MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

Featuring pictures from the 2019 Fall Conference at the Mississippi University for Women in Columbus.







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Message from the President

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season and feel refreshed and ready to go again.

First on our 2020 MMTA calendar is the Collegiate Competitions, hosted this year by the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg on Saturday, February 29th. If you teach college students, I hope you'll enter them. Since our numbers are usually small (but we are working on that!) competitors have a good chance of winning or placing. The registration deadline is February 15th. Thanks in advance to Jackie McIlwain, VP for Collegiate and National Competitions, for her time and effort in organizing this event.

Message from the President (continued)

I'm excited to represent MMTA at the MTNA Conference in Chicago March 21-25. I'm sure a highlight will be seeing Elsie Barnes named an MTNA Foundation Fellow. Thank you to all who contributed to this prestigious honor for a most deserving member.

Pre-College Evaluations will be here before we know it. Group A Evaluations take place Saturday, March 28th; Group B is on Saturday, April 4th. Good luck to all students, teachers, and district coordinators! Many thanks to Jung-Won Shin and Rose Sebba, Pre-College Evaluations Co-VPs, for their work preparing the theory tests. We will be at Millsaps College in Jackson on May 16th for Pre-College Finals. We appreciate Rachel Heard and her colleagues hosting us as they have many times before.

Plans for the 2020 Fall Conference are already underway. We plan to be in the Jackson area November 6-7. Please give Valentin Bogdan, President-Elect and



Victoria Johnson

Conference Chair, your support as he gets ready for the conference and writes the Mississippi Arts Council grant application.

Speaking of the conference, we hope to present our first Outstanding MMTA Teacher Award at the banquet. Please see the MMTA website for guidelines and the nomination form, which is due May 30th. We are grateful to Jacquelyn Thornell, Donna Banks, and Barbara Tracy for preparing the guidelines and nomination form, and to Alice Ballard, Immediate Past President, for chairing the selection committee.

Best wishes for a wonderful semester!

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Johnson

Treasurer's Report



Chris Ballard

We had a loss of about \$800 at the 2018 Fall Conference. At the 2019 Fall Conference we just completed, we had a loss of \$3800. If things go as usual, we should make up this loss when we have the Pre-College Evaluations and the Pre-College Finals where we typically have more income than expenses. Hopefully, we will still end the current fiscal year without going over our projected budget.

Chris Ballard, MMTA Treasurer

Vice President for Membership and Web Management



As of January 10, 2020, 143 members are listed for the 2019-2020 year. Of these 2 are adding Mississippi MTA, 4 are reinstating members, 1 is reinstating collegiate member/transfer from AR, 6 are new members, 3 are new collegiate members, 1 is adding Golden Triangle, 1 is transfer from NC.

Website changes:

Updated officer information with Roseangela Sebba as co-chair for VP for Pre-College Evaluations Uploaded August 2019 meeting minutes Uploaded May 2019 meeting minutes

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

Mississippi's 2020 MTNA Foundation Fellow



Elsie "Kate" Anderson Barnes was born in 1935, the second of 10 children. Growing up on a farm outside DeKalb, Mississippi, in her words, "Piano lessons were scarce." Once a month, she would travel to Philadelphia for lessons. Graduating from high school in 1953, Elsie attended Coahoma Junior College on a scholarship award presented by the Masons. She transferred to Jackson State University, where she received her B.S. in Music Education, with vocal emphasis. In the early 1960s she attended the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, studying piano pedagogy. Later in her career, she attended the University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast, from which she received her Elementary Education teacher certification.

In 1958, Barnes became a choir director in the Greenwood School District. In 1963, she moved to Gulfport where she worked as a choir director at North Gulfport High School in the Harrison County Public School District. After the public schools were integrated in 1969, she taught elementary school music for 18 years. When the school system discontinued the music program, Elsie began teaching 5th grade, 6th grade, and special education. She retired after teaching for 38 years in the Mississippi public school system.

