SOUNDBOARD

Newsletter for the Alabama Music Teachers Association

In This Issue

2014 Conference	pg 3
Conference Artists	pg 4
IMTF	pg 8
Southern Division	pg 10
State Auditions	pg 10
Audition Schedules	pg 14





From the President

Hello my AMTA friends! What a joy to be in a comfy, warm studio, teaching piano! Do you ever feel really blessed to be in this line of work? Well, I do.

The level of musicianship and professionalism I witnessed at the MTNA Southern Division Competitions and Meetings on Jan. 17-20 was so encouraging. Truly our art is not dying, and generations of people are loving the craft of musicmaking. A successful MTNA Competition held at Auburn University, organized Dr. Jeremy Samolesky, yielded a fine group of winners who went on to represent us at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. We are so proud of these students. We are honored that the following students have won at Southern Division and will proceed to the National Competition in Chicago, March 22-26: Elisabeth Tsai in Junior Piano, student of Ron Shinn, Eric Tsai in Senior Strings, student of Sergiu Schwartz, and Benjamin Rollings, Young Artist Piano, student of Jerry Bush. Aleksandra Kasman, student of Yakov Kasman received Alternate in Senior Piano, Joowon An, student of Alina Windell, received Honorable Mention in Junior Woodwinds, Zoe

Bofill, student of Ginger Beazley, received Alternate in Senior Voice, Lauren Williams and Christina Lewis, students of Kevin Chance, received Honorable Mention in Piano Duet, and Amberlyn Richardson, student of Kristin Kenning, received Alternate in Young Artist Voice. Congratulations to all our students. If you would like to know more about the results of this competition, visit www.mtna.org.

Elections for the MTNA Board will be held in February. Our accomplished member, Kevin Chance, is running for Southern Division Director. Read about him as well as his opponent at <u>www.mtna.org</u>, and exercise your privilege to vote when MTNA opens the elections.

I look forward to what 2014 brings. I hope many of you will participate in the new College Piano Concerto Competition and the renewed Guitar Auditions. I also hope to see some of you in Chicago for the MTNA National Conference. Please contact me if you are needing information or have concerns, and I will do my best to help.

Dr. Wendy Freeland, NCTM AMTA President



2014 AMTA CONFERENCE

- Report from Jodean Tingle, NCTM - 1st VP.

The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa is the site of our 2014 AMTA Conference. Moody Music Building is a beautiful facility, and they have graciously invited us to come June 5 - 7, 2014. Alan Chow is the guest artist at 7:30 Friday, June 6, and Jane Magrath is the clinician on Thursday and Friday, June 5 - 6. Bill DeVan has agreed to do a workshop for us about the importance of properly teaching the beginning student, and we will have another workshop on accompanying. There will be two music stores on hand to help you choose good music, and many wonderful performances by students and members.

The Hotel Capstone at 320 Paul W Bryant Drive is the hotel we will use. It is only 5 minutes from Moody Music building. Their number is 205-752-3200. Ask for the block of rooms reserved for the Alabama Music Teachers Association Conference. Call before May 4 to reserve a room at the reduced price of \$115 per night. There are many other hotels in Tuscaloosa, also. The banquet on Thursday night will cost \$25. More information will be in the brochure, coming at the end of March. If you wish to give suggestions or offer to help, contact Jodean at jtingle@bsc.edu or phone number 205-226-4991. Thanks.

AMTA OFFICERS

The nominating committee has compiled the following slate of officers for the 2014-16 term. Many thanks to the individuals who are willing to serve in these elected positions!

1st VP (Conference) Sarah Cheatham Tanner 2nd VP (Membership) - Mark DeGoti Judges' coordinator - Margery Whatley State auditions coordinator - Melodie King Secretary - Misti Akins Short Treasurer - Alice Eaton MTNA Auditions Coordinator - Jeremy Samolesky Clinician - Kevin Chance

submitted by Dr. Cynthia MacCrae, University of Montevallo

2014 AMTA CONFERENCE



Alan Chow - Guest Artist (MMus, Juilliard School)

Acclaimed for his "elegant poetry and virtuosic fire," Alan Chow has won First Prize in the Concert Artists Guild International Competition, the UCLA International Piano Competition, and the Palm Beach Invitational International Piano Competition. Winner of the Silver Medal and Audience Favorite Prize at the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, he was also a prizewinner in the William Kapell International Piano Competition.

