

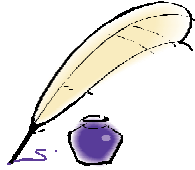
GCMTA NEWSLETTER

Volume 2008, Issue 4

April 2008

From the desk of Lois Simon

SIMON SAYS



Congratulations and Thanks!

- **To all teachers and students** who participated in the Local Auditions, and to Jean Mann and Stephanie Freeman, the organizers of that event.
- **To the Juniors and Seniors** who participated in the JR/SR Scholarship Competitions. Thanks to Tim Wheeler, chairman.

The Executive Board Meeting in March was very productive. We discussed ideas to improve our various events and voted to make a few changes. Among them:

- **Festivals** - The board agreed to appoint an overall chairman for the three Federated Festival districts. Thanks to Judy Harper, who agreed to fill that position.
- The board voted to increase compensation for ALL our judges so that there would be uniformity and less confusion. Judges for all events will be paid the same rate.
- After discussing our reserve fund with Cathy Thacker, the board voted to add an additional scholarship to the Federated Festival scholarship competition. The 1st place Scholarship will be \$400, 2nd place will be \$300 and 3rd place, \$200.
- The board also discussed expanding the Placement Committee to assist teachers in transitional neighborhoods, updating our New Member Brochure and starting a support group for Adult Piano Students. Please **CAREFULLY READ** your minutes of the March meeting when it is emailed to you, so you will be aware of all the changes.

I JUST returned from the MTNA Conference in Denver. It was wonderful! I am so excited to: create a website for my studio, use new ideas for sightreading, try new approaches in teaching group lessons, use my students ipods and other technology to help in learning music, teach a composition class and use the suitcase of new music I picked up at the conference (much of it was complimentary.) I have several handouts and resources to share with you at the meeting on April 23rd.

Most of all, I hope YOU to plan to attend the next MTNA Conference 2009 in ATLANTA!

JR/SR SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS

This year's Jr/Sr Scholarship Auditions was a smashing success! We had 16 entrants (a record high!), from 10 teachers. All the students did a wonderful job and played marvelously. The first place winner was Abigail Clack (Susan Andrews) winning \$800; 2nd place was Steven Melin (Bonnie Bowen) for \$600; 3rd was Daniel Forkner (Mary Parsons), \$400; and 4th was Catherine Wei (Ping Xu), \$200. Honorable Mentions went to Adam Smith (Carol Mitchell), Shannon Wood (Marcia Rygh), Katy Hsu (Jean Mann), Hanna Lin (Jean Mann), and Helen Li (Ping Xu). The cash awards will be mailed directly to the winning students the first week of April. Thanks to all those who participated!

FEDERATED NOTES

Congratulations to Catherine Roadcap, student of Marge Engle, who received her 75 point gold cup after the North Federated Festival on February 9.

Catherine is a senior at Buford High. Aside from her skills as a fine pianist, she sings in a girls' trio that won first place last year in the State Literacy Guild and is also a star soccer player. She has received several letters from universities offering her scholarships to play soccer and has been accepted at Georgia Tech, where she thinks she will major in Engineering and minor in Music.

She began participating in Federated in the first grade and has earned a total of 83 points in Piano Solo and Concerto playing through the years. Kudos to Catherine and Marge!

APRIL GCMTA MEETING

The topic of the April 23 meeting is "Certification: Why Bother?", presented by our own Robin Engleman. The meeting begins at 9:30 at Lawrenceville Church of God. Be sure to attend the meeting to hear this informative program and to support Robin.





GCMTA Newsletter

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THE MALONE COLLEGE CHORALE CONCERT

On two separate evenings, May 8th & 9th, Muéo Arts is proud to host the 63 member Malone College Chorale at Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian, 5185 Peachtree Dunwoody Road in Sandy Springs. The Thursday and Friday evening concerts begin at 7:30, are free of charge, and open to the public. The chorale will perform Randall Thompson's incredibly moving masterwork, The Peaceable Kingdom, in addition to other profoundly beautiful chorale pieces such as Mozart's Lacrymosa, and Z. Randall Stroope's Amor de mi Alma. Invite family and friends! If you have never experienced in person the intense beauty of sound created by a large top-notch classical/sacred music choir, this is an event you will not want to miss. Visit www.mueoarts.com for more information.

CALENDAR

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| April 19 | Ensemble Rehearsal at Music and Arts |
| April 23 | GCMTA Meeting |
| April 26 | GCMTA Ensemble Concert – Lawrenceville Church of God |
| May 9-10 | GMTA In-State Spring Auditions at UGA, Athens |
| May 21 | GCMTA Luncheon |
| June 30 | MTNA Dues Deadline for 2008-2009 |