Elsie Barnes is a charter member of the Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association, which received its charter as an affiliate of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association and National Music Teachers Association, in 1984. She opened her private piano studio with 40 students in 1976 and continues teaching to this day. Up until the last three years, Elsie has maintained her pace with no less than 20 students, entering them all every year in MMTA's Pre-College Evaluations, Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association's Music Festivals, Music Forum of Jackson's Bach Festivals, and the Mississippi Baptist Keyboard Festivals. Often accepting underprivileged children in her studio, Elsie worked with their parents to arrive at an affordable tuition.

Over the course of her 43 years as a private music teacher, Elsie Barnes has taught over 1,000 children. Her students have won top honors on all levels in festivals and competitions. Several of her students have presented junior and senior recitals. Many have served in local churches and have gone on to major in music at the university level.

If Elsie's plate were not already full, she went on to complete ministerial studies at Millsaps College after answering the call to ministry in the United Methodist Church in 1999. Reverend Barnes served as pastor of St. James UMC in Ocean Springs for three years and in ministry to women in the Harrison County Jail as an active member of Prison Fellowship. She continues to lead the worship program at a local nursing home, and serves as associate pastor at Haven Chapel United Methodist Church in Gulfport.

Elsie Barnes resides in Gulfport with her husband of 56 years, Thomas D. Barnes. They are the parents of three children, seven grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Elsie lives by the motto, "Do all the good you can, for all the people you can, as long as you can."

Video link: https://www.sunherald.com/living/article161531948.html#storylink=cpy Video link: https://www.sunherald.com/living/article161531948.html#storylink=cpy

Two Mississippi Students Named Alternates in MTNA Southern Division Competitions

Congratulations to Samuel Garcia and Hannah Heaton, who were named Alternates in the MTNA Southern Division competitions! Samuel, a violinist, competed in Junior Performance Strings, and Hannah competed in Young Artist Composition. Congratulations to their teachers as well: Song Xie (Samuel) and Valentin Bogdan (Hannah).

We are proud of Samuel and Hannah and all of the MMTA students who competed in Southern Division!





Affiliate News

MUSIC FORUM OF JACKSON

Our December luncheon was held at Anjou's.

January brought our outstanding progrm by Dr. Tim Coker, professor emeritus from Millaps, on Music and the Mind. A few facts from the meeting: We do not have to lose our memory as we age! You never lose the brain's reserves. Learning a new language and learning to play a musical instrument are excellent ways to keep the mind active. Myelin is the key ingredient toward keeping the brain sharp, and one of the ways to create myelin is to practice slowly! We must insist that our students practice slowly!! Following the repetition in music is a big payoff. Other literature on this subject is Oliver Sacks "Musicofilia: Tales of Music and the Brain," easily available.

Our 51st annual Bach Festival will be hald on February 8, with 335 entrants. Welcome to the new Ms. Federated Music Clubs' festival chairs, Jimmy Turner and Portia Davis!! The festival for areas IVA and IVB will be held in Canton on February 29.

Jacquelyn Thornell again chairs the Jackson Area MMTA evaluations, to be held on March 28 at Belhaven University.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Johnson

VICKSBURG MUSIC TEACHERS

The Vicksburg Music Teachers Association is grateful for the grant for our "Memorization Workshop," which we held January 25. Professor Rosangela Sebba, Steinway Artist at Mississippi State University, gave us helpful skills in a masterclass setting, with a couple of students as our performers. Jeanne Evans offered her home studio for the event, and we then went to our local rooftop restaurant, "10 South," on a sunny day. It's always fun to see the majesty of the Yazoo Canal and Mighty Mississippi River.

We began our year with the popular Happy Halloween Recital in October. Our next group recital is "Around the World," on February 23. MMTA Evaluations are in Vicksburg on April 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Evans

GULF COAST MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Performance Opportunities -

Last October, 32 piano and violin students of six GCMTA teachers performed in a joint recital sponsored by GCMTA, at First United Methodist Church in Biloxi. Music Festival Co-Chairs Bonnie Sheldon and Dawn Nelson are again gearing up for this popular event, which will be held on Saturday, March 7, at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College-JD Campus. Our local Precollege Evaluations will take place on April 4. Carol Mahler and Angela Hsu are Co-Chairs. GCMTA's Senior Awards Recital will take place on Sunday afternoon, April 26, at Bible Fellowship Church in Pass Christian. National Guild of Piano Teachers piano auditions will be held in early May, at MGCCC-JD. Martha Mayeu is the local chairman for this event.

