

MISSISSIPPI MUSIC TEACHER

The Official Publication of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association

**Plan to attend our 2024 Conference
Nov. 1-2 at Belhaven University in
Jackson.**

Message from the President



Jung-Won Shin

This year's Pre-College Finals took place at Hinds Community College in Raymond on Saturday, May 18. A huge thanks to Rebekah Schultz, Vice President for Pre-College Performances, and Rebekah Lipscombe, Vice President for Pre-College Performances and co-host for the event with Alice Ballard, at Hinds Community College, as well as our teachers entering students and

working at the Pre-College Evaluations and the Finals! I appreciate that Rosângela Yazbec Sebba and Katie Johnson, Vice Presidents for Pre-College Evaluations, Janine Beasley, Vice President for Membership & Web Management, Chris Ballard, Treasurer, our District Chairs, and evaluation hosts made the Pre-College Evaluations possible and successful last April. Special thanks to Hinds Community College, our host institution, and Joshua Landrum who generously sponsored our Pre-College Finals with two grand pianos and piano tuning.

Our State Conference this year will be held at Belhaven University in Jackson on November 1-2. I truly appreciate all the tremendous work done by Carol Mahler, President-Elect and Conference Chair, and Rebecca Geihlsler-Chittom, our host for the conference, in preparation of the upcoming conference. Music teachers and undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit proposals for the conference sessions. The deadline for conference proposal submissions is Friday, September 20, 2024, 11:59 p.m. More information about the conference is available on the conference website: <https://msmusicteachers.org/conference.php>

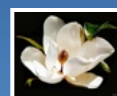
FALL 2024 VOL. 39, ISSUE 3

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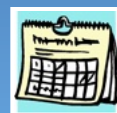
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Message from the President (continued)

I would like to invite you to enter your students in the MTNA state [competitions](#) held during our fall conference at Belhaven University on Friday, November 1, 2024. There are three divisions for each performance category (piano / piano duet / strings / woodwinds): Junior (11-14), Senior (15-18), and Young Artist (19-26). The registration deadline for the competitions is Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The brass and voice categories (senior and young artist only) will be two-tier competitions starting this year. The first round for these two categories will be online.

On behalf of the MMTA, I submitted a state report to the MTNA Southern Division for the Summit for MTNA Leadership which will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 6-8, 2024. I am very honored and grateful to attend the MTNA Summit as a representative of our organization again this year. The MTNA 2025 National Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on March 15-19, 2025.

If you have not renewed or registered for your MTNA/MMTA membership yet, I would like to remind you that it is time to complete it! Please visit the [MTNA website](#) for membership renewal or registration.

I hope that each of you will have a good semester and will look forward to seeing many of our members and students at the upcoming MMTA events.

Respectfully submitted,

Jung-Won Shin

President-Elect's Report



The MMTA 2024 State Conference will be held on November 1-2, 2024, at Belhaven University in Jackson. I am excited that nationally-recognized expert in the pedagogy of creativity and composition at the piano, Leila Viss, will be our Guest Clinician. Our Guest Artists will be the internationally-acclaimed Patterson-Sutton Duo, bringing to us their rich cello and guitar repertoire. The Commissioned Composer will be Belhaven University's own Dr. Andy Sauerwein. Dr. Kevin Chance, associate professor of piano at the University of Alabama, will be our IMTF Luncheon speaker and piano judge for the Pre-College Concerto Competitions. Piano master classes will be given by the Guest Clinician (Friday afternoon) and the Guest Artists (on Saturday morning). Conference performances will include Friday afternoon's New Faculty Recital and the Premier Performance of the Commissioned Composer's work as well as Friday evening's Guest Artists Recital. The MTNA National Competitions will be running concurrently with Friday's lectures and presentations. More performances are in store on Saturday, with the Gold Medal Winners Recital and the Pre-College Concerto Competition. All performances are free and open to the public. Our 2024 Mississippi Arts Commission Project Grant application was approved in July. This grant will help support our State Conference, as well as the Collegiate Competitions, which will be held at Jackson State University on Saturday, March 1, 2025. The call for conference proposals has been sent out to our members and posted on the MMTA website. I would like to extend my thanks to Jung-Won Shin, Chris Ballard, Janine Beasley, Brian Murphy, Laura Broughton, Jonathan Mitchell, Adrienne Park, Rebekah Lipscombe, Rebekah Schultz, Jenna Klein, and Stephanie Holmes, as well as all the Board Members, for their continuous work, help, and support in preparation of the MAC Project Grant application and organizing State Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Mahler, President-Elect

Treasurer's Report



Chris Ballard

Our current balance is \$77,122.82. That Balance includes:

Checking Account: 44,092.04

Pay Pal Account: 6,870.09

12 Month CD: 26,160.69

I have included the approved budget from the last fiscal year along with the actual income and expenses incurred. I have also included the proposed budget for this fiscal year for your consideration and sustaining vote. Thank you for your continued help and support concerning financial matters. help and support.