A Steinway artist, Professor Chow has performed in recital and in concert with orchestras from coast to coast in 45 states. His recitals have brought him to the major music centers including New York (Lincoln Center, Merkin Hall, Steinway Hall), Boston, Los Angeles, Chicago (Symphony Center and Ravinia), Washington, D.C., Cleveland, Seattle, Atlanta, New Orleans, and Miami. Concerto performances include appearances with the National Symphony, Utah Symphony, Oakland Symphony, Tulsa Philharmonic, Kansas City Symphony, and Omaha Symphony. Professor Chow regularly

tours Asia with performances in China, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore, including performances with the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Pan-Asia Symphony. An avid chamber musician, he has collaborated with the American, Pacifica and Miami String Quartets and has been guest artist at the Grand Canyon Chamber Music Festival, Juneau Jazz and Classics, San Juan Islands Chamber Music Festival, Kent Blossom Music Festival, Texas Music Festival, Music Festival of Arkansas and Music Mountain. In addition, he appears in joint recital engagements in the Cheng-Chow Trio with pianists Angela Cheng and Alvin Chow.

Also in demand for his teaching, Professor Chow has given master classes throughout North America and Asia at conservatories, universities and summer festivals including the Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, New Orleans International Piano Festival, Gina Bachauer International Piano Festival, Las Vegas Piano Festival, Tunghai International Piano Festival (Taiwan), and in Singapore. Appointed guest professor at the Central Conservatory in Beijing and honored visiting professor at the Shenyang Conservatory, he has also presented recitals, master classes, and lectures in China at the conservatories in Shanghai, Chengdu, Xian and Wuhan.

Professor Chow studied with Nelita True at the University of Maryland where he graduated Co-Valedictorian with his twin brother Alvin, and received the Charles Manning Prize in the Creative and Performing Arts given to the outstanding graduate; with Sascha Gorodnitzki at The Juilliard School where he was awarded the Victor Herbert Prize in Piano; and with Menahem Pressler at Indiana University where he was the recipient of the Joseph Battista Memorial Scholarship. He also studied at the Mozarteum Sommerakademie with Carlo Zecchi.



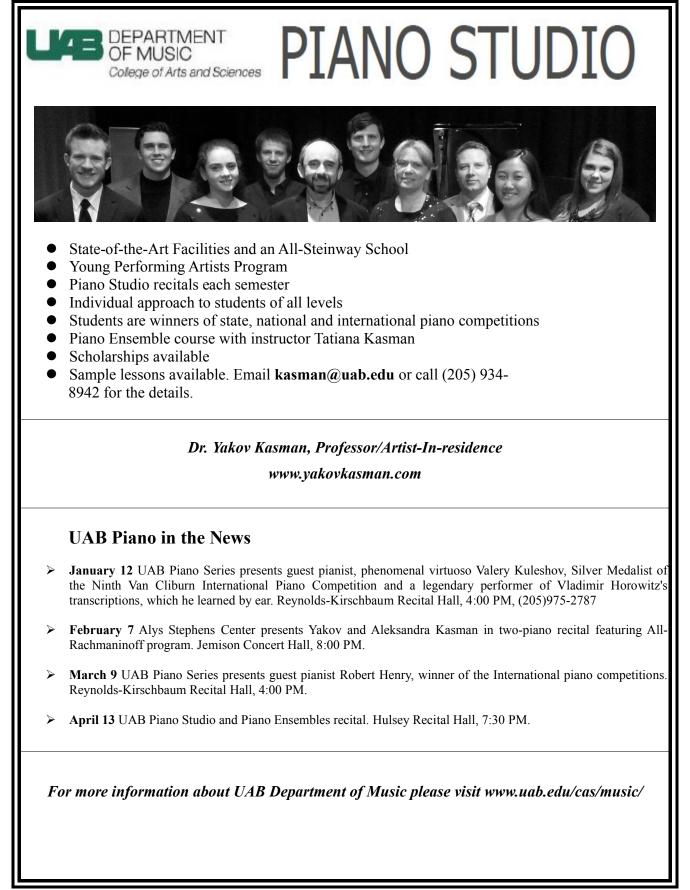
JANE MAGRATH, Clinician

Jane Magrath is well known as an author, clinician, and pianist. Her book *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* has become a classic reference work for pianists throughout the country, and Magrath's work in the area of the standard classical teaching literature has been central to the current revival of interest in this music throughout the U.S. She currently has more than thirty-five volumes published with Alfred Publishing, and her music editions are used widely throughout the U.S. and abroad. Her classical series include the *Masterwork Classics* series in 9 volumes, *Encore, Masterpieces with Flair, Melodious Masterpieces, Sonatina Masterworks, Modern Masterworks,* and the *Classics Alive* series. Her newest literature series is titled *Audition Repertoire for the Advancing Pianist.*

