

GCMTA NEWSLETTER

Volume 2008, Issue 1

January 2008

From the desk of Lois Simon

SIMON SAYS

Happy New Year to all of you. I trust you had a good holiday.

Now that we have started the New Year, we also begin the busiest season for piano teachers. The Federated Festivals, GCMTA Local Auditions, Jr/Sr Scholarship Auditions and Ensemble rehearsals and Concert are coming up in the next three months. Check your yearbook for any changes in rules or procedures for these events.

KUDOS to Susan Andrews and her GCMTA Festival Committee - Lisa Bassett, Marion Compton and Michelle Peck. The festival was well planned and implemented – a big success!

Please mark your calendars:
Because Easter is early this year, there will be NO GCMTA meeting in March. (There WILL be an April meeting, however.)

The Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, March 26, location to be announced. This will be a Pre-planning Meeting for next season's events. We will discuss Federated Festival dates and policies, compensation for judges, and in general, prepare the best events possible for students and teachers.

(The Executive Board consists of ALL officers and chairmen.)



Federated Festival Notes

The Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association has a proud tradition of providing a relationship for its teachers with The National Federation of Music Clubs. Because we must follow their guidelines, there is much more work involved, before and after, than in other events.

Due to our "growing pains," several years ago it was decided that chairmen would be responsible for assigning duties to participating teachers. This would sometimes require each teacher to do a job in addition to working on the day of the festival. In the directory there are 2 1/2 pages of duties that must be done. A few people can't do all of this, so we ask that all participants step up when asked by your chairman to help. In addition, please be sure to read all rules and regulations on pages 20-26 of your directory. There has been an attempt to explain all rules and guidelines as thoroughly as possible, but sometimes new issues occur that we don't expect.

If you don't feel you have been kept informed of expectations, I hope you will excuse any miscommunication and help us make the festival as successful as possible. You will find that your help will be a part of making everything run smoothly and you'll learn something as well!

Hymnplaying Workshop

Berean Baptist Music Academy will be hosting a workshop for teachers, students, church pianists, and anyone interested in hymnplaying on Saturday, January 26, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The workshop will be led by Rebecca Bonam and Duane Ream, co-authors of a new series of books on hymnplaying entitled *The Church Pianist*, designed for use with your piano students or as a self-teaching guide. The first three books in the series will be introduced at the workshop. The material includes hymn improvisation, training the ear, and early congregational playing. They will also perform solo and ensemble arrangements of hymns available for purchase. The workshop is free, and door prizes will be given out as well as packets for those attending. Please contact Janeen Finch at the Music Academy, 770-985-5318, ext. 14, to RSVP.

GCMTA's Annual January Brunch at Bonnie's "Tea Room"

That's right, the site for our January brunch carries all the attributes of the finest Southern tradition tea rooms. And our gracious Bonnie Bowen is definitely the "hostess with the mostest!" Just join us for January's meeting if you want to feel special, meet new members, catch up with friends, have a great meal and learn some practical tips on how to have the best recital ever!!!

We will meet at Bonnie's house at 9:30 (see directions in this newsletter), share brunch, have our business meeting and enjoy our program – HOW WE DO IT! – RECITALS. Be thinking of ideas, themes, settings, etc. that have worked for you that you would like to share. Feel free to bring programs, props or anything that adds to the presentation. We will have both small and large group sharing.

Remember, you must RSVP to Bonnie by Friday, January 18 for the Wednesday, January 23rd meeting - so she will know how many lovely tables she will need to set up, of course! Everyone is asked to bring a casserole or salad to share. Bread and beverages will be provided. Who knows, there might even be a door prize or two! Visitors are welcome.



GMTA Local Spring Auditions

The Audition will be March 8, 2008, at Piano Works.

The entry form (State Directory); affidavit (local directory); a single check (\$20.00 for each student entered); and a self-addressed, stamped envelope must be delivered by January 23 to Stephanie Freeman, 4047 Haverford Ct., Duluth, GA 30098. Forms may also be delivered by hand to Stephanie at our regular meeting on January 23.

Each teacher must be a resident of Gwinnett County or live in a county with no local associations and teacher dues must have been paid by June 30, 2007. Teachers entering 6 or more students must work all day and those entering 1 to 5 students must work a half-day. No substitutions will be allowed.