Respectfully Submitted: Chris Ballard, MMTA State Treasurer

Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Approved Budget from last year and the actual Income and Expenses

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Ordinary Income and Expense

Income:	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Actual</u>
MMTA Member Dues rebates	4,200.00	4,305.00
Fall Conference	10,000.00	9,880.00
Collegiate Competition	1,600.00	317.26
Pre-College Evaluations	11,200.00	13,815.00
Pre-College Finals	1,000.00	1,341.00
Donations	200.00	0
MMTA Foundation Fellow Contributions	1,500.00	1,550.00
Miscellaneous: (interest from First Internet Bank CD)		1,045.22
Miscellaneous: (MTNA rebate from last Fall Conf.)		750.00
<u>Total Income:</u>	<u>29,700.00</u>	<u>33,003.48</u>

Expense:	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Office Supplies	150.00	159.25
Fall Conference	14,000.00	11,587.39
MTNA Summit	350.00	60.50
Southern Division Expense	300.00	345.00
Affiliate Grant	150.00	0
Collegiate Competitions	1,400.00	317.26
MTNA National Conference Expense	1,750.00	2,252.91
Web Page Hosting Fee	300.00	1,278.12

Pre-College Evaluations	6,300.00	5,502.98
Pre-College Finals	2,500.00	3,815.51
Medals/Ribbons/Awards	1,000.00	570.78
MMTA Foundation Fellow	1,500.00	1,550.00
<u>Total Expenses:</u>	<u>29,700.00</u>	<u>27,439.70</u>

Mississippi Music Teachers Association

Proposed Budget

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Ordinary Income and Expense

Income:	<u>Proposed</u>
MMTA Member Dues rebates	3,150.00
Fall Conference	9,500.00
Collegiate Competition	320.00
Pre-College Evaluations	12,500.00
Pre-College Finals	1,000.00
CD Interest	1,000.00
MMTA Foundation Fellow Contributions	1,500.00
<u>Total Income:</u>	<u>28,970.00</u>

Expense:	<u>Proposed</u>
Office Supplies	170.00
Fall Conference	12,000.00
MTNA Summit	300.00
Southern Division Expense	350.00
Affiliate Grant	150.00
Collegiate Competitions	1,200.00
MTNA National Conference Expense	2,250.00
Web Page Hosting Fee	300.00
Pre-College Evaluations	6,000.00
Pre-College Finals	4,000.00
Medals/Ribbons/Awards	750.00
MMTA Foundation Fellow	1,500.00
<u>Total Expenses:</u>	<u>28,970.00</u>



Vice-President for Membership and Web Management



Janine Beasley

As of August 23, 2024, 102 members are listed for the 2024-2025 year (120 at this time last year, 100 in 2022-2023). Of these 1 is a new member, 2 are new collegiate members, and 1 is upgrading collegiate member.

Website changes:

Updated Events Calendar 2024 - 2025 with information that I have received to date.

Updated Conference page with information about the 2024 conference, per Carol.

Added January meeting minutes, per Alice.

Added the Winter and Summer MMT to the website per Stephanie.

Made various changes to email address, phone, address, etc., at the request of some members.

Sent a reminder July 11 to renew membership.

Ongoing:

Our current php version will no longer receive free support from GoDaddy soon. I called and was assured that if we upgrade to a version that will still be supported, if there are issues with the website due to this upgrade, we can revert to the current version that we are now on. I have discussed this with Jung-Won, and I plan to upgrade as soon as I can manage the time to deal with it.

Miscellaneous updates as needed

Continue to send mass emails to members as requested

Updating website with member information; will send another email to members who have not renewed to remind them to renew

Respectfully submitted,

Janine Beasley

Vice Presidents for Pre-College Evaluations



Rosângela Sebba



Katie Johnson

We have been busy finalizing the MMTA curriculum, 5-year evaluation plan and online registration. Janine received a jump drive with all the MMTA information, both old and new, including the 5-year plan. It has been 4 years of hard work and countless hours spent at the computer. Thanks to the Ad Hoc committee, who provided feedback and editing for the materials this past summer. It has been an honor to work with such wonderful musicians and caring teachers.

