

Gwinnett County Music Teachers Association

GCMTA NEWSLETTER

Volume 2006, Issue 7

October 2006

From the desk of Yumi Patterson

The Patterson Report

We had a **GREAT TURN OUT** at the first GCMTA meeting in September! Thanks to those who came, and I want to extend a warm welcome to our new members. The program, "Intermediate Repertoire Choice Made Easy," by Dr. Carol Gingerich was very helpful, especially since so many of our teachers could relate to the topic. The line up for the programs this year is very good, and I hope everyone comes to all of them.

NAME TAGS were made and donated by **Patti Bennett** for the GCMTA members. Thank you, Patti, for your hard work! They are excellent tools for us to learn our fellow members' names.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARDS will be awarded to members who come to all of the GCMTA meetings at the May luncheon. We will have six more meetings this year, and we hope to see you at all of them.

The **OCTOBER MEETING** features "Presentation of Literature for Ensemble Concert 2007." It is a great opportunity to become familiar with 2-hand piano pieces. Our own members will play all of the music for the Ensemble Concert. Please note that the October meeting will be at Piano Works in Duluth, not Lawrenceville Church of God.

The **GMTA STATE CONFERENCE** is scheduled for November 2-4 at GA Southern University. Our own **Jean Mann** will present one of the programs on Friday. Please obtain any needed information in the current GMTA newsletter, and start planning to attend!

GCMTA Survey Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is your GCMTA Survey. This tool will allow us to gather information about Gwinnett piano teachers and their policies and procedures. We are all interested in knowing how much other teachers are charging for lessons, what method books they use, etc. This survey will only be meaningful if we have a response from **MANY** teachers. Remember, this is designed to be anonymous, so do not provide your name.

Please fill out the enclosed form (all 3 pages) and return to Lois Simon by December 1st. You can:

- Bring it to the October or November GCMTA meeting.
- Mail to: Lois Simon
2117 Birch Hollow Trail
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
- Email: loissimon@aol.com

(If you choose email, your response will not be anonymous.)

The survey results will be published in the January newsletter.



Announcements

GMTA Conference November 2-4 at Southern University, details in the Aug./Sep. issue of the GMTA Newsletter

Chopin Society Competition (written and performance)

November 4 and 18, 2006

Information: Ping Xu 770-619-5290 or feliciapingxu@yahoo.com

Piano Olympics

Information: Bonnie Davis (Greater Marietta MTA) 770-505-0339

NDMTA Workshop

“Teaching Adult Beginner & Intermediate, Holiday Duet Music, Pattern Studies Technique, Jazz”

November 16 at Steinway Piano Galleries

Lost & Found

Someone (probably a child) left a small case with some rechargeable batteries at the Ensemble Concert at the end of April. To claim it, please have them contact Robin Engleman at englemanr@bellsouth.net with the following information: 1) the brand name on the case, and 2) the type of batteries.

2006/2007 GCMTA DIRECTORY

Any GCMTA member who paid their 2006-07 GCMTA dues and still needs a 2006-2007 directory, please send \$5.00 to Lisa Gaal, 1535 Shagbark Way, Cumming, GA 30041.

Ensemble Concert – April 28, 2007

BIG NEWS—Mary Hinely, from Georgia Perimeter College, has agreed to be our conductor for the ensemble concert. She will conduct all the pieces for students at the intermediate level and above.

Newsletter Deadlines

The deadline for submitting information for publication is the **1st of each month**. Please contact **Cathy Thacker** with the necessary information.

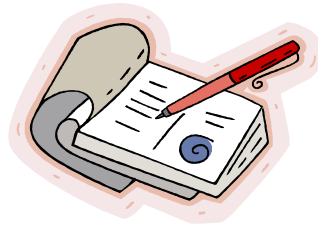
Telephone 770-978-3708

Email cbt88@bellsouth.net



GCMTA Newsletter

Diana Opolka
3313 Westbrook Trace
Lawrenceville, GA 30044



Mark your calendar!

October 6	GCMTA Festival Application Deadline
October 25	GCMTA Meeting at Piano Works in Duluth
November 2-4	GMTA State Conference
November 11	GCMTA Festival
November 15	Ensemble Concert Application Deadline
November 15	GCMTA Meeting (last meeting of 2006)

GCMTA

SURVEY OF PIANO STUDIO FEES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Please check the answer that best describes your studio practices, and answer as many questions as you can. **This survey is anonymous; please do not provide your name.**

1) How do you charge tuition?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weekly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Semester
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yearly

2) How long are MOST of your lessons?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	45 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	60 minutes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

3) How much PER HOUR do you charge for lessons? (If you charge \$70 per month for a half hour lesson, this is \$35 per hour)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 - \$35 per hour
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 - \$40 per hour
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$45 - \$50 per hour
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

4) Do you give a discount for multiple students in one family?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

5) Do you give a price discount for a longer lesson (45 or 60 minutes)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no

6) Do you charge a registration or music lending fee?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10 - \$15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$20 - \$25
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

7) Do you charge a late payment fee or give a discount for early payment?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	none
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	late fee (5 - 10 percent)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	early payment discount (5 - 10 percent)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

8) How often do you raise your tuition price?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	every year
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	every two years
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	every three years
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

9) Do you offer make-ups for missed lessons?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, with advanced notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

10) Do you incorporate computerized music theory games for your students?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no

11) Do you use any other electronics in your studio?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Keyboard with head phones
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Digital piano with computer (midi)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Digital piano with sequencer
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	none

12) Do you offer group lessons in your studio?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	none
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	weekly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	monthly
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	periodically

13) How do you record student assignments?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular notebook
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Published assignment book (i.e. Alfred, Faber)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Custom designed book
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

14) Which piano method book do you use with your students?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faber and Faber – Piano Adventures
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hal Leonard Student Piano Library
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alfred Basic Piano Library
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bastien Piano Basics
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

15) Please check the events in which you enter students.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GCMTA Fall Festival
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federation Festival
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Auditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensemble Concert

16) What technique books do you use?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dozen a Day
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fingerpower (Schawm)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sportacular (Willis)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hanon Junior
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

17) How many students per week do you teach?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	less than 10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 - 20
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21 - 30
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	31 - 40
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	41 - 50
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Over 50

18) What age group do you primarily teach?

<input type="checkbox"/>	elementary level
<input type="checkbox"/>	intermediate level
<input type="checkbox"/>	advanced level
<input type="checkbox"/>	evenly distributed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____

19) Do you take students who do NOT have an acoustic piano?

<input type="checkbox"/>	no
<input type="checkbox"/>	I allow digital pianos
<input type="checkbox"/>	I allow electric keyboards for beginners
<input type="checkbox"/>	other _____

20) Do you give your students opportunities to compose music?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Frequently
<input type="checkbox"/>	Occasionally
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seldom
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

21) Do you have degrees in any of the following?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Piano Pedagogy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Piano Performance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Music Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor in Music
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____

Do you have an innovative teaching idea / procedure to share with other teachers?

Thank you for taking the time for sharing and helping the GCMTA members to improve by sharing ideas. Results will be available in the January newsletter.

Please return this form to Lois Simon by December 1st. It can be brought to either the October or November meetings or can be mailed to: Lois Simon, 2117 Birch Hollow Trail, Lawrenceville, GA 30043.

THANKS! LOIS SIMON