

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring pictures from the 2016 Fall Conference at Delta State University in Cleveland.



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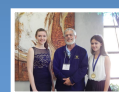
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Message from the President

Dear MMTA Friends: I am hoping you have a grand 2017, and are in good spirits as the New Year unfolds. As your new president, I attended the Southern Division competitions, which were held January 14-16 at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. I monitored the Young Artist and Senior Brass competitions, which was nice. I haven't kept it a secret, but I doubt you know that I played trumpet in high school, so I was very happy to hear a lot of brass! Also, I was able to monitor the Junior String competition, and to hear our own Samuel Garcia play; he represented Mississippi beautifully! While in Columbia, I attended the Southern Division banquet and business meeting. It was nice to see the other Presidents from Southern Division and find out what they do in their states. Congratulations to all of our state winners who represented Mississippi at the competitions! Several Mississippi competitors received awards at Southern Division:

Message from the President (continued)

Jade Agler (student of **John McClung**) received Honorable Mention in the **Elementary Composition** competition.

Luke Zhang (student of **Adrienne Park**) was Winner of the **Junior Composition** competition.

Samuel Garcia (student of **Song Xie**) received Honorable Mention in the **Junior Performance String** competition.

Matthew Kim (student of **Myung Kim**) was the Alternate in the **Junior Performance Woodwind** competition.

Lydia Newton (student of **Sonja Foster**) received Honorable Mention in the **Senior Performance String** competition.

Brian Golden (student of **Kimberley Davis**) was the Alternate in the **Young Artist Performance Voice** competition.

Theresa Sanchez, piano, collaborated with many competitors at Southern Division.

I invite you to read Phyllis Lew-Hale's report for a list of all of our Southern Division competitors and their teachers. We are so proud of all of you – thank you for representing Mississippi so well!

I look forward to the MMTA collegiate competitions, which will be held on March 4 at Millsaps College in Jackson. In the past couple of years, our participation in Collegiate competitions has increased dramatically, which is a great thing for all music in Mississippi. These competitions can bring students to a higher level and serve as preparation for the MTNA competitions in the fall. We also look forward to our MMTA Pre-College District Evaluations which will be held April 1 (Group B) and April 8 (Group A). The MMTA Pre-College Finals Competitions will be held May 13 at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

Plans for the 63rd MMTA State Conference are already underway. Victoria Johnson is doing an excellent job as President-Elect. Remember to support her in any way possible as she prepares the Conference; it's a big job! She will also submit the MAC grant application on our behalf, which is a huge undertaking, also.

Thank you to all of our officers for your work, and we will have a great adventure together the next couple of years! I am so proud of MMTA and always find that our organization is outstanding when I look at all state organizations in a national perspective.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ballard

MMTA President



Alice Ballard

Report from the Summit for MTNA Leadership

Dear Members:

This year's Music Teachers National Association Summit was excellent, and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to attend and take part in the big city of Cincinnati! I would like to share some of the happenings that took place.

Thoughts and Facts from the Summit:

Gary Ingle, Executive Director and CEO of MTNA, made a number of outstanding comments throughout the Summit. He said that our goal as music teachers should be to "thrive, not survive." This seems to be a wakeup call to send our roots out, be stronger, and avoid being content in a static state.

Ann Witherspoon, Chair of Composer Commissioning, said that "Leaders look to the future." While maintaining strong ties to our heritage, it is true that we must be as professionally current as possible for the benefit of our students, as well as for ourselves.

Along the way, I heard a leader say that to recruit one student, it takes eleven contacts! If this is true, think of how diligent every one of us must be to locate and involve new members in our organization.

Diligent advertising attracts new members. This holds true for our state organization, as well as for every affiliate.

Spokane, Washington has been approved as the site for the 2019 MTNA Conference.

Are you ready for this? One state president talked about how they had invited students to attend concerts and suggested they sit on the back row and Tweet! If you don't really know what it means to "Tweet," it means to post information on the social media website Twitter. At any rate, one state leader reported that they had gained some young members by encouraging the use of Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat (other social media websites). While this practice may not be appropriate for competitions and many serious, studious performances, we may find a place for it in certain types of events that we hold. You can consider the use of social media to be free advertising!

