

As we all take some time to relax this summer and prepare for the upcoming school year, please do not be shy about making suggestions as to how MMTA can continue to grow and serve you better. Please know that I am always open to suggestions for improvements to our organization and will endeavor to create opportunity for the students and teachers of our State. Let's all block out the first weekend of November and plan to come together for a weekend of music-making, learning and fellowship at our annual Convention.

Respectfully,

Ian Hominick, MMTA President



Barbara Tracy

President-Elect's Message

The **2012 MMTA Conference** will be **November 2-3, 2012, at Belhaven University in Jackson**. We look forward to seeing the Belhaven campus, and **Dr. Stephen Sachs** (Belhaven Music Department Chair) will be our host. This year's guest artist will be from the vocal area; and we welcome **Richard Heard**, tenor, from Wake Forest University for our guest artist recital with **Theresa Sanchez** as accompanist. Richard is releasing a CD this summer on the songs of Florence Price, and his program will include selections by Florence Price and other African-American art songs and spirituals. Richard will be presenting a masterclass, and we plan to incorporate some presentations with a vocal focus. Our guest piano clinician will be **Robert Vandall** who will present an

Alfred Publisher session and a session on his duet music. Robert's wife, Karen, may be able to accompany him. We are planning additional Vandall sessions for Saturday and also plan to present student recitals and/or masterclasses featuring Vandall music. Alfred Music will be assisting with Robert Vandall's expenses, and **Morrison Brothers** will have a music display. Our commissioned composer will be **James Sclater** from Clinton, MS. Dr. Sclater will compose a woodwind trio, and he needs no introduction since he was on the faculty at MC for many years. **Kevin Chance** from University of Alabama will be our IMTF luncheon speaker and judge for the concerto competition. His topic will be "Let's Duet! Inspiring Student Artistry Through Ensembles."

We had a good attendance at last year's conference, and we want to encourage all members and guests to attend the 2012 Conference at Belhaven. The registration fee will be \$20 for both members and guests (students will be free). Encourage your colleagues and friends to attend. We have opportunities for member presentations at the conference. If you would like to present, please contact me at the email address below with a title and summary of what you would like to present. Please send these proposals by August 1 so we can look at them at our August conference meeting. Remember that we would like to include events of interest to our colleagues who specialize in areas besides piano. We also plan a new faculty recital for Friday afternoon, November 2. Participants on this recital do not need to be MMTA members. Please contact me if you or a colleague has interest in performing on this recital.

The pre-college recitals at last year's conference were very successful, and we want to include them again this year. We would like to have performances of Robert Vandall's music by pre-college students. I will be contacting local affiliate representatives about this. We would also like to give our MMTA Pre-College Gold Medal winners a chance to perform at our conference. I will be contacting the teachers involved with information. If we have interest, we would like to offer a composition session with Robert Vandall for pre-college students. Please contact me if you have a student that would like to play their composition for Robert Vandall. **Remember that the first student recital at an MMTA Conference was in 1956 at Belhaven.**

JCJC supplied video of the 2011 conference sessions and concerts, and this wonderful resource was used to create a summary DVD for use in our 2012 MAC grant request. These video resources are available if any local affiliate groups would like to view one of the 2011 conference sessions. Our MAC grant request for \$5000 (submitted on March 1) included a DVD with a summary of the 2011 conference plus plans and budget for our 2012 conference. Please thank our MS representatives for supporting the arts in Mississippi. Remember that several MS groups also advance the arts by partnering with Carnegie Hall.

I attended the MTNA conference in New York at the end of March. All the conference sessions were excellent and the conference was very well-planned. I came home with lots of new music ideas and also some insight into using technology in my studio. We had evenings free so we could enjoy Broadway shows, Carnegie Hall performances and the wonderful NY restaurants. The combo made for a very uplifting and fun experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Tracy

Email: barbara9872@att.net

Treasurer's Report



Michael Rushing

March Collegiate Competition

Income:	\$1684.89
Expense:	\$1709.69
Total:	\$-24.80

Precollege Evaluations

Income:	\$12,009
Expense:	\$10,008.40
Total:	\$2000.60

Balance Sheet as of July 1, 2012

Checking:	\$10,666.44
CD1:	\$11,614.88
CD2:	\$6712.09
Total Assets:	\$28993.41

Vice President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

As of June 1, 2012, 70 members are listed for the 2012-2013 year. Two of these are new members (Jackson and Clinton). 40 paid dues in April, and 30 have paid dues in May.