1. Forms and General Guidelines: Vicky Johnson
2. Guitar files: John Jackson
3. Voice files: Susan Smith
4. Strings: Carol Mahler
5. Brass & Woodwinds: Doug Mark
6. Piano: one year for each district chair
 - a. Year A: Sandy Coutoumanos (Tupelo)
 - b. Year B: Donna Banks (Jackson)
 - c. Year C: Kelly Shows (Ellisville)
 - d. Year D: Barbara Tracy (Vicksburg)
 - e. Year E: Carol Mahler (Gulf Coast)

7. Theory: one year for each officer

- a. Year A: Katie Johnson
- b. Year B: Rebekah Lipscombe
- c. Year C: Rebekah Schultz
- d. Year D: Janine Beasley
- e. Year E: Jung-Won

On July 30, Rebekah Schultz, Rebekah Lipscombe and I met to discuss the Tenuto online registration. We collected some questions for our next meeting with Alejandro Cremaschi on Thursday, August 15. During the meeting, he clarified several questions related to the program and asked us to look at the tutorial video at <https://tutorials2.tenutoweb.com/>

Thank you for your help and time spent with such important work. We can do this together, in a joint effort to improve music making and teaching in our state.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Johnson & Rosângela Sebba, Vice-Presidents for Pre-College Evaluations

Vice President for Collegiate and National Competitions



Jenna Klein

Planning for this year's MTNA State Round Competition is well under way. The deadline for competition entrants is September 11th at 2pm CDT. The competitions will be held at Belhaven University on November 1st, 2024. Brian Murphy has secured a piano judge for the competition, Dr. Ronald Shinn. Once the deadline passes, I will know exactly how many judges we need. I will be in touch in the other Performance Area Chairs in the coming week.

New this year: the horn and voice competitions are now two tiered. Entrants will compete by video in a preliminary round. Those who advance will compete in the final round live at the MTNA conference without regard to their state or division. One other small change to the competitions, there are no restrictions on ensemble size for compositions.

Please encourage your students and your colleagues to enter their students in this competition. We hope to have a great turnout!

Respectfully,

Jenna Klein

VP for Collegiate and National Competitions

Chair of Theory and Composition



Jonathan Mitchell

I'm pleased to announce the commissioned piece for our Fall 2024 conference.

The piece is by Any Sauerwein, who serves on the faculty at Belhaven. The name of the piece is either "Desert Water" or "Desert Song" and is composed for 9 string instruments (5 violins, 2 violas, and 2 cellos). The piece lasts about 12 minutes and is inspired by the composer's response to a large artwork by a Belhaven faculty member named Jacob Rowan. The plan is to project a montage of the artwork during the performance.

This should be a fantastic piece and I look forward to experiencing it with you and all our MMTA members.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Mitchell

MMTA Chair of Theory and Composition

Affiliate News



JONES COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Janine Beasley, President

August 24, 2024

This summer we planned our year. Dates for Showcase Recital, Solo-Sonata Competition, and Ensemble Festival were determined. We also selected music for Solo and Sonata Competition, and for Ensemble Festival. Michelle Howells has been working diligently again this year to get our yearbook ready. The yearbook consists of our calendar, membership information, and all other information that our organization needs to conduct our business and our events. This year, we conducted business via email/text, and we will meet in September for the yearbooks to be distributed.

All officers and committees are the same as the previous year.

The JCMTA annual Showcase Recital will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2024. Student performers and composers will be highlighted at this event.

The JCMTA annual Solo and Sonata Competition will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2025. The competition is for students sixth through twelfth grade.

JCMTA will hold its annual Ensemble Festival March 1, 2025.

Business meetings will be held prior to the above events.

Jones County Music Teachers Association will participate in the Ellisville area MMTA Evaluations April 5, 2025, provided that this date is confirmed, at Jones College.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Beasley

Music Forum of Jackson

In July, Music Forum of Jackson had a summer board meeting to plan our upcoming year of activities. We will host events, festivals, holiday luncheons and, also, enjoy our “First Friday” casual lunches during most months of the year. This lunch meeting is a popular way to connect with each other professionally and socially.

With the leadership of our program chair Alice Ballard working with Rachel Heard at Millsaps, we are partnering with Millsaps College to present a concert given by Duo Mundi, the noted piano duo, on Friday, September 20, at 7 p.m. A Masterclass for pre-college students and/or a Teacher Workshop will be held on the following Saturday morning, September 21. Both events will be at Millsaps.

MMTA State Conference will be held on November 1-2 at Belhaven College. MFJ will be hosting the reception following the Friday night concert.

