

GCMTA NEWSLETTER

Volume 2008, Issue 4

November 2008

From the desk of Lois Simon

SIMON SAYS



Thank you to the Ensemble Committee for organizing the October meeting program in such a professional way. Pam Asberry, Nora Martin and their committee continue to expand the quality of the Ensemble event. The duets were well played by our "teacher teams". We can look forward to another exciting Ensemble Concert in April.

Congratulations! GCMTA was selected as the GMTA local association with the most new members. (At last count we had 12 new members.) As a result, we received one free registration to the GMTA Conference in Athens. The officers decided to give the complimentary registration to Robin Engleman in appreciation for her efforts as Certification Chairman.

Be sure to go to the GMTA website – www.georgiamta.org – and take a look at the changes in the GMTA theory test. I hope we will all take advantage of the "user friendly" aspects of the new test and register students. The registration deadline is February 28. The date of the test is March 7 at PianoWorks.

Those who need the 2008 – 2009 Directory may obtain one by sending \$6.00 to: Lisa Gaal, 1535 Shagbark Way. Cumming, GA 30041



CERTIFICATION

Our GMTA executive board recently approved a recommendation that all individuals who obtain MTNA certification for the first time during the period of time between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009 will receive a complimentary 2009 GMTA Conference Registration.

We would like to recognize Debra Hughes (flute, piano and voice) and Yumi Patterson (piano), GCMTA's AND GMTA's most recent NCTMs. Congratulations!

For more information on certification visit www.mtnacertification.org or contact Robin Engleman.



NOVEMBER 19th PROGRAM FEATURES GEORGE MANN

TEACHING MUSIC OF THE ROMANTIC PERIOD – CHOPIN

George will be discussing the works of Chopin that a lower advanced student might study, with some suggestions on technical solutions, style, etc. Teachers, if possible, bring scores to the preludes, nocturnes, waltzes, mazurkas, and polonaises. He will have handouts with specific problem spots and how they might be approached.

George was selected GMTA Teacher of the Year in 2007 and is well loved by many in Gwinnett County. He has addressed our group on several occasions, most recently for our Master Class in February 2007. He retired as Professor of Music from the University of West Georgia in 2003. Since then, he continues to teach in his private studio, as well as on the staff of LaGrange College and at the Georgia School of the Arts in Kennesaw. He is also Director of Music at St. Julian's Episcopal Church in Douglasville.

FEDERATED NOTES

The deadline for entering students in the Federated Festivals is January 10, 2009. I would like to remind you of a few things before submitting applications to your Chairman.

Be sure you have followed the guidelines in the NFMC Bulletin and that the repertoire is correct. All other rules and information are listed on p. 20-26 of your Directory.

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AS REQUESTED ON THE NEW 2009 APPLICANT LIST.

If you have transfer students, please fill out form JR 3-1 for each transfer, so that your student's records can be recorded correctly.

Students in grade 9-12 are eligible for scholarships at the discretion of the chairman.

The fee for each student is \$18.50 (you prepaid \$1.50 in the Sept. Dues), and \$10.00 for any extra event.

DID YOU KNOW?



We've made a few changes to our website in order to make it more useful to our members and to the public. Below is a list of new and old features of our site.

Home page

- ◆ Click on Forms to get the correct forms for both the Fall and Federated Festivals
- ◆ Clicking on Find a Teacher and you (and people looking for teachers) will be taken to the GMTA teacher search page. Make sure you have your information up to date with the GMTA.

About

- ◆ Get a brief history of the GCMTA.

Meetings

- ◆ Meeting times, locations and topics are up to date.

Officers and Committees

- ◆ To make communication easier and faster, e-mail addresses are listed next to everyone's name. Click on the e-mail address and your computer will automatically create an e-mail to that person.

Treasury Notes

- ◆ Instructions for requesting funds for GCMTA events. Click on Request for Funds to get the form you need.

Affiliates

- ◆ This page has been updated with pertinent information and website and email links to the GMTA and MTNA, and contact info for the Gwinnett Council for the Arts.

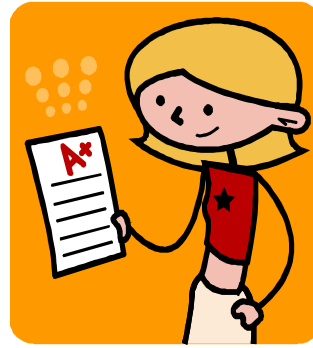
Newsletter

- ◆ Past and present newsletters are available here. Our web host uploads the newest newsletter each month.

Photo Album

- ◆ See photos from our 2007 events. Please help us by taking photos at our events and emailing them to music@writingondawal.com.

REVISION TO GMTA THEORY TEST



The GMTA Theory Test has been revised to make the test more accessible to more students. Although GCMTA is considering the possibility of changing the date and location of the Theory Test in the future, for this year the test will remain on the day and the location of the Local Auditions – March 7 at PianoWorks.

Some specific details about the new theory test:

- Expansion from 4 levels (A,B,C,D) to 5 (I,II,III,IV, V). Level I includes some easier material that the previous Level A and Level V some more difficult material than the previous Level D.
- Level I will be more accessible for non-pianists.
- More principled and steady unfolding of topics though all levels.
- All levels will include a finite list of terms with definitions.
- Teachers may register students to take a level as many times as they think appropriate before progressing to the next level
- The tests will NO LONGER be offered at state auditions, but will be administered by local associations only.

To see sample questions or to get additional information about the Theory Test, go to the GMTA Website at www.georgiamta.org. The GCMTA Theory Test chairman is Robin Whitworth - (678) 482-6357, robinluvsdogs@bellsouth.net.



REMINDER FROM THE TREASURER:

If requesting reimbursement, please fill out a "Treasury Notes" form, attach all applicable receipts, and mail to Cathy Thacker, 2603 Twilight View, Snellville,

GA 30078. You may also give the paperwork to Cathy at the monthly meetings. The forms are on the GCMTA website.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

November

- 15 GCMTA Festival - Harmony Grove Methodist of Lilburn
- 19 Ensemble Concert Registration Deadline
- 19 GCMTA Meeting

January

- 10 Federated Festival Application Deadline
- 28 GCMTA Meeting and Brunch
- 28 GCMTA Auditions Application Deadline



GCMTA Newsletter

Diana Opolka
3313 Westbrook Trace
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please add these new members to your directory:

Eva J. Bone
7 Elm Street
Covington, GA 30014
770-403-0482
masterpiecemusicstudio@earthlink.net
Piano

Jose Manuel Garcia
803 Prada Court
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
770-682-2455
jmpiano@gmail.com
Piano, Accompanying, Theory

Jeanne Herring Giager
1122 Berkeley Road
Avondale Estates, GA 30002
404-284-9233
Jgiag@aol.com
Music Education, Piano-Pedagogy, Flute

Anna Stuart Herrington
2364 Bradford Lane
Snellville, GA 30078
770-979-2701
accents2b@yahoo.com
Piano, Voice, Theory

Janice Melody Troutner
130 Riverbrooke Road
Covington, GA 30016
678-787-7201
melodytroutner@TroutnerPianoStudio.com
Piano

Kai Bassett
4435 Tall Hickory Trail
Gainesville, GA 30506
(770)654-2308
Piano, Voice, Trumpet

Carolyn M. Merrill
1980 Foster Trace Ct.
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
(770)377-6565
Piano, Voice