Website changes:

Changed syllabus, and application deadline dates for MMTA College Competitions. Syllabus included graduate category.

Changed College Chamber application to charge \$20 instead of \$25.

Added NCTM to appropriate officers on officers page.

Uploaded theory tests and other associated documents (ear training, sightreading, technical sheets, test answer keys, etc.) to the website for area chairs to download, as well as checklists and other helpful information.

Ongoing: miscellaneous updates as needed.

Continue to send mass emails to members as requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley



Vice President for Pre-College Performances

On Saturday, May 5, 2012, the MMTA Pre-College Finals were held at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. It was a great day of musical competition and excellence. There were 335 eligible student entrants, with 214 entrants participating on that day.



Alice Ballard

President Ian Hominick presented awards while Stephanie Holmes, Vice-President for Public Relations, took pictures for the *MMT*. The University of Mississippi Music Department graciously provided a hospitality room for the judges, teachers, and workers. Adrienne Park coordinated all food arrangements for the day.

Lunch was catered by Lenny's Sub Shop and teachers paid \$7.00 per sandwich box. Lunch receipts totaled \$221.00. Program booklets were sold for \$3.50 each; booklet sales generated \$552.75.

This year, there were a number of Eight-Year Achievement Award Winners, nine in all. 210 High Composite Score certificates were awarded. Ten judges were needed for the many recitals that took place; there were eight piano judges, one voice judge, and one strings judge.

The Pre-College Finals were successful this year, thanks to the efforts of many dedicated individuals. In the early stages of planning, Ricki Prewitt secured judges, which was a great help. Gail Fox arranged awards and medals. On competition day, twenty-five devoted teachers worked hard to monitor, announce, and keep time during the recitals, with the assistance of a few dedicated parents. Five teachers manned the workroom and issued medals, ribbons, and certificates expeditiously. Four colleagues staffed the information table, selling programs and lunches. Ole Miss music students generously gave their time by working in various capacities during the competitions. We could not have done it without them!

Thank you, District Chairs, for your indispensable work in the local auditions preceding the Finals. I am grateful for the work given by President Ian Hominick and Adrienne Park as they hosted our competitions. Sincere appreciation is extended to Dr. Charles R. Gates, Chair of the Ole Miss Department of Music, for allowing our organization to use the wonderful facilities.

Next year, the District Evaluations will be held the first and second Saturdays in April. Group B (Columbus/Starkville, Ellisville, Oxford, Vicksburg) will audition first on April 6, 2013. Group A (Goodman, Gulf Coast, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian, and Tupelo) will audition second on April 13. The MMTA Pre-College Finals are scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2013, at Hinds Community College in Raymond. This information will be available on the msmusicteachers.org website.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ballard, NCTM

Vice-President for Pre-College Performances

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions



Ellen Price Elder

The MMTA Collegiate Competitions were held on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at Jones County Junior College. There were 84 entries this year. I would like to thank the faculty and staff of JCJC for so graciously hosting the MMTA competitions. Jones County Junior College student workers were also there to assist whenever needed.

There were five judges this year, and master classes were offered at the end of every competition. I would also like to thank Dr. Jackie McIlwain, who stepped in at the last minute to judge the chamber music competition.

Here is the breakdown of entries in each division:

Fr/So Piano – 11

Fr/So Strings – 4; Jr/Sr Strings – 3; Graduate Strings--4

Fr/So Voice – 8; Jr/Sr Voice – 14; Aria – 13

Fr/So WW – 4; Jr/Sr WW – 4; WW Concerto – 6

Jr/Sr Chamber – 4 groups (13 entrants)

Participation was much better this year – from 35 contestants last year to 84 this year! However, participation in some areas was lacking, which forced the cancellation of some competitions – this affected Junior/Senior Piano (only 2 entrants). Also, there were no entrants in the brass or guitar competitions, so these areas need improvement. The voice and strings competitions showed a dramatic increase in participation, thanks to the recruiting efforts of voice area chair, Phyllis Lewis-Hale, and strings area chair Alexander Russakovsky!