E-Festival Development: Discussions at the national level continue regarding the offering of an E-Festival to the membership. Remember that there are many musicians and members in remote areas, and this would create an opportunity for them to participate in MTNA activities. An MTNA committee will be formed to work on details for implementing this event.

Aren't we fortunate? In a workshop presented by Rebecca Grooms Johnson, President of MTNA, I listened to comments from state presidents, regarding difficult leadership

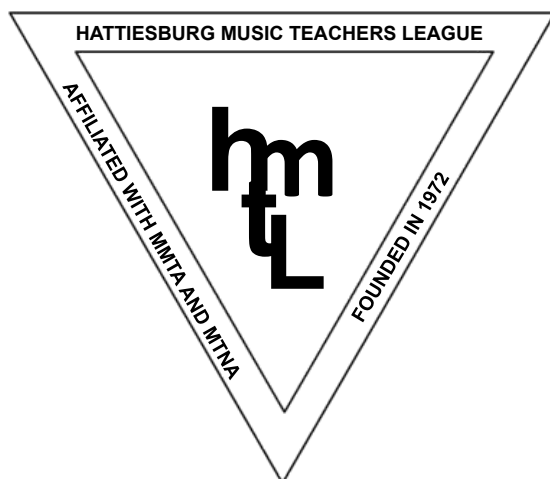
situations they have experienced. Several people talked about uncooperative board members. I was frankly amazed. I think we have a small utopia on our MMTA Board, and I find the other members to be very forthcoming and helpful, for which I am grateful.

What Happened to the Louisiana Music Teachers Who Were Flood Victims? During the Summit, I talked extensively to LaWanda Blakeney, president of Louisiana Music Teachers Association. She said that three of their member teachers had lost everything recently in the August floods. She told me that LMTA was able to replenish these teachers' music resources through donations from teachers state-wide who shared their personal libraries. LaWanda said that students and teachers affected by the floods need instruments, most of all. Many students who lost their homes can no longer afford lessons, which has impacted a number of teachers in Louisiana. During the Summit, it was reported that 28 states have contributed to disaster relief for Louisiana, and I am pleased to say that MMTA is definitely one of those states. Let's continue to remember the teachers and students in Louisiana in our thoughts and prayers, as many are still feeling the daily effects of loss.

Sincerely,

[Alice Ballard](#)

MMTA President



President-Elect's Message



Victoria Johnson

I am honored to serve as President-Elect of the MMTA! Although I am a relative newcomer to the state, the MTNA and its state and local chapters have played an important role in my life since my childhood in Wisconsin. I am happy to give back to an organization that has enriched my life so much.

Planning is well underway for the 2017 state conference, to be held Nov. 3-4 at one of the Jackson area colleges. I am excited to report that Dr. Jane Magrath will be our featured clinician. A longtime professor at the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Magrath will share some of her vast knowledge of the classical teaching repertoire. Many thanks to Valentin Bogdan, Chair of Theory and Composition, for securing Dr. Joe Alexander of the Mississippi University for Women as our commissioned composer. Sue Steck Turner, a wonderful independent music teacher in Lafayette, LA with

expertise in teaching very young students and those with learning disabilities, will be the IMTF guest presenter. The fall conference promises to be stimulating as usual!

In the next month I will be occupied with preparing the application for the MAC grant. I am most grateful to Alice Ballard for providing all necessary files, detailed instructions, and answers to my many questions. For the first time this year, most of the application materials will be filed online.

Finally, feel free to contact me with proposals, suggestions, and ideas for the fall conference. The contributions of MMTA members are integral to the success of the conference. Our conference planning committee will meet in May.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Johnson, President-Elect

Vice President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

As of January 25, 2017, 170 members are listed for the 2016-2017 year. Among these are 1 status change from collegiate to active, 9 reinstating members, 11 new members, and 6 new collegiate members.

Website changes:

Updated officer information with information through 1-27-2017

Changed collegiate competition and chamber contact information to Phyllis Lewis-Hale Added Old Time Piano and spring collegiate competition links to links page

Added MMTA Spring 2017 Collegiate Competition information to links page

Uploaded August 2016 meeting minutes

Added Sandra Polanski as Mississippi's ninth MTNA Foundation Fellow on history page

Ongoing: miscellaneous updates as needed.