Dr. Magrath is frequently in demand as a clinician and teacher, and during the last twenty years has performed and given presentations in over forty states including Alaska, and on three continents. Her workshops and master classes have drawn international acclaim. Magrath has served as Piano Coordinator for National Conventions of Music Teachers National Association and

givenpresentations at MTNA National Conventions, the European Piano Teachers Association Conference, the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy, theWorld Piano Pedagogy Conference and at many stateMTNA conventions. Her articles have appeared in the major pianojournals. She was named the first recipient of the MTNA/Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award for the Outstanding Contribution to Piano Pedagogy. For many years she contributed *New Music Reviews* to Clavier and the column *Polyphony*, to *The American Music Teacher* and continues her column *Musingsi through Clavier Companion*. Magrath currently serves as an editor for the *Piano Pedagogy Forum*.

A native of South Carolina, Magrath received her education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at Wesleyan College, and was the first person to receive the D.M. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Northwestern University. A faculty member at the University of Oklahoma since 1981, she received a Regents' Award for Superior Teaching as well as an Associates' Distinguished Lectureship Award on two occasions and a Rinsland Award for Excellence in Educational Research. She was named McCasland Presidential Professor by the University, Oklahoma Music Teachers Association Teacher of the Year by that association, and also Oklahoma Musician of the Year by the Oklahoma Federation of Music Clubs. Currently, Magrath is Regents' Professor and holds the Grant Endowed Chair in Piano Pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma, where she was recently named Rothbaum Presidential Professor of Excellence in the Arts and serves as Director of Piano Pedagogy. In 2009, she received the Neustadt Award from the University, given to an advocate for students and nominated by students. She advises masters and doctoral students in the piano pedagogy degree, and has chaired many documents and dissertations in the department. Her students have won numerous prizes and competitions. Magrath is most at home working in the studio and classroom with students, and collaborating with faculty colleagues, pianists, and teachers.



AMTA Composition Commission

The winner of the AMTA Composition Commission is Dr. Alan Goldspiel. Dr. Goldspiel is currently Chair and Professor of Guitar in the Department of Music, University of Montevallo.

-submitted by Lori Ardovino, University of Montevallo



Independent Music Teachers Forum

Dear Colleagues:

I wanted to share two of these reports from state IMTF chairs with you. I read about 20 from throughout MTNA and thought these were most interesting.

The Florida IMTF discussed these issues at their state conference in Nov. 2013:

- Setting sound studio policies
- Charging professional rates
- Competing with sports for time
- Competing with the demands of AP studies in high school
- The non-practicer
- Strategies for student motivation
- Painful parents

The Arkansas IMTF addressed these issues at their state conference in 2013:

- Phantom Students (those who fail to show up)
- Bookless Wonders (students who arrive w/o books)
- "Arguers" (those who oppose everything that is said)
- "Can't Do" (those who give up before trying)
- "Whatever" (the student who will not allow themselves to become enthusiastic about anything)
- The Mannequin (these refuse to say anything; even their facial expressions don't seem to respond to what you say)
- The Bulldozer Chatterbox (these interrupt you, change the subject and time is spent trying to segue back to the lesson.
- The "Groundhog" Students (those who have accomplished nothing all week)

I found it refreshing to know that other private teachers are dealing with these issues and perhaps this might be an interesting panel discussion for our AMTA conference if it seems pertinent.

- submitted by Frances Schwemmer- eddosch@aol.com

Huntsville, District VIII Piano Auditions

Audition Date: Saturday, April 12, 2014

Audition Location: First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive, Huntsville, 35801

Teachers, please go to hsvmta.org and click on District Piano Audition to read the directions and the check list to be sure all forms are completed correctly. It is always great to have volunteers, so please email Frances Schwemmer at eddosch@aol.com if you would be willing to work for a few hours on Saturday or the Friday morning before the audition. If you have some students who are unable to come to their audition, please email Frances and let her know as we try to work in some students who have last minute conflicts.