Please remember that the application deadline for the MTNA competitions is approaching-- September 12. I would encourage you to enter your students in the MMTA state competitions as well as the MTNA competitions. Please recruit students to compete in the new MMTA "Emerging Artist" and Graduate categories. These are wonderful opportunities for our students to perform and compete. Please encourage your institutional colleagues who are members of MMTA to enter their students in these events as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Price Elder, D.M.A.

Vice-President for Collegiate and National Competitions

Certification Chair

Every profession requires specific skills. Not everyone knows that you have all the musical skills to be the best instructor for them or their child. Certification is an investment in your career, your livelihood, and your future. If you are interested in obtaining MTNA certification in your specific area, please do not hesitate to contact me. As your MTNA State Certification Chair, I am here to help make the process easier, and even fun!

Joanna Burnside, NCTM

Joanna.burnside@mqccc.edu

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- **To increase your earnings potential**

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Succinctly stated on the MTNA web site (see below), certification in the music profession can help us all.

The MTNA Professional Certification Program exists to improve the level of professionalism within the field of music teaching. It benefits the members of the profession itself, as well as the public who interacts with the professional. For the music teaching professional, certification provides prestige, recognition and the potential for student recruitment and increased earning power. For the public, certification helps readily identify competent music teachers in their communities.

The program is based upon a set of five standards defining what a competent music teacher should know and be able to do. Upon fulfillment of these standards, applicants are granted the MTNA Professional Certification credential with the designation, Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM). All music teachers actively engaged in the profession are eligible for MTNA Professional Certification.

To learn more about obtaining MTNA certification, go to:

<http://www.mtnacertification.org/process/>



Mississippi Music Teachers Association

COLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS

MARCH 3, 2012

JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

Piano Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

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

Second Place: Thomas Ranshaw (Theresa Sanchez, Jones County Junior College)

Honorable Mention: Maggie McLinden (Stephen Sachs, Belhaven University)

Woodwind Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Kristen Anderson (Meri Newell, Jones County Junior College)

Second Place: Zully Casallas (Euridice Alvarez, University of Southern Mississippi)

Junior/Senior Solo

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

Second Place: Brittany Trotter (Danilo Mezzadri, University of Southern Mississippi)

Honorable Mention: Darius Jones (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Concerto

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

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

Honorable Mention: Jessica Egdorf (Shelley Collins, Delta State University) and

Brittany Trotter (Danilo Mezzadri, University of Southern Mississippi)

Strings Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Pedro Da Silva (Shannon Thomas, University of Southern Mississippi)

Second Place: Ludwing Gonzales (Shannon Thomas, University of Southern Mississippi)

Honorable Mention: Corey Simmons (Shannon Thomas, University of Southern Mississippi)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Francy Orjuela Murcia (Shannon Thomas, University of Southern Mississippi)

Second Place: Camila Patino (Hsiaopei Lee, University of Southern Mississippi)

Honorable Mention: Erin Raber (Shannon Thomas, University of Southern Mississippi)

Graduate Strings:

First Place: Thieres Brandini (Alexander Russakovsky, University of Southern Mississippi)

Second Place: Wen-Chieh Huang (Hsiaopei Lee, University of Southern Mississippi)

Honorable Mention: Ivan Villalobos (Alexander Russakovsky, University of Southern Mississippi)

Voice Competitions

Freshman/Sophomore Solo

First Place: Lauren Rainey (Kimberley Davis, University of Southern Mississippi)

Second Place: Carissa Read (Constance Roberts, William Carey University)

Honorable Mention: Chance Scott Ragsdale (Susan Smith, Jones County Junior College)

Junior/Senior Solo

First Place: Brandon Hayes (Constance Roberts, William Carey University)

Second Place: Katelyn Farris (Constance Roberts, William Carey University)