Continue to send mass emails to members as requested.

Updated member list with most current information; continuing to add new members as I get information. Unpaid members have been deleted.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley

The **Southern Division Competitions** were held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia on January 14-16. Congratulations to all of our state winners who represented the state of Mississippi at the Southern Division competitions! The results of from Southern Division are below:

**SOUTHERN DIVISION COMPETITION RESULTS
2017**

PERFORMANCE

Junior Performance Piano

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Caleb Borick (SC)	Piano	Joseph Rackers
Alternate	Kyle Hu (VA)	Piano	Alisa Bohon

Junior Performance String

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	David Lugo (TN)	Violin	Miroslav Hristov
Alternate	Luke Henderson (NC)	Violin	Dovid Friedlander
Honorable Mention	Samuel Garcia (MS)	Violin	Song Xie
	Daniel Park (FL)	Violin	Baoling Xu

Junior Performance Woodwind

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Jaime Kim (TN)	Flute	Myung Kim
Alternate	Matthew Kim (MS)	Flute	Myung Kim
Honorable Mention	Hyunmin Ra (NC)	Clarinet	Sejung Ra
	Blair Carrier (SC)	Flute	Amanda Barrett

Senior Performance Brass

Winner	Miriam Snyder (SC)	Trombone	David Hamilton
Alternate	Laura Floyd (FL)	Horn	Michelle Stebleton
Honorable Mention	Nathan Carpenter (TN)	Trombone	Esther Park

Senior Performance Piano

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Jonathan Reichenberger (FL)	Piano	Maria Gomez
Alternate	Emily Quan (VA)	Piano	Marjorie Lee

Senior Performance Piano Duet

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Mary Nerren (TN)	Piano	Esther Park
	Jimmy Liu	Piano	
Alternate	Daniel Carter (NC)	Piano	Cynthia Lawing
	David Carter	Piano	

Senior Performance String

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Samuele Parrini (SC)	Violin	Jennifer John
Alternate	Haeun Kim (AL)	Violin	Cornelia Heard
Honorable Mention	Lydia Newton (MS)	Violin	Sonja Foster
	Sahana Shravan (NC)	Violin	Huifang Chen

Senior Performance Voice

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Melodie Spencer (GA)	Soprano	Sharon Stephenson
Alternate	Allyson Davis (KY)	Soprano	Jennifer Bersaglia
Honorable Mention	Michael Perez (NC)	Tenor	Elizabeth LaBelle

Senior Performance Woodwind

	Entrant	Instrument	Teacher
Winner	Irene Kim (VA)	Flute	Jennifer Lapple
Alternate	Jordan Savage (NC)	Saxophone	Robert Young
Honorable Mention	Alexander Smith (GA)	Saxophone	Sara Emery
	Cullen Broome (SC)	Clarinet	Kyra Zhang

Young Artist Performance Brass

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Daniel Haddock (FL)	Trumpet	Christopher Moore
Alternate	Jonathan Holland Jr. (SC)	Euphonium	Paul Overly
Honorable Mention	Jeffrey Doll (KY)	Trumpet	Joseph Van Fleet
	Andrew Sehmman (GA)	Horn	Jean Martin-Williams

Young Artist Performance Piano

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Allen Yueh (GA)	Piano	Alexander Kobrin
Alternate	Aleksandra Kasman (AL)	Piano	Yakov Kasman
Honorable Mention	David Geng (NC)	Piano	Randall Love

Young Artist Performance String

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Mary Grace Johnson (TN)	Violin	Cornelia Heard
Alternate	Weiru Sheng (GA)	Violin	Sergiu Schwarz
Honorable Mention	Eve Wetzel (NC)	Violin	Janet Orenstein

Young Artist Performance Voice

Winner	Cheyne Alexander (AL)	Mezzo-soprano	Paul Houghtaling
Alternate	Brian Golden (MS)	Bas	Kimberley Davis
Honorable Mention	Jordan Durham (KY)	Baritone	Zachary Marshall