General Meetings -

Our November meeting was held at the home of Carol Mahler in Pass Christian. The program was a member-led, sharing panel on the topic "Fun Studio Activities this Past Summer." Five teachers were in attendance. Our next meeting will be the Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, June 10, at the studio of Bonnie Sheldon in Pass Christian.

Last semester proved to be a musically stimulating one, giving us every reason to anticipate that the coming semester will culminate with a rewarding finale!

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Mahler, President





JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

January 11, 2020

The JCMTA annual Showcase Recital was held on Sunday, November 10, 2019. Student performers, including one vocalist who accompanied herself with ukulele, were highlighted at this event.

A business meeting was held prior to the above event.

The JCMTA annual Solo and Sonata Competition is being held on Saturday, January 25, 2020. The competition is for students sixth through twelfth grade. 23 students are entered for this event.

Several JCMTA teachers will have students participate in the Mississippi Baptist Keyboard Festival which will be held on Thursday January 30, 2020.

JCMTA will hold its annual Ensemble Festival on Saturday, February 29, 2020.

Jones County Music Teachers Association will participate in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations April 4, 2020, at Jones College.

Respectfully submitted, Janine Beasley

Mississippi Music Teachers Association 2020 Pre-College Finals Results Saturday, May 18th, 2019 Mississippi University for Women Columbus, Mississippi

Piano Solo-Level 3 and Below

Iane Zhue
 Victor Tan
 Yucheng Lin
 Arjun Gupta
 Linda Zhang
 Rachel Heard
 Jung-Won Shin
 Laura Broughton
 Sandy Coutoumanos
 Adrienne Park

2. Linda Zhang
Ely Hatchett
Lily Amirlatifi
3. Effia Wu

Adrienne Park
Donna Reed
Joshua Trent Smith
Katie Johnson

Noah Stevens Adrienne Park

Katie Johnson 4. Isabella Oswalt 5. Cheri Zhang Edna Mae McCoy Lydia Pan Angela Hsu Caroline Lowry Paula Henderson **Justin Chung** Katie Johnson Keelv Sun Rebekah Moore Caleb Hinton Paula Henderson Creston Baumgartner Brenda Sullivan

Piano Solo-Level 4

1. Angelina Tan Edna Mae McCoy 2. Anya Rai Joshua Trent Smith 3. Lucas Zheng Laura Broughton 4. Sofia Escobedo Carol Mahler Jacquelyn Thornell 5. Lucas Wang Bruce Pang Isabella Ishvin Lydia Grace Crouch Marilyn Huff Katie Chung Katie Johnson

Piano Solo-Level 5

Matthew Hatchett
 Michael Walker
 Anna Box
 Andrew Meng
 Alice Astarlioglu
 Mirae Nishikawa
 Donna Reed
 Debbie Barnes
 Dorothy Glover
 Katie Johnson
 Carol Durham
 Katie Johnson

Piano Solo-Level 6

Caroline Luccasen
 Jade Agler
 Mathew Sorrells
 Aiyana LLi
 Edna Mae McCoy
 Carol Mahler
 Rebekah Moore
 Jan Mesrobian

5.

Piano Solo-Level 7

Kallen Zhou
 Jan Mesrobian
 Isabella Ishvin
 Agatha Taquino
 Rosângela Sebba
 Laura Box
 Dorothy Glover
 Kabir Gupta
 Sandy Coutoumanos
 Emily Lu
 Isabella Ishvin

Piano Solo-Level 8

Andrew Liu Rachel Heard
 Yolanda Ni Jan Mesrobian
 Joseph Agler Carol Mahler
 Leo Mei Jacquelyn Thornell
 John Wallace Valentine Donna Reed