Honorable Mention: Tiffany Williams (Phyllis Lewis-Hale, Jackson State University)

Aria

First Place: Katelyn Farris (Constance Roberts, William Carey University)

Second Place: Brittany Clark (Constance Roberts, William Carey University)

Honorable Mention: Lauren Rainey (Kimberley Davis, University of Southern Mississippi)

Chamber Music Competitions

Junior/Senior

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

Second Place: Delta State Saxophone Ensemble (Bret Pimentel, Delta State University)

Honorable Mention: Delta State Flute/Clarinet Duet (Collins/Pimentel, Delta State University)

Competition Winners



Freshman/Sophomore Voice



Chamber



Freshman/Sophomore Piano



Freshman/Sophomore Strings with Judge



**Junior/Senior Strings
with Judge**



Graduate Strings



**Graduate Strings with
Dr. Russ and Judge**



**Junior/Senior
Woodwind Solo**



**Woodwind Concerto
with Judge**



**Junior/Senior Voice
with Judge**



Vocal Aria with Judge



**Freshman/Sophomore
Woodwind**

Affiliate News



JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

June 2, 2012

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

A business meeting was held prior to the Ensemble Festival.

Jones County Music Teachers Association participated in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations on April 14, 2012, 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



MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

By Greta-Barbour Mills, past-president

The Music Forum of Jackson has just recently wrapped up another great school year. This past spring we were honored to host the Bach Festival in February at Hinds Community College, and in March we hosted the MTNA Student Competition again at Hinds.

The Board of Directors recently met to begin planning out the new 2012-2013 year, and we passed a new slate of officers as well. Our newly elected president is Jane Fox, a long-time member, wonderful teacher and great leader. It is a privilege to have her on board.

It has been an honor to serve as president of MFOJ!

Respectfully submitted,

Greta Barbour Mills,

Music Forum of Jackson, past-president



Jane Duran Fox, President

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



May 31, 2012

Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with Mississippi Music Teachers Association
and Music Teachers National Association

Est. 1972

Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association held a routine meeting on May 30, 2012 and elected officers for the business year beginning July 12. The slate of new officers is:

President	-	Carol Mahler
Vice President	-	Rebekah Lipscomb
Treasurer	-	Marilyn Leone
Recording Secretary	-	Yvonne Young-McGrath
Corresponding Sec'ty	-	Martha Mayeu

These officers will begin working on a list of members to fill appointed positions.

Our local Pre-college evaluations consisted of 31 students 30% qualified for State Finals. Especially notable from this event:

- A student of Elsie Barnes earned a First Place at State Competition;
- A student Carol Mahler earned an Honorable Mention at State;
- Of the students entered by Rebekah Lipscomb, all were eligible for State (3)
- Eight students from the Coast received High Composite Score certificates.

There was a problem with minimum payment for a judge of only 1 student at our local evaluation, but that has been resolved.

We will once again host a recruitment and end-of-year luncheon in June. This was quite successful last year, and we hope to garner more new members. In August we will meet to plan our event calendar through May 2013.

It was brought to my attention I have been President for 7 years, so I feel compelled to make outgoing remarks.

What a ride - somewhat similar to the time a horse took off with me and, lacking more experience with horses, I was hanging on wrapped around under her neck by the time she stopped! Though I am glad I was able to continue as long as needed, and am also relieved to finally relinquish the position. Credits must be given. My terms would have been disastrous without the mentorship by past presidents Roma DeLaHunt Cole, Carol Schutzmann and Marilyn Leone and tireless assistance from Carol Mahler, Joanna Burnside, and other dedicated members of GCMTA. I also received oft-needed encouragement from old friends Lois Leventhal and Jan Mesrobian and new member-friends across the state. These closer associations have been fulfilling and gratifying. Thank all of you for the support you gave me and Gulf Coast MTA during these years.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Young-McGrath, BM
President, GCMTA

HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE held its second meeting of the academic year on Saturday, January 21 in Marsh Auditorium at the University of Southern Mississippi. Our guest presenter was Dr. Theresa Sanchez. She presented a very informative lecture recital on the music of Amy Beach. This meeting also served as our NFMC workday, as we prepared for the District III MFMC festival, which was held February 18 at William Carey University, with Janice Mesrobian serving as Chair.