Young Artist Performance Woodwind

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Caleb Carpenter (NC)	Saxophone	Robert Young
Alternate	Drake Stoughton (VA)	Saxophone	Timothy Roberts
Honorable Mention	Victor Hernandez Ramirez (GA)	Flute	Andree Martin

CHAMBER MUSIC STRING

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Claudius Quartet (TN) Eliza Wong Hesoo Cha Rachel Haber Meghan Leong	Violin Violin Viola Cello	Cornelia Heard
Alternate	Eppe Quartet (FL) Jia-Rong Gan Sophia Han Shelby Thompson Adam Collins	Violin Violin Viola Cello	Shannon Thomas

CHAMBER MUSIC WIND

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Quiescent Quintet (NC) Sami Eudy Kali Poore Clifford Tam Phillip Kandel Marie Smith	Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon Horn	Brooks Whitehouse
Alternate	Southern Wind Quintet (GA) Emily Zirlin William Jones Ivan Hernandez Joy Hoffman Andrew Sehmman	Flute Oboe Clarinet Bassoon French Horn	Jean Martin-Williams
Honorable Mention	The Shenandoah Conservatory Saxophone Quartet (VA) Joey Speranzo Shengbo Lin Drake Stoughton Andy Herring	Soprano Saxophone Alto Saxophone Tenor Saxophone Baritone Saxophone	Timothy Roberts

Axios Quartet (SC)

Noah Bruening
Colton Nelson
Lukas Ferrell
Joseph Booth

Soprano Saxophone
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone

Tracy Patterson

COMPOSITION**Elementary Composition**

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Dannie Dong (TN)	Judith Fairchild
Honorable Mention	Jade Agler (MS)	John McClung
	Ori Moore (NC)	Julie Harris

Junior Composition

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Luke Zhang (MS)	Adrienne Park
Honorable Mention	Albert Wang (FL)	Thomas McKinley
	Stephanie Wang (NC)	Julie Harris

Senior Composition

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Jenny Yao (SC)	Edward Hart
Honorable Mention	Kevin Su (VA)	Marjorie Le

Young Artist Composition

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Justin White (FL)	Ladislav Kubik
Honorable Mention	Charles Higgins (NC)	Julie Harris
	Issac Horn (TN)	Jerome Reed

Vice President for Pre-College Competitions



Jung-Won Shin

The 2017 Pre-College District Evaluations are approaching.

This year Group B will audition on Saturday, April 1. Group B includes Columbus/Starkville, Ellisville, Gulf Coast, and Vicksburg. Group A auditions will be held the following week, on Saturday, April 8. Group A includes Goodman, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Oxford, and Tupelo. Please visit the MMTA Student Activities Web page for more information about the evaluations and the contact information of our district chairs.

The Pre-College Finals will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Also, this year's Pre-College Finals Schedule will once again be posted on the MMTA website approximately two weeks before the Finals event. The performance order

for all recitals this year will be 'Z-A'.

I would like to thank our district chairs for their hard work and support and look forward to seeing you all at the Pre-College Finals.

Respectfully submitted,

Jung-Won Shin

Vice President for Pre-College Performances

Treasurer's Report



Chris Ballard

The MMTA budget is in excellent shape for this time of year. At the annual Fall Conference we usually spend much more than we take in. However, at the 2016 Fall Conference the income was \$12,509.67 while expenses totaled \$12,605.10. Therefore, we only spent \$95.42 more than we took in. Overall this fiscal year we have spent \$2,383.19 more than we have taken in. If you take into consideration that the Southern Division Expenses in January were \$2638.76 with no Southern Division income you can see that we are actually where we need to be budget wise at this time. I anticipate we will make a nice profit from the Pre-College District Evaluations and Pre-College State Finals. Barring any unforeseen financial setback, we are still on target to end this fiscal year in the black. I really appreciate all of you who have been frugal in your MMTA expenditures and ask you to continue to use sound judgement in the money you spend for various events and activities. As always, if I can help any of you in anyway as your treasurer, please let me know.

Mississippi's 2017 MTNA Foundation Fellow

Sandra Paschal Polanski is very appreciative to the MMTA Board and Membership for their support of the MTNA Foundation in her name. MMTA and MTNA have played an important role in her life over many years.