Round and Round, Up and Down!

-Report from Connie Teague, MTNA Foundation Chair

That phrase could describe so many different things in this world. It seems to me, that, at this point in time, we can use it as a very accurate analogy of our weather and MTNA Foundation contributions. The weather is incredibly cold and wintry one day and the next we feel like pulling out shorts and flip-flops, again. The contributions from Alabama in the last two or three years have been just as predictable. In 2012, we sent a little over \$1,000.00 and another \$1,000.00 to honor Don Bowyer as a fellow to Our foundation. In 2013 we contributed only \$675.13. Good grief!!! What a tremendous UP and DOWN! This may be even worse than the weather ups and downs.

This year we need to commit to a really bring these numbers up. Our foundation cannot function on extreme highs and lows like this! I shudder to think if all state associations contribute in this sort of roller coaster fashion. Even closer to home; can you imagine trying to plan a household budget and paying all your financial obligations with such a vacillating income?! (Not to mention, a few extras)

As everyone knows, the Mayans apparently thought that the world would end in 2012. It didn't happen. They were wrong. Time to move on and make a new plan. My proposal is for EVERY member of AMTA to make a commitment to MTNA Foundation and pay your part to keep our foundation strong and functioning properly. Every year, the same group of people support the foundation and keep it going. To all of them, our heartfelt gratitude is extended! However, there are over 200 other members in this state who are not helping at all. It is time for you all to live up to your responsibility and send some financial support to our foundation! I realize that some of you feel that you pay dues and that it's costly, you have other obligations, and so on and so on. However, membership dues never filter down at all to our foundation. Membership has many benefits for each of us professionally. We are all aware of that. However, membership includes responsibility! And, part of that responsibility is contributing to MTNA Foundation. Without your help, the foundation cannot continue to function! It should NOT be left up to the same 30 or 40 members every year to try and keep our state's contributions going. If EVERY member in this state would give just \$5 our contribution would be \$1500!

Alabamians, I am asking, no, BEGGING, you, please make this the year you decide to live up to your responsibility and give your part to MTNA Foundation. It is our foundation. You may be shocked at the wonderful programs and benefits that you, personally, could be benefiting from! Go on line at <u>mtnafoundation.org</u> and see for yourself! Then, plan to add your contribution to your dues when your statement comes and designate if to MTNA Foundation. It is tax deductible and this is the easiest way to handle it. To everyone of you , please, plan to give generously this year! We really need to bring these numbers UP this year! In anticipation of generous contributions, THANK YOU for supporting MTNA Foundation.

Alabama Students Shine at MTNA Southern Division

-submitted by Jeremy Samolesky, MTNA Competitions Chair

I'm very pleased to report on the extraordinary successes of our Alabama representatives at the 2014 Southern Division MTNA Competitions held at the University of Louisville on January 17-20.

WINNERS:

Elisabeth Tsai, Junior Piano Eric Tsai, Senior Strings Benjamin Rollings, Young Artist Piano

Alternates:

Aleksandra Kasman, Senior Piano Zoe Bofill, Senior Voice Amberlyn Richardson, Young Artist Voice

Honorable Mentions:

Joowon An, Junior Woodwind Lauren Williams and Christina Lewis Senior Piano Duet **TEACHER**

Ronald Shinn Sergiu Schwartz Jerry Bush

Yakov Kasman Ginger Beazley Kristin Kenning

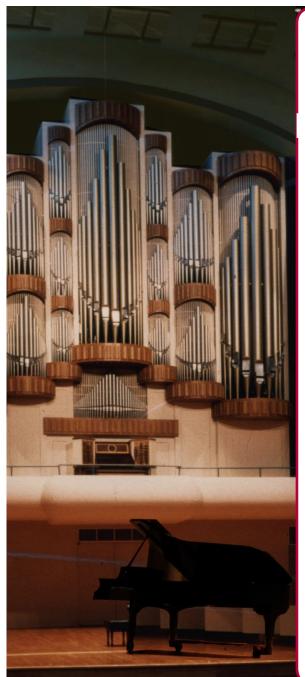
Alina Windell Kevin Chance

Congratulations to all of our competitors and their teachers for their hard work and dedication in preparing for these competitions.