HMTL student recitals were held on Saturday, February 11 at 10:30 a.m. Nineteen students performed, representing the studios of Laura Broughton, Victoria Johnson, Jan Mesrobian, Ruby Wilson, and myself. Two student recitals were held on Saturday, April 21 at 9:15 and 10 a.m. Twenty students performed, representing the studios of Victoria Johnson, Dixie Lawson, Jan Mesrobian, Laura Broughton, and Eun-Hee Park. All of these recitals were held at Mississippi Music, Inc., and featured both pre-college and college students. These were wonderful opportunities for our students to gain additional performance experience as they prepared for upcoming auditions, festivals, and competitions. Gail Fox served as HMTL Recital Chair.

Our annual spring concert for students in grades 9-12, took place on Sunday, April 29 at William Carey University. There were nine performers, representing the studios of Laura Broughton, Pamela Finch, Jan Mesrobian, Cristina Moreland, and Eun-Hee Park. Susan Fairchild served as chair of this event.

The MMTA Pre-College District Evaluations were held March 31 at USM. They were organized by Dixie Lawson, chair. Forty-nine students registered, and forty-four students participated on that day. Twenty-seven students were eligible to compete in the Pre-College Finals Competitions held on May 5 at Ole Miss. Several Hattiesburg students received gold medals and other top prizes on that day.

Summer music camp scholarship auditions for our students were held on April 30 at Mississippi Music. Four winners were selected by Lois Leventhal, who served as judge of the event. Two pianists and two violinists were chosen to receive cash awards to attend the summer camp of their choice. They are Allen Huang, piano, student of Jan Mesrobian; Caroline Rhett, piano, student of Ellen Elder (Caroline will attend the Southern Miss Piano Institute Camp); Rachael Reeves, violin, student of Gail Fox; and Rebecca Reeves, violin, student of Gail Fox. Both Rachael and Rebecca will attend the Premier Orchestral Institute.

Our year concluded with a business meeting and luncheon on May 17 at the Purple Parrot Café.

At the May Luncheon, the HMTL elected the following Executive Board and Committee Chairs for 2012–2014:

President - Laura Broughton; Immediate Past President - Ellen Elder; Vice President for Programs - Jan Mesrobian; Vice President for Membership/Web Management - Ellen Elder; Secretary - Tae Young Hong; Treasurer - Dixie Lawson; Nominating - Ellen Elder; Publicity - Eun-Hee Park; Recitals - Pamela Finch; MMTA Evaluations - Dixie Lawson; NFMC Junior Festival - Jan Mesrobian (Diane Caison, assistant); Composer Festival - Victoria Johnson; Music Camp Scholarships - Lois Leventhal; Spring Concert - Susan Fairchild (Gail Fox, assistant); Certification - Victoria Johnson.

We are pleased to welcome three new members to our organization: Euridice Alvarez, Karen Bates, and Dr. Eun-Hee Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Price Elder, DMA

HMTL Immediate Past President

Vice President for Membership/Web Management

Mississippi State University-Piano Area

Piano Retreat

Mississippi State University is offering on January 25 and 26 a Piano Retreat. A day for young pianists entering Grades 7-12, or earlier, who have studied piano for at least two years. The day will include concerts, classroom instruction, a creative class and piano lessons, when students will experience college life in a major university campus.

The Piano Retreat will start on Friday, January 25 at 7:30 pm with a concert featuring students and MSU faculty. On Saturday, January 26, students will experience harpsichord lesson, piano literature, collaborative piano, a creative class as well as private lessons with MSU faculty.

Applicants are required to have at least two contrasting works from different periods. Choose one movement of multi-movement works such as sonatas, suites, partitas, etc...

Students will be required to have their private teacher signature on the form, and *private teachers are welcome to participate in all events free of charge.*

Tuition is \$35.00 by January 5th. After January 6th the tuition is \$45.00. Refunds are not available due to cancellation or no-show, and if the MSU Piano Retreat is canceled, all fees will be fully refunded. For more information about this event visit:

http://www.music.msstate.edu/pdf/areas/piano/1st_annual_piano_retreat.pdf

Pre-College Piano Program

Mississippi State University is proud to offer a pre-college piano program where instructors will be supervised by the MSU piano faculty. Our mission is to provide high quality, non-credit piano lessons to the Starkville community.