A native of Grenada, she studied piano for twelve years through the school system. Her first experience with MMTA was as a high school piano student of Vivian Page, one of the earliest members, who invited her to participate on a student recital at the state convention at Belhaven in 1956. Subsequently as a junior piano major at MSCW studying piano with Dr. Sigfred Matson, also an early member who rose to become National President of MTNA, she performed with the then Jackson



Symphony Orchestra as the winner of the first MMTA collegiate concerto competition and received her first review. When she and her husband Frank moved to Mississippi in 1965, she joined MMTA and MTNA, and presented her students in events sponsored by MMTA. In 1967 she became the first Pre-College Auditions Chair for MMTA, and subsequently served as Southern Division Chair of MTNA High School and Collegiate Artist auditions as well as National Chair of the MTNA Collegiate Artist Competition. She is a long-time member of Music Forum of Jackson, an MMTA affiliate.

In addition to the Bachelor of Music Degree from The W, Sandra holds a Master of Music Degree in Piano from The University of Michigan, where she studied, piano with Benning Dexter and György Sandor and collaborative piano with Eugene Bossart. Her teaching experience includes years at The University of Michigan; Millsaps College; Kenosha Wisconsin; and Jackson, Mississippi. In 2012 she retired as chair of the Music Department of the Power Academic and Performing Arts Complex of Jackson Public Schools. Her years of teaching spanned fifty years.

In 2015 she was recognized as a 50-year member of MTNA. She was honored in 2010 with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education, in 2011 with a Leadership Award from The Mississippi Jazz Foundation, and in 2015 an Alumni Achievement Award by The Mississippi University for Women Alumni Association.

Sandra and her husband Frank have performed extensively as duo-pianists, and they continue in retirement to practice and perform on a regular basis, most recently March 14 on the Music in the City Series at the Mississippi Museum of Art. Sandra has returned to active participation in The Chaminade Club of Jackson, through which she coordinates "Music with Chaminade," monthly programs at Campbell Cove, the Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Unit at St. Catherine's Village in Madison, featuring performances for and participatory group singing with the residents.

Affiliate News

HATTIESBURG MUSIC TEACHERS LEAGUE

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of those affected by the January 21 tornado, particularly our colleagues at William Carey University. We hope that the recovery goes as quickly and smoothly as possible, and we are ready to help in any way.

The HMTL began the spring semester with a January 7 business meeting, followed by a recital of the two Brahms clarinet sonatas by USM faculty members Dr. Jacob Coleman, the new Instructor of Collaborative Piano, and Dr. Jackie McIlwain, Assistant Professor of Clarinet. It was an inspiring way to begin the new year.

Our spring schedule is packed as usual with student recitals at Mississippi Music on February 18 and April 15, the NFMC Festival on February 24, MMTA Pre-College Evaluations on April 8, Music Camp Scholarship Auditions on April 17, the Spring Concert on April 23, our spring business meeting and luncheon at the Purple Parrot on May 11, and MMTA Pre-College Finals at USM on May 13.

Finally, plans are underway for our biannual Composer Festival, which will take place November 17-18. We are excited that Laura Broughton has secured composer Glenda Austin, and look forward to receiving the commissioned solo, "Jazz Waltz" in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Johnson, Ph.D., NCTM

President, Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS

The Vicksburg Music Teachers is looking forward to our second annual "For the Love of Music" recital, on Sunday, February 19. Students are asked to perform their favorite piece, and we ask for a love offering to help provide funds for printed programs and other minor expenses for our activities. We announced that even a penny will help, and one child gave us two pennies. We were amazed at the generosity of our families and friends last year!

We were happy to help Dr. Valentin Bogdan from MUW find a place for his Jazz Ensemble and other students to perform in Vicksburg, in conjunction with the Alcorn State University Jazz Festival. They will be in Vicksburg at the renovated Historic Strand Theatre, on Friday, April 21, at 7:00 p.m.

The remainder of the teaching year will feature an Ensemble Recital in March, MMTA Evaluations on April 1 (no fooling), and the Vicksburg Honors Recital.

MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

After beginning our year's events with a Music Give-Away (courtesy Margaret Frazier) and Music Swap held at the Municipal Art Gallery, Music Forum of Jackson continued with our largest ever Sonata/Sonatina Festival on November 19 at Millsaps College with Donna Reed and Patsy Simpson serving as Co-Chairpersons. Eighty-five students from the studios of 19 of our teachers were registered to participate.