Piano Solo-Level 9

Sam Powell
 Amy Zhang
 Laura Broughton
 Katie Johnson
 Lauren Walker
 Laura Simpson
 Mary Elizabeth Kees
 Tom Henry Brister
 Anabel Morgan
 Laura Broughton
 Katie Johnson
 Adrienne Park
 Rachel Heard
 Sandy Coutoumanos
 Donna Reed

Piano Solo-Level 10

Max Zhang Ellen Elder
 Matthew Yin Rachel Heard Edmund Doerksen Ian Hominick
 Matthew Li Rachel Heard
 David Jelinek Joshua Trent Smith

Piano Solo-Level 11

Isaiah Way
 Vinson Lu
 Rachel Heard
 Sam Gaines
 Donna Reed
 John Kees
 Rachel Heard
 Harrison Speed
 Donna Reed

Piano Solo-Level 12

Caleb Owens

 Victoria Gong
 Hamilton Wan

 Ian Hominick

 Edna Mae McCoy

Piano Ensemble-Division A

1. Elise Ishee and Hadley Hopkins Marilyn Huff

Piano Ensemble-Division B

Andrew Meng/Katie Chung
 McCarty Overby/Mirae Nishikawa
 Kiana Li/Aiyana Li
 Katie Johnson
 Joshua Trent Smith
 Jan Mesrobian

Piano Ensemble-Division C

Kelly Zhou/Kallen Zhou
 Jan Mesrobian
 Sofia Escobedo/Gonzalo Escobedo
 Garol Mahler
 Grace Travis/Anna Grace Jolly
 Anna Grace Jolly/Emily Kinsey
 Janine Beasley
 Janine Beasley

Piano Ensemble-Division D

Piano Ensemble-Division E

1. Max Zhang/Kevin Miao Ellen Elder

Piano Sonata/Sonatina-Division A

Kara Gaughf
 Sofia Escobedo
 Justin Chung
 Katie Johnson
 Katie Chung
 Keely Sun
 Brenda Sullivan
 Katol Mahler
 Katie Johnson
 Rebekah Moore

Piano Sonata/Sonatina-Division B

Jade Agler
 Matthew Hatchett
 Kelly Zhou
 Gabriella Bass
 Carol Mahler
 Donna Reed
 Jan Mesrobian
 Elsie Barnes
 Caleb Zhu
 Rachel Heard

Piano Sonata/Sonatina-Division C

Andrew Liu Rachel Heard
 Kallen Zhou Jan Mesrobian
 Joseph Agler Carol Mahler

Piano Sonata/Sonatina-Division D

Matthey Yin
 Laura Simpson
 Ian Marks
 Rachel Heard
 Adrienne Park
 Victoria Johnson

Piano Sonata/Sonatina-Division E

1. Caleb Owens Ian Hominick

Piano Theme and Variations-Division B

Caleb Zhu
 Andrew Meng
 Lilly Faith Bassett
 Emalee Moss
 Rachel Heard
 Katie Johnson
 Ruth Keyes
 Janine Beasley

Piano Theme and Variations-Division C

1. Will Bassett Ruth Keyes

Piano Theme and Variations-Division D

1. Bonnie Littlejohn Sandy Coutoumanos

Piano Theme and Variations-Division E

1. Grace Miller Ruth Keyes

Strings Solo-Division A

1. Abigail Bautista Christopher Thompson

Strings Solo-Division B

Yuxlang Lin Gail Fox
 Clementine Hale Carol Mahler

Strings Solo-Division C

Emmaline Murphy
 Jade Agler
 Emily McClung
 Emily McClung

3. Hailey Yang Christopher Thompson

4. Natalia Escobedo Carol Mahler5. Kate Lansford Emily McClung

Hadley Green Christopher Thompson

Strings Solo-Division D

Yolanda Ni
 Joseph Agler
 Stephen Redfield
 Emily McClung

Strings Solo-Division F

1. Cecilia Escobedo Emily McClung

Strings Ensemble-Division B

Ellen Tull/Natalia Escobedo
 Snowden Fritz/Jalyn Fritz
 Emily McClung
 Carol Mahler