Our annual Sonata Sonatina Festival will be held on November 23 with Donna Reed as chairperson. This festival is held at Millsaps College and is a grand way to showcase our students in recital.

On February 8, 2025, we will host our Fifty-Sixth Bach Festival at Hinds Community College, Raymond, with Kathie Gunn Lott as chairperson. We welcome teachers throughout the state (and even beyond) to enter students in this event to celebrate the Baroque style and its influences.

The MMTA Pre-College Evaluations will be scheduled for the spring with Donna Banks as chairperson.

The board of Music Forum of Jackson has planned an eventful year for our teachers and students to share programs, festivals, and fun together.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Duran Fox,

President MFOJ

Golden Triangle Music Teachers Forum

GTMF has 10 members who have paid dues this year and we are expecting to have at least 13 after all have renewed their dues. We had an early semester meeting on August 17 and enjoyed the 8 teachers who could attend, including a flute professor and two voice professors from MSU !

Highlights of the 2023-2024 year:

- Guest artist for MSU and GTMF was Slade Trammel from Roane State University in October
- MSU hosted the MMTA Conference and Competitions in October
- Some of our students performed in the Solo and Ensemble Festival at MSU (in collaboration with Hinds Community College on April 6
- We held Columbus/Starkville/Tupelo MMTA Auditions on April 13 at MSU
- The GTMF Honors Recital (for students eligible for State Finals) took place on April 20 in the Recital Hall at MSU. Slade Trammel returned to MSU to be our guest artist and adjudicator for the event.

Upcoming events:

- August 29-30 : Steinway Celebration for MSU to celebrate becoming an all-Steinway school (many of our members are performing in the event!)
- October: Fall Outdoor Recital for students of GTMF members in downtown Starkville
- December: Members will play/sing Christmas music at a Starkville assisted living home
- April: GTMF will host MMTA local auditions for the surrounding areas at MSU music department
- April: MSU will host the annual Solo and Ensemble Festival (see invitation following)
- April 26: Honors Recital in Spring, featuring Dr. Kowoon Lee for performance and adjudication

We have a goal this year to make sure we involve teachers of other instruments with planning and events, so that we are not solely a group of pianists and piano students.

Musically Yours,

Katie Johnson
President

The Vicksburg Music Teachers Association

Met on Friday, August 2, 2024. Present: Jeanne Evans, Mary Hall, Denise Ragsdale, Kim Steen, Rachel Storey, Barbara Tracy. Missing: Judy Buys.

Mary Hall brought her baby son John Atticus, born on Father's Day. He was a perfect gentleman, and so precious! Rachel Storey is expecting her second son, November 28! Our group is small, and we are happy to see our young members starting their families.

We sketched out our calendar for the year:

Fall Festival: Sunday, October 27. Always a favorite, and costumes are welcome.

Holly Days: Saturday, December 7, indoor arts and crafts festival at the Southern Cultural Auditorium. This is not an official Vicksburg Music Teacher Association Event, but it showcases local music students and dance companies for the public.

Collaborative Music Event, "No Lonely Hearts:" date to be determined.

Mary and Rachel both have degrees in Collaborative Piano. We thought it would be fun to present duets, and accompaniments by students with other students (singers in our case).

Pipes, Pedals and Pizza: February 1, 2025, at Galloway UMC and St. Peter's Cathedral in Jackson. A free event sponsored by the American Guild of Organists for students to learn more about pipe organs at various churches in the region, with free pizza following. Please contact Barbara Tracy if you would like to send students to this event. Her email is barbara9872@att.net.

Bach Festival. Saturday, February 8.

Classical Program Music Recital: Sunday, March 2, 2025. Rachel suggested an educational theme for our Spring Recital. Program Music intends to evoke images, or convey the impression of events. Plenty of music at all levels, is appropriate for MMTA evaluations.

Best wishes for everyone as you prepare for the new year of music lessons!

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Evans

Hattiesburg Music Teachers League



The Hattiesburg Music Teachers League (HMTL) is proud that Theresa Sanchez was honored by the Music Teachers National Association as an MTNA FOUNDATION Fellow during the 2024 MTNA National Conference in Atlanta and through the support of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association. Dr. Sanchez is now entering her 45th year of membership and is also a former state president.

HMTL had 23 members in 23-24, and we hope to maintain, if not exceed, that membership in 2024-25. We are in a new term of officers, but we wish to recognize the devoted service of Christina Mathis who served as Recital Chair beginning in 2019, through the pandemic and virtual recitals, her doctoral studies, a new grandbaby, and beginning full-time faculty work at William Carey University. We are deeply grateful to her!