On Friday, December 2, we had our annual Christmas Luncheon at Anjou Restaurant in Ridgeland. This was ably coordinated by Ruth Keyes, our Social Chairperson. The private dining room was festively decorated and abundant door prizes were given!

On Saturday morning, January 28, our Vice President for Programs, Carolina Whitfield-Smith, coordinated a program in our "Coffee Chat" series on "Tech in the Music Classroom/Studio." We are grateful to Mississippi Music for hosting us. Members were encouraged to bring their laptops or iPads for hands-on demonstrations and sharing of useful resources.

Our Forty-Eighth Annual Bach Festival was held on February 4 at Hinds Community College in Raymond, again chaired by Kathie Gunn Lott. There were 377 pre-college students registered. We were happy to present approximately twenty-five 5-year Superior medals, two 9-year Superior trophies, and new this year, two Senior Awards for Superiors beyond 9. We look forward to offering partial scholarships to Mississippi music camps to 5-year medal winners from our local affiliate member studios.

Many of our members will have students participating in the MMTA local auditions to be held at Hinds Community College on April 8, and many of our teachers will help our local Auditions Chairperson Jacquelyn Thornell that day.

We will close out our year with a Spring Luncheon in early May.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Durham
President, MFJ





JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

January 28, 2017

The JCMTA annual Showcase Recital was held on Sunday, November 13, 2016. Student performers, both solo and ensemble, were highlighted at this event.

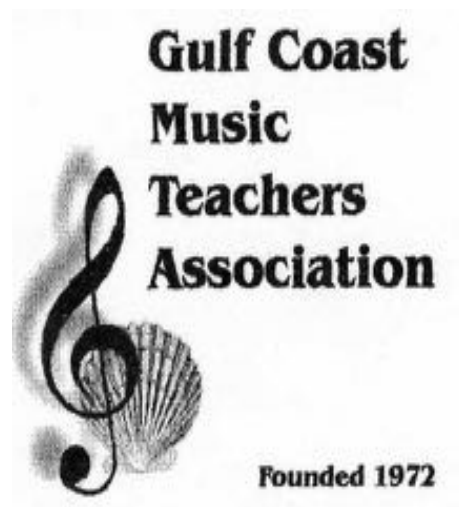
The JCMTA annual Solo and Sonata Competition was held on Saturday, January 21, 2017. The competition is for students sixth through twelfth grade. 23 students were entered for this event.

Business meetings were held prior to the above events.

JCMTA will hold its annual Ensemble Festival on Saturday, February 25, 2017.

Jones County Music Teachers Association will participate in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations April 1, 2017, at Jones County Junior College.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Beasley



GULF COAST MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

GCMTA embarked on its 45th year with a marvelous masterclass featuring Steinway artist Dr. Kadisha Onalbayeva as clinician and performer. The event, which was held on Saturday morning, January 21, at USM-Gulf Park Campus's Fleming Auditorium in Long Beach, was a life-changing one for the five high school students who performed for Dr. O. At the conclusion of the instructional portion of the masterclass, Dr. Onalbayeva gave a stunning performance on the auditorium's fine Steinway grand piano. During the luncheon, which was held at Brackish Seafood Restaurant right on the Long Beach harbor, GCMTA presented the artist with an honorarium made out to the Gulf Coast Steinway Society, of which she is currently president. GCSS hosts an annual competition each fall, awarding sizable scholarships to student winners of all ages.

GCMTA is very excited to have been named an official partner with USM-Gulf Park's College of Arts and Letters, working with them to bring musical offerings to the community at USM's Gulf Coast campus. Kudos to Vice-President and Program Chairman Elsie Barnes for making the initial contact with Dr. Deanne Nuwer, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, which has resulted in this relationship! Our first effort, the masterclass, was very-well received by the college and the community.