On the day of the Audition, teachers must be prepared to leave one check covering all "OP" winners (\$26.00 per winner) and a one time teacher fee of \$20.00 at the registration desk. No cash will be accepted.

State MTA Conference a hit with all

If you attended our November GCMTA meeting, you heard rave reviews from Harriet Woodward and many others who participated in our Georgia Music Teachers conference Nov. 1-3 at North Ga. College and State University, in Dahlonega. Not only was the setting and weather just perfect, but the University staff, GMTA Executive Board and planning teams did everything within their power to make everyone feel welcome. The presentations were both inspiring, practical and highly entertaining – above all, motivating, for teachers who constantly need to grow and be encouraged. There were many opportunities to mingle and speak with music educators at all levels, hear wonderful concerts, both professional and from Georgia's own aspiring artists and pick up new ideas to improve our teaching. Our Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association was extremely well represented, but next year we would like to urge even more to give this conference a try. Plan now to attend – November 6-8 at UGA in Athens.

GCMTA Fall Festival Winners

Twenty-eight teachers and 232 students (kindergarten through adult) participated in the GCMTA Fall Festival which was held on November 10, 2007. The following winners received \$30 cash awards at the festival.

Congratulations to the winners and honorable mention recipients. Sincere thanks to all the teachers and judges whose hard work made this year's festival a success.

Susan Andrews, Lisa Bassett, Marion Compton, Michelle Peck

4th GRADE

Winners

Rachel Kim	Young Hae Kim
Patrick Ziegler	Yumi Patterson
Hailey Kim	Patti Bennett
Anna Clack	Susan Andrews
Micaela Bessette	Linda Walker
Trevor Austin	Pam Asberry

Honorable Mention

Ethan Collins	Kathryn Dawal
Lulu Pearce	Tina Darden
Erik Hung	Jean Mann
Victoria Lee	Jean Mann
Mackenzie Harville	Tiffany White

5th GRADE

Winners

Andrew Jeng	Stephanie Freeman
Meaghan White	Carol Albert
Liam Butler-Lawrence	Pam Asberry
Anna Westbrook	Linda Walker
Titus Clark	Lois Simon
Dayi Fu	Tiffany White
Amanda Delgado	Patti Bennett
Taylor Withrow	Lisa Bassett
Rachel Parris	Nora Martin

Honorable Mention

Aili Simpson	Pam Asberry
Aashini Patel	Lisa Bassett
Heather Nicholas	InSun Baik Ko
Melissa Haughton	Tiffany White
Jackie Bonilla	Michelle Peck

6th GRADE

Winners

Matthew Do	Stephanie Freeman
Jerry Chambers	Yumi Patterson
Alicia Bachtel	Marian Compton
Cory Bhowmik	Tiffany White

Andi Clements
Shawn Wong
Laura Burleson
Leesa Quinlan
Catherine Lee

Honorable Mention

Evangeline Crist
Kristin Burton

7th GRADE

Winners

Robby Compton
Christie Sui
Ellen Min
Sharon Mariscal
Cassidy Sims
Rob Hunter

Honorable Mention

Charis Hanson
Kush Bhatia
Gabbie Griffith
Craig Owenby
Johnathan McCravy
Drew Williams
Alex Marihew

8th GRADE

Winners

Shushmita Hoque
Ji Woo Moon
Kia Quinlan
John Graves
Malini Laxman

Honorable Mention

Aaron Patel
Christine Lozano
Shelby Supper
Emily Warlick
Ellen Johnston
Leah Branson
Sara Bachtel
Taylor Nicole Akins

9th GRADE

Winners

Grant Heffley
Emma Crist
Anna Kakizaki
Jessica Stamey

Honorable Mention

Jay Ralston
Holly Eaton
Karl Kuutti
Allie Schureck

Cathy Thacker
Yumi Patterson
Stephanie Freeman
Lois Simon
Young Hae Kim

Susan Andrews
Lois Simon

Marion Compton
Stephanie Freeman
Boram Chung
Nora Martin
Linda Walker
Patti Bennett

Janet Will
Debra Hughes
Yumi Patterson
Lisa Bassett
Bonnie Bowen
Kathryn Dawal
Jenny McCormick

Jean Mann
Patti Bennett
Lois Simon
Patti Bennett
Judy Harper

Patti Bennett
Nora Martin
Lois Simon
Cathy Thacker
Yumi Patterson
Nancy Morris
Marion Compton
Michelle Peck

Susan Andrews
Susan Andrews
Yumi Patterson
Yumi Patterson

Cathy Thacker
Susan Andrews
Yumi Patterson
Yumi Patterson

GCMTA Fall Festival Winners

Continued...