Instructors will give 12 hour-lessons per semester, starting the first full week of September, after Labor Day. Students will be required to take a one hour lesson or two half-hour lessons per week for the price of \$20.00 per week. For beginner pianists it is recommended two half hour lessons per week, for intermediate and advanced pianists it is recommended a one hour lessons per week. Tuition must be paid in full at registration before the first lesson. Check must be payable to the instructor. There will be a \$10.00 registration fee for expenses related to administration and semester recital, a total of \$250.00 per semester.

An interview with prospective students and parents/guardians will be scheduled to assess student interest, background and aptitude, and to allow students and teachers to meet. The program will follow the MMTA (Mississippi Music Teachers Association) requirements, a division of MTNA (Music Teachers National Association). For more information about activities and curriculum look under Pre-College Piano at:

<http://www.msmusicteachers.org/competitions-precollege-auditions.php>

All applications should be mailed to: Dr. Rosângela Sebba, P.O. Box 6240, Department of Music, Mississippi State - MS 39762.or fax to: (662) 325-0250

Mark Your Calendar

September 3, 2012 -- Mississippi Music Teacher Ad Sales Deadline

November 2-3, 2012 – MMTA State Conference at Belhaven University in Jackson

November 2, 2012 - MTNA Collegiate Competition at Belhaven University in Jackson

April 6, 2013 - Pre-College District Evaluations, Group B (Columbus/Starkville, Ellisville, Oxford, and Vicksburg)

April 13, 2012 - Pre-College District Evaluations, Group A (Goodman, Gulf Coast, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian, and Tupelo)

May 18, 2013 - MMTA Pre-College Finals, Hinds Community College, Raymond

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

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 seholmes2@hotmail.com.

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Mike Boyd, Guitar

Jeff Brown, Percussion

Kay Guiles, Piano/Organ

Nikki Johnson, Theater/Voice

Victoria Johnson, Piano

Matthew Pickering, Low Brass/Band

www.jcc.edu/programs/finearts

Meri Newell, Woodwinds

Patrick Richards, High Brass

Theresa Sanchez, Piano

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experience **amazing**

Mississippi Music Teacher is published online three times per year. Address all communications, articles, and pictures to the Editor. The MMT is available to the public on the MMTA website in PDF format.

ADVERTISING: Limited advertising space is available for firms or individuals who have a product or service of specific interest or benefit to MMTA members. All correspondence regarding advertising should be sent to the VP for Public Relations.

YEARLY ADVERTISING RATES (size in inches)

2 ¼ x 1	\$70	2 ¼ x 2 ¼	\$120
2 ¼ x 4 5/8	\$170	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		

Conference printed edition ads can be purchased for that one edition for 1/3 of the above prices.

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From the MMT Editor

Meet Juan Rodriguez: Kosciusko High School salutatorian, Bill Gates Millennium Scholar, and my child prodigy.

Juan's parents came to the United States when he was very young. When he started school in Kosciusko, he couldn't speak any English, but he quickly overcame that obstacle through hard work.

I met Juan his freshman year at KHS. He had signed up to take my piano class. Like many of the students who sign up for my class, he knew nothing about reading music or playing the piano, but since Juan is very smart and a hard worker, he quickly caught on to the piano. He went from playing the "baby" songs in the class book to playing more complex pieces.

Juan went on to take my second year piano class and private lessons. It amazes me to see how quickly he grew as a musician. He has turned into an excellent pianist. Juan plans to major in pre-med at Mississippi State in the fall, and even though he isn't going into music as a career, I know he will play for the rest of his life.

Students like Juan are why we teach. He challenged me as a teacher and helped me grow. I hope there are a few child prodigies in your own studios that challenge you in your careers.

Happy Summer!



*Stephanie
Holmes, Editor,
with Juan
Rodriguez*

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