General Meetings -

Our November meeting was held at Mississippi Music, Inc. in Biloxi. Topic was "Pre-College Orientation." Five teachers were in attendance. The January meeting was held prior to the masterclass at USM-Gulf Park. Eight members were in attendance. Festival Chairman, Dawn Nelson, reported that Dr. Lois Leventhal and her husband Dr. David Evenson, both retired and living in Boston now, have agreed to come down to the Coast to judge for us! Our next meeting will be the Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, June 14, in the home of Martha Mayeu.

Upcoming Events -

We are gearing up for the GCMTA Music Festival on February 18, local Pre-college Evaluations on April 1, and National Guild of Piano Teachers piano auditions early in May, all to be held in the music facilities at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College-JD Campus. Our Senior Awards Recital will be held on Sunday afternoon, April 30 (location TBA).

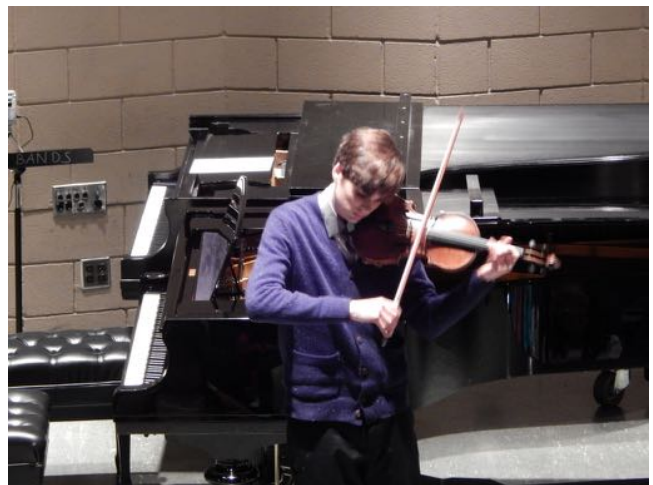
The year has thus far been a very stimulating one, musically speaking, and has given us every reason to anticipate that the coming semester will be a rewarding finale!

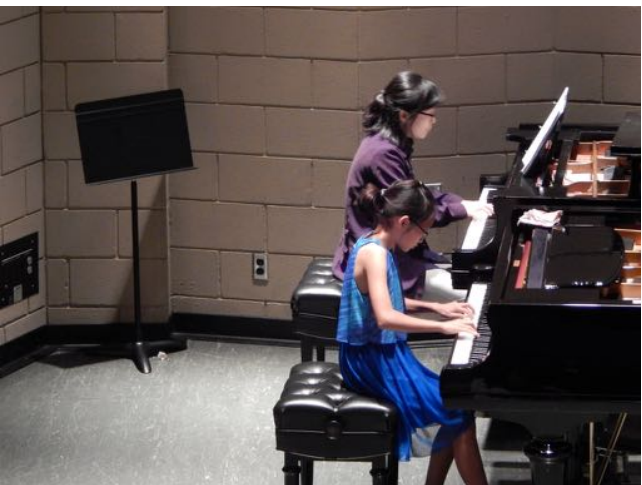
Respectfully submitted,

Carol Mahler, President

2016 Fall Conference Snapshots

Delta State University, Cleveland





Competition Winners



Young Artist Woodwinds



Senior Piano Performance



Chamber Music



Young Artist Piano



Senior Strings



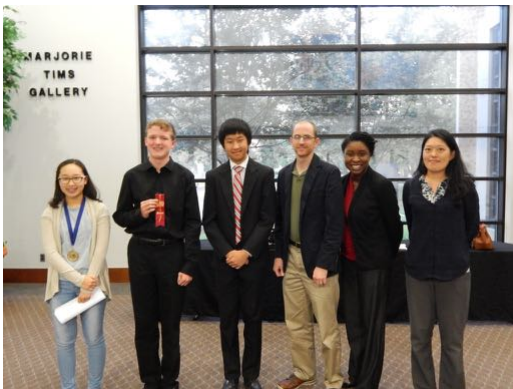
Junior Strings



Young Artist Brass



Young Artist Strings



Junior Piano



Senior Woodwinds



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



Elementary Piano A Concerto



Elementary Piano B Concerto



Junior Piano Concerto



Senior Piano Concerto



Junior & Senior Strings Concerto

Mississippi MTNA Winners

Junior Piano Performance

Jeyoung Seo (winner)	Jung-Won Shin	Lewisburg High School
Caleb Owens (alternate)	Jung-Won Shin	Germantown Middle School