Strings Theme and Variations-Division B

Jade Agler Emily McClung
 Emmaline Murphy Emily McClung
 Ellen Tull Emily McClung

Strings Theme and Variations-Division E

1. Allen Chatelain Emily McClung

Vocal Solo -Level 9

Alondria Taylor
 Rachel Walley
 Mary Coker
 Kayla Thomas
 Shawn Morgan
 Eva Hart
 Shawn Morgan

Vocal Solo -Level 10

Eliza Warnock
 Taylor Moore
 Katherine Nause
 Meagan Gautier
 Eva Hart
 Shawn Morgan
 Barbara Stephenson
 Eva Hart

Vocal Solo -Level 11

1. Don Waller Eva Hart

Vocal Solo -Level 12

1. Jay Warnock Eva Hart Victoria Patrick Shawn Morgan

Congratulations to these students!

2019 Fall Conference Snapshots Mississippi University for Women, Columbus

























Competition Winners



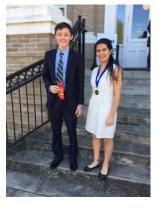
Senior Piano



Junior Strings



Young Artist Woodwinds



Senior Strings



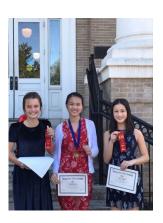
Young Artist Piano with Judges



Senior Woodwinds



Strings Concerto



Strings Concerto

Mississippi MTNA Winners

MTNA Competitions Report:

The 2019-2020 MTNA State Performance Competitions were held on November 1 at Mississippi University for Women under the supervision of Jackie McIlwain, VP for Collegiate and National Competitions. We would like to thank Valentin Bogdon and the MUW Department of Music for assisting in organizing the competitions and the Area Chairs for securing our nine outstanding adjudicators: Jonathan Noffsinger, Brittney Patterson, and Jeremy Benson, Woodwinds; Joao Paulo Casarotti, Jacob Clark and Sandra Ramawy, piano; and Benjamin Crofut, Anne Witt, and Moises Molina, Strings. Another special thanks goes out to Victoria Johnson, President and Stephanie Holmes, VP for Public Relations, who offered great assistance in many ways.

There were 46 total entrants participating. There were 41 solo entrants and 1 piano duet in the Performance Competitions. There were 4 entries in the Composition Category.

The results of the Competitions are as follows:

JUNIOR CATEGORY

MTNA STATE COMPETITIONS: STATE LEVEL

	CATEGORY	NAME	TEACHER
PIANO PERFORMANCE JUNIOR CATEGORY			
	Representative	Andrew Liu	Rachel Heard
R CATEGORY			
	Winner	Bach Nguyen	Ian Hominick
	Alternate	Vinson Lu	Rachel Heard
	Honorable Mention	Max Zhang	Ellen Elder
	YOUNG ARTIST CATEGORY		
	Winner	Jiahe Liu	Ellen Elder
	Alternate	Young Hye Min	Jung-Won Shin
	SENIOR PIANO DUET		
	Representative	Joseph Alger Jade Alger	Carol Mahler
STRINGS PERFORMANCE			
	JUNIOR CATEGORY		
	Winner	Samuel Garcia	Song Xie
	Alternate	Yolanda Ni	Stephen Redfield
	Honorable Mention	Emmaline Murphy	Emily McClung
	SENIOR CATEGORY		
	Winner	Cecilia Escobedo	Emily McClung
	Alternate	Joseph Agler	Emily McClung
	YOUNG ARTIST CATEGORY		
	Representative	Noelani Perry	Song Xie
WOODWIND PERFORMANCE			

Representative Gilad Goulet Adam Estes

SENIOR CATEGORY

Winner Matthew Kim Myung Kim
Alternate Channing Shows Lawrence Gwozdz

YOUNG ARTIST CATEGORY

Winner Brianna Mansbart Lawrence Gwozdz
Alternate Dylan Tucker Lawrence Gwozdz
Honorable Mention Morgan Webster Lawrence Gwozdz

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie McIlwain, MMTA VP for Collegiate and National Competitions

Mark Your Calendar

All events are canceled at this time.