10th GRADE

Winners

Lillian Otieno	Patti Bennett
Derek McCravy	Bonnie Bowen
Cecilia Trode	Bonnie Bowen
Sarah Cooke	Mary Ann McTier

Honorable Mention

Andrea Evenson	Harriet Woodward
Jodi-Ann Simpson	Yumi Patterson
Katie Adcock	Janet Will
Sandy Jiang	Judy Harper
Arielle Byington	Yumi Patterson

11th GRADE

Winners

Jasmine Hayter	Patti Bennett
Angela Holleman	Susan Andrews
Theodore Yang	Yumi Patterson

Honorable Mention

Lauren Owens	Kathryn Dawal
Gloria Kim	Young Hae Kim

12th GRADE

Winners

Christina Denton	Marion Compton
Lydia Utley	Tina Darden
Bianca Copello	Yumi Patterson

Honorable Mention

Elizabeth Powell	Yumi Patterson
Chris Capasse	Bonnie Bowen

VOCAL COMPETITION

Winners

Megan Price	Debra Hughes
Elizabeth King	Debra Hughes
Molly Davis	Pattie Bennett

Honorable Mention

Anissa Smith	Tiffany White
Emily Nguyen	Patti Bennett
Jennifer Lazau	Patti Bennett
Jake Cooper	Patti Bennett
Taylor Bahin	Kathryn Dawal

Newsletter

If you would like to submit an article to the newsletter, please e-mail Melissa Burgess at melissagann@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting articles is the first of the month.

Directions to the January Brunch at Bonnie Bowen's House

**PLEASE READ THIS EVEN IF YOU THINK
YOU KNOW HOW TO GET HERE!!**

The Windsor Farms entrance to our subdivision from Grayson Highway has been closed!!!

Going south from Lawrenceville on Ga Hwy 124:
from the intersection of Ga 124 and Ga 124:

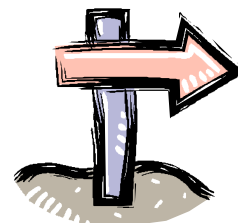
- Cross Gwinnett Drive in front of Summit Ridge Hospital
- Take the next left onto Poplar Creek Drive. There is a short left turn lane
- At the bottom of the hill the road merges with Forest Valley Road
- Forest Valley dead ends into Pineview.
- Turn right onto Pineview which almost immediately becomes Summit Ridge
- Our house is on the right just after you pass Windsor Farms Drive (273)

Going north from Snellville on Ga Hwy 124:

- After you enter the Lawrenceville city limits watch for a divided entrance and a brick sign with Forest Hills on it. During holiday seasons this is frequently decorated with season appropriate wooden figures. (Pilgrims, Uncle Sam etc.)
- Turn right at the divided entrance onto Maple Wood Drive.
- Turn at the first left onto Forest Valley Road.
- Forest Valley dead ends into Pineview.
- Turn right onto Pineview which almost immediately becomes Summit Ridge.
- Our house is on the right just after you pass Windsor Farms Drive (273).

When you leave, Lawrenceville bound folks follow Summit Ridge/Pineview directly to Ga 124 and turn right. Since left turns are not possible here all Snellville bound folks will need to retrace the Snellville entrance directions to 124. At this entrance you may turn right or left.

Our phone number is 770-963-9319. Please RSVP by Friday, January 18th.





GCMTA Newsletter

Diana Opolka
3313 Westbrook Trace
Lawrenceville, GA 30044



Calendar

January

- 5 Federated Festival Application Deadline
- 23 GCMTA Local Auditions Application Deadline
- 23 GCMTA Meeting and Brunch at Bonnie Bowen's

February

- 9 North Gwinnett Federated Festival at Duluth First Baptist Church
- 9 Central Gwinnett Federated Festival at Snellville First Baptist
- 9 West Gwinnett Federated Festival at Smokerise Baptist Church
- 15 JR/SR Auditions Application Deadline
- 27 GCMTA Meeting