Junior Strings Performance

Samuel Garcia (winner)	Song Xie	Homeschool
Cecilia Escobedo (alternate)	Emily McClung	Homeschool

Junior Woodwinds Performance

Matthew Kim (winner)	Myung Kim	Whitestation Middle School
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Senior Piano Performance

Victoria Gong (winner)	Judith Allen	Vicksburg Catholic School
Jesse Li (alternate)	Rachel Heard	Madison Central High School

Young Artist Brass

Michael Sparks (winner)	Douglas Mark	Delta State University
Brett Harrington (alternate)	James Armstrong	William Carey University
Emily Westfaul (honorable mention)	Patrick Richards	William Carey Univesrity

Young Artist Woodwinds

Jeffrey Humphrey (winner)	Lawrence Gwozdz	University of Southern Mississippi
Rory Young (alternate)	Adam Estes	University of Mississippi
Anna Bethea (honorable mention)	Jacqueline McIlwain	University of Southern Mississippi

Young Artist Strings

Nathaniel De la Cruz (winner)	Marcos Machado	University of Southern Mississippi
Jessica Schmidt (alternate)	Song Xie	Belhaven
Shellie Brown (honorable mention)	Paul Kantor	Rice University

Young Artist Voice

Brian Golden (winner)	Kimberly Davis	University of Southern Mississippi
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Chamber Music

Vibe (winner)	Lawrence Gwodz	University of Southern Mississippi
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Jeffrey Humphrey

Aaron Manigault

Jesse Hartfield

Matthew Gioia

Esthetics Quartet (alternate)	Adam Estes	University of Mississippi
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Rory Young

Ryne Anderson

Christopher Scott

James Mahalak

Pre-College Concerto Competition Winners

November 5, 2016

Piano Elementary A

Gold Medal:

Katie Chung (Katie Wallace)

1st Alternate:

Claire Rhee (Katie Wallace)

2nd Alternate:

Anya Rai (Trent Smith)

Piano Elementary B

Gold Medal:

Minhye Park (Jung-Won Shin)

1st Alternate:

Yolanda Tian (Janice Mesrobian)

1st Alternate:

Vinny Sun (Karen Fosheim)

Junior Piano

Gold Medal:

Edmund Doerksen (Ian Hominick)

1st Alternate:

Matthew Li (Rachel Heard)

1st Alternate:

Edward Yang Hu (Ian Hominick)

2nd Alternate:

Ian Zhang (Katie Wallace)

Senior Piano

Gold Medal:

Calendula Y. Cheng (Ian Hominick)

1st Alternate:

Samantha Simpson (Ian Hominick)

2nd Alternate:

Logan Knight (Adrienne Park)

Elementary Strings B

Gold Medal:

Yolanda Tian (Stephen Redfield)

Senior Strings

Gold Medal:

Lydia Newton (Sonja Foster)

Mark Your Calendar

March 4, 2017 - MMTA Collegiate Competitions, Millsaps College, Jackson

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

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

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

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

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Mike Boyd, Guitar/Music Survey

Ben Burge, Band/Woodwinds

Joel Dunlap, Concert Choir

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Jennifer Hart, Theater

Victoria Johnson, Piano

Lindsey Keay, Flute/Band

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Theresa Sanchez, Piano/Music Literature

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From the MMT Editor

I've enjoyed putting together this issue of the MMT. We had a wonderful conference in November, and it was fun to look back at the pictures as I put them in the newsletter. Special thanks to Alice Ballard for all of her hard work in putting together the conference and to Karen Fosheim, Douglas Mark, and Jung-Won Shin for hosting us at Delta State University.

I would also like to congratulate all of the students who performed in the recitals and competitions. You all performed beautifully! Keep up the wonderful work!

Sincerely,
Stephanie Holmes
sholmes057@gmail.com



Stephanie Holmes

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

Stephanie Holmes, editor

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Est. 1954

The purpose and goals of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association are to further the art of music, and promote the growth and professional development of its members by providing programs that encourage and support teaching, performance, composition and research. MMTA is a not-for-profit organization whose funds are used solely to accomplish these objectives.