

# GCMTA NEWSLETTER

Volume 2009, Issue 2

February 2009

## SIMON SAYS

From the desk of Lois Simon



### **Our Federated Festivals, as always, were a big success!**

- Enormous thanks go to chairpersons Judy Harper and Ping Xu (North Gwinnett), Mary Ann McTier and Harriet Woodward (Central Gwinnett), and Debra Hughes (West Gwinnett), for doing such a skillful job.
- Congratulations to the winners of scholarships, partial scholarships, and honorable mentions.

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Thank you to all the students and teachers who participated in the February Master Class with Jean Mann. We have all been looking forward to seeing Jean "in action" and I think we learned much.

Thanks also to Music and Arts for donating gift certificates to the students.

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Good luck to all those students who will be participating in the Local Auditions, the new theory test, and the Jr/Sr Scholarship competition this month.

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There will be NO GCMTA meeting in April.. Our last program of the year will be this month, March 25, featuring Lois Finlay. At the March meeting, also, we will be voting on the new slate of officers. We will conclude our year with the luncheon on May 20th. President elect, Janet Will, and her new board will be installed at that meeting.

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I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting AND at the MTNA Conference in Atlanta!

## MARCH PROGRAM

At our March 25th meeting, GCMTA is pleased to welcome back Lois Finlay as our clinician. She will speak on PREPARING STUDENTS FOR FESTIVALS AND AUDITIONS. Several in our group have heard this presentation before and felt it was extremely beneficial. Lois is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music who maintains a teaching studio in Clarksville, Ga. Don't miss this opportunity to get prepared in advance for next year's programs and competitions. We will meet in the choir room of the Lawrenceville Church of God at 9:30 am for coffee and our regular business meeting before the presentation. Hope you can join us! Janet Will – Programs

## NORTH DISTRICT FESTIVAL

The North Gwinnett Festival was held at First Baptist, Duluth on February 14. We had a total of 324 students participating in Piano Solo and Concerto events, with 299 earning Superior ratings.

Many THANKS to all teachers who worked so hard to help make the event a big success.

Congratulations to the following Scholarship Winners:

1st Place	Sitan Chen (Wong)
2nd Place	Cody Pham (Xu)
3rd Place	Sharon Zhang (Xu)

1st Alternate	Angela Chiang (Hao)
2nd Alternate	Alice Guo (Xu)
3rd Alternate	Daniel He (Xu)

Honorable Mention	Darian Payne (Weaver)
	Alan Dong (Freeman)
	Elaine Li (Hao)
	Rebecca Ni (Hao)
	Thomas Williford (Purkerson)
	John Gaal (Gaal)
	Kyle Mancuso (Freeman)



## CENTRAL DISTRICT FESTIVAL

Central Gwinnet Federated Festival was held on Saturday, February 21 at Lawrenceville First Baptist Church. We had a great day of playing by fine young musicians who were prepared by dedicated teachers. We had a total of 277 students play with ratings as follows: 257 Superior, 16 Excellent, 4 Satisfactory, (11 students played from other districts). Congratulations to the scholarship winners and their teachers!

\$400 - Emma Lin (Mann)  
\$300 - Shushmita Hogue (Mann)  
\$200 - Lindsey van Pelt (Wheeler)

1st Alternate - James Eccles (Brady)  
2nd Alternate - Kia Quinlan (Simon)  
3rd Alternate - Holt Davis (Simon)

Thanks to all the Central teachers for your hard work prior to and on Festival day!

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## WEST DISTRICT FESTIVAL

We had 9 judges evaluate 305 events. There were a total of 286 students of 17 different teachers who performed on Valentine's Day 2009.

The High School Vocal winners were:

1st - Meagan Price	Debra Hughes
HM - Elizabeth King	Debra Hughes

The High School Piano winners were:

1st - Even McAvoy	Rebecca Bonam
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Anna Kakazaki	Yumi Patterson
3rd - Chris Rollins	Susan Andrews

1st Alt - Marcia Gorsline	Marcia Rygh
2nd Alt - Christopher Meek	Rebecca Bonam
3rd Alt - Andrew Chambers	Yumi Patterson

Honorable Mention:

Evelyn Chang	Tina Darden
Nicole Christian	Rebecca Bonam
Angela Holloman	Susan Andrews
Lauren Landers	Susan Andrews



## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board (all officers and committee chairs) will meet on Wednesday, April 22, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the home of Lois Simon. This is a 'pre-planning' meeting where we will discuss plans for next year's events. This is also an opportunity to discuss any improvements that you would like to incorporate into your plans.

After the pre-planning meeting, we will take some time for the outgoing officers and chairmen to pass along materials, information and explanations to those who are incoming. Both old and new officers/chairmen will need to attend this meeting and bring your notebooks, boxes or file cabinets(!) with you. This should get the new people off to a good start, with a shorter "learning curve" when the new season begins.

### Directions from Lawrenceville

From S Clayton St SW (north) (0.3 mi)  
Turn LEFT onto W Pike St (2.2 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Lawrenceville Suwanee Rd (3 mi)  
Turn LEFT onto Dean Rd (1 mi)  
Turn LEFT onto White Birch Way (0.2 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Birch Hollow Trail (0.3 mi)  
Arrive at 2117 Birch Hollow Trail

### Directions from I-85 (north or south)

Take exit 109  
Turn (east) onto Old Peachtree Rd - the Q-Trip side of the interstate (.9 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Dean Rd (0.4 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto White Birch Way (0.2 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Birch Hollow Trail (0.3 mi)  
Arrive at 2117 Birch Hollow Trail

### Directions from Snellville

From US-78  
Turn RIGHT onto SR-124 / Scenic Hwy (4.3 mi)  
Turn LEFT onto Sugarloaf Pkwy (7.1 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto N Brown Rd (1.4 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Old Peachtree Rd (0.3 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Dean Rd (0.4 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto White Birch Way (0.2 mi)  
Turn RIGHT onto Birch Hollow Trail (0.3 mi)  
Arrive at 2117 Birch Hollow Trail



## **GCMTA Newsletter**

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### **MAY MEETING**

There will be no meeting or newsletter in April, but be sure to put Wednesday, May 20 on your calendar. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (1400 Killian Hill Rd., in Lilburn) for our installation of new GCMTA officers. We will also enjoy a wonderful exhibit of musical games, activities and teacher helps - compliments of Patti Bennett and her Music By Patti Studio. We will be amazed by what is out there to aid us as teachers and make our lessons more fun and meaningful for our students. Don't miss this final wrap-up meeting to a most successful year. We will have BRUNCH together and FABULOUS FELLOWSHIP. See the May newsletter for further details.

### **SENIOR CERTIFICATES**

If you haven't ordered your Senior Certificates you can sign up at the March Meeting on the 25th, or you can contact Lois Simon. These certificates are for students who have continued music throughout high school. The certificates will be available at the April meeting and the May luncheon.

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### **CARES AND CONCERNS**

The membership of Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Kathy Beers, one of our members, whose mother passed away recently.