Our 24-25 year will be on a good foundation with our fall meeting's guest presentation "Understanding and Recognizing Mental Health Issues in Musicians" by Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Janet McMillan and organized by Program Chair Susan Smith. The guest presentations (two per year) follow our business meetings and are open to the public (including additional non-member collegiate students).

We also greatly value the three HMTL student recitals (featuring pre-college and collegiate students) that are held throughout the year, to be chaired in 24-25 by doctoral student Erick Diaz. We are appreciative of Erick's willingness to oversee these events, especially as the October student recital is a good lead-up to the MMTA annual Fall conference.

May you all be energized by the cooler temperatures of Fall and the offerings of MMTA's Fall Conference!

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Moak
President



GULF COAST MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Local Affiliate Report
August 23, 2024

Greetings, all. The Gulf Coast Music Teachers Association (GCMTA) is awaiting an exciting fall term. Currently, we have 15 members. We have been busy redoubling our efforts to engage within our group and with the greater community. We are especially hoping to connect with local band and choir teachers

We held our June Luncheon Meeting at Phoenicia Gourmet Restaurant in Ocean Springs on June 15. At this meeting we elected our Executive Officers. These are listed as follows:

Jonathan Mitchell, President
Emily Mahler, Vice President
Katlin Ross, Secretary
Nelda Davis, Treasurer
Chelsea Riches, Web and Membership Manager.

We held our board of directors meeting at Coastal Harmony in Gautier on July 19th.

We are looking forward to hosting multiple events this fall and spring (2025):

-The GCMTA will have an exhibit at the Hummingbird Festival, which will be held at the Pascagoula River Audubon Center on September 20 and 21st. We are planning on showcasing our students and teachers in this wonderful space.

-We will be hosting our Fall Pre-festival Evaluation and Fall Concert on October 19th. This event is tentatively scheduled for October 19th at the MGCCC-JC campus in Gautier.

- A program, "Employing Music Therapy Techniques in Music Lessons," by Katlin Ross at Coastal Harmony in Gautier.

-A masterclass, by Elizabeth Moak, Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Southern Mississippi and NCTA to be held in March.

We look forward to seeing you in Jackson at the state conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Mitchell, President.

2024 MMTA State Conference

November 1-2, 2024
Belhaven University, Jackson, MS

Featured Artists & Presenters

Leila Viss, Conference Clinician

The Patterson/Sutton Duo (cello and guitar), Guest Artists

Andy Sauerwein, Commissioned Composer

Kevin Chance, Independent Music Teachers Forum Speaker

Lectures, seminars, and performances will be presented by professional teachers, artists, and composers, as well as students, on both days of the Conference. On Friday afternoon, pre-college students will play in a masterclass for the Guest Clinician. The masterclass will be followed by the New Faculty Recital and the Commissioned Composer Premier Performance. That evening, the Guest Artists will perform. MTNA student competitions will also be underway during the morning through mid-afternoon on Friday. On Saturday morning, the spring Pre-College State Finals Gold Medal Winners will be featured in recital. That afternoon, the Pre-College Concerto Competitions will take place. The Steinway Corporation will sponsor a booth during the Conference.

Presentations by Conference Clinician:

- "*Painting the Blues within the 12-Bar Palette*"
- "*Creative Conditioning for the Rookie Composer*"
- "*Flipping Feedback to Feedforward*"

The full schedule can be found on the [Conference website](#).



Mark Your Calendar

Nov. 1, 2024 - 2024 MTNA State Competitions - Belhaven University, Jackson, MS

Nov. 1-2, 2024 - 70th MMTA State Conference - Belhaven University, Jackson, MS

March 1, 2025 - 2025 MMTA State Collegiate Competitions - Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

April 5, 2025 - 2025 MMTA Pre-College Evaluations, Group B - Columbus/Starkville, Ellisville, Gulf Coast, Vicksburg

April 12, 2025 - 2025 MMTA Pre-College Evaluations, Group A - Goodman, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Oxford, Tupelo

May 17, 2025 - MMTA Pre-College Finals - Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

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

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.

MMTA Officers

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From the MMT Editor

Happy Fall!

Our Fall Conference is quickly approaching! We will be at Belhaven University. Carol Mahler has been instrumental in planning this year's conference. Be sure to thank her for all her hard work.

I hope your teaching year is off to a great start. Have a fabulous rest of the semester!



Stephanie McGee
Editor



Mississippi Music Teachers Association

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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.