AMTA State Auditions

AMTA STATE AUDITIONS IN BRASS, WINDS, VOICE AND AMTA COLLEGIATE AUDITIONS IN ALL INSTRUMENTS AND VOICE

Plans are well under way for a great day of state auditions in Tuscaloosa on April 5. The state auditions need some rejuvenation and a large dose of general awareness among music teachers in our state. This competition encompasses pre-college auditions (woodwinds, brass and voice) and collegiate auditions (all instruments and voice). There is a cash prize as an added enticement. Paul Houghtaling, auditions coordinator, has worked closely with Barbara Shin, judges coordinator, to secure the services of qualified judges, so please help us in spreading the word for future auditions. Contact Paul Houghtaling at <u>phoughtaling@music.ua.edu</u> for more information.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

KEYBOARD AT UA PIANO ORGAN

Offering undergraduate and graduate degrees that the span the breadth of performance, music therapy, church music, and music education, the University of Alabama School of Music incorporates a comprehensive and dynamic curriculum to fully prepare our students to be the musical leaders of the future.

UPCOMING KEYBOARD EVENTS

UA Organ and Piano Scholarship Competition Deadline November 15 Arunesh Nadgir, piano November 24-25 UA Keyboard Festival featuring guest artists Barry Jordan, Organ and Barry Snyder, Piano January 24-25 Noel Engebretson, piano January 28, 7:30 p.m. Kevin Chance, piano February 23, 2:30 p.m. Rachel Heard, piano and Lynn Raley, piano March 16, 7:30 p.m.

AUDITION DATES

Spring 2014 Organ and Piano Audition Dates Saturday, January 11

Monday, February 17 Saturday, March 1

Numerous scholarship and assistantship awards are available for the 2014-2015 school year. Interested students should audition by March I for priority consideration.

Contact Kevin Chance (piano) at ktchance@music.ua.edu or Faythe Freese (organ) at faythefreese@earthlink.net for more information.

COMPETITION

Announcing the UA Piano and Organ Scholarship Competitions — January 23, 2014! Scholarship awards available up to Full In State Tuition at the 2013-2014 Tuition Rate. No age restrictions to apply! Deadline to apply is November 15, 2013. Details can be found at music.ua.edu/piano and music.ua.edu/departments/organ.

KEYBOARD AREA FACULTY LISTING

Dr. Kevin T. Chance, Assistant Keyboard Area Coordinator Dr. Noel J. Engebretson, Professor of Piano Dr. Faythe Freese, Organ, Keyboard Area Coordinator Dr. Tanya Gille, Professor of Piano

Prof. Pamela Gordon, Instructor of Class Piano Prof. Amanda Penick, Professor of Piano Dr. Pamela Penick, Instructor of Class Piano Dr. Kevin Woosley, Instructor of Class Piano

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.MUSIC.UA.EDU

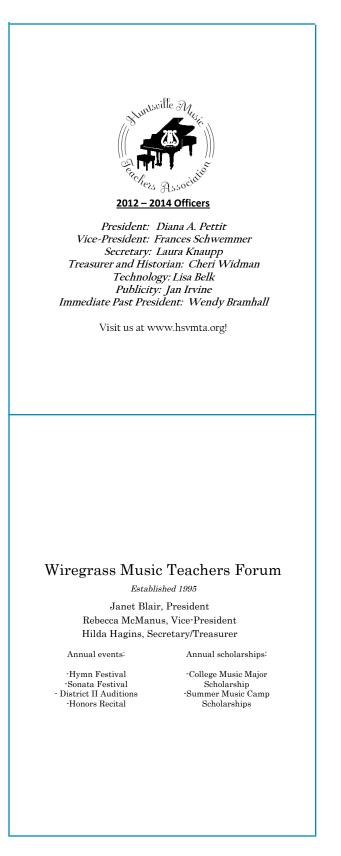
Op. 61 #2

The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

Our Current Membership Includes: Leslye Ames Annie Ashley Evaughn Balkcom Sharla Bender Susan Bishop Martin Camacho-Zavaleta Carrie Edwards Carboni Sarah Cater Sarah Cheatham Ruth Dunbar Kathy