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

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

MMTA Officers

President

Victoria Johnson 707 S. 18th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39401 Phone: 601-320-2121 yjohnson.piano@gmail.com

President Elect

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

Immediate Past President

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

VP for Membership & Web Management

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

VP for Collegiate & National Competitions

Jackie McIlwain 118 College Dr. #5081 Hattiesburg, MS 39406 Phone: 601-266-6948 Jacqueline.mcilwain@usm.edu

Jacqueinte.intenvanto abinica a

VP for Pre-College Performances

Donna Reed 117 Riverhills Drive Florence, MS 39073 Phone: 601-927-1469 reed118@comcast.net

VP for Pre-College Evaluations (Co-Chair)

Jung-Won Shin Delta State University Department of Music PO Box 3256 Cleveland, MS 38733 Phone: 662-846-4123 jshin@deltastate.edu

VP for Pre-College Evaluations (Co-Chair)

Roseangela Sebba Mississippi State University PO Box 6240 Mississippi State, MS 39762 Phone: 662-325-2854 rys3@colled.msstate.edu

VP for Public Relations (Newsletter Editor)

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

Appointed Officers

Chair of Theory & Composition

Jonathan Mitchell 1513 Skyline Dr. Gautier, MS 39553 Phone: 225-910-1547

jonathan.mitchell@mgccc.edu

Chair of Independent Music Teachers Forum

Portia Nicole Davis 1996 Eastridge Circle Madison, MS 39110 Phone: 281-799-0261 pianolover95@yahoo.com

Chair of College Faculty Forum

Victoria Johnson 707 S. 18th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39401 Phone: 601-320-2121 yjohnson.piano@gmail.com

Chair of Certification

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

Chair of Theory & Composition

Jonathan Mitchell 1513 Skyline Drive Gautier, MS 39553-7625 Phone: 225-910-1547

jonathan.mitchell@mgccc.edu

Webmaster

Handmade Designs Toll Free 1-877-467-2660 www.handmadedesigns.com

Performance Area Chairs

Brass

Douglas Mark
Delta State University
Department of Music
PO Box 3256
Cleveland, MS 38733
Phone: 662-846-4607
dmark@deltastate.edu

Chamber Music/Jazz

Position not filled

Guitar

John Jackson Hinds Community College P.O. Box 1100 Raymond, MS 39154 Phone: 662-857-3802 john.jackson3@hindscc.edu

Piano

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

Strings

Alexander Russakovsky University of Southern Mississippi School of Music 118 College Drive, # 5081 Hattiesburg, MS 39406 Phone: 601-266 6851 arussakovsky@hotmail.com

Voice

Susan A. Smith Jones County Junior College 900 South Court Street Ellisville, MS 39437 Phone: 601-477-4024 susan.smith@jcjc.edu

Woodwinds

Danilo Mezzadri University of Southern Mississippi School of Music 118 College Dr. #5081 Hattiesburg, MS 39406 Phone: 601-266-5093 danilo.mezzadri@usm.edu

Collaborative Arts

Brian Murphy
William Carey University
710 William Carey Parkway
WCU Box 14
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 662-251-7659
bmurphy@wmcarey.edu

Local Affiliates

Golden Triangle Music Forum

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

Gulf Coast MTA

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

Hattiesburg Music Teachers League

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

Jones County MTA

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

Music Forum of Jackson

Kay Johnson 394 Red Eagle Circle Ridgeland, MS 39157 Phone: 601-942-5023 kkbach@bellsouth.net

Music Forum of Tupelo

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

Vicksburg MTA

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

From the MMT Editor

I'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 Valentin Bogdan for all of his hard work in putting together the conference, Jackie McIlwain and Joshua Trent Smith for overseeing the competitions, and to Valentin Bogdan and Julia Mortyakova for hosting us at The W.

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 Vice President for Public Relations sholmes057@gmail.com



Stephanie Holmes

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

Stephanie Holmes, editor

226 Hillcrest Drive Kosciusko, Mississippi 39090



Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Est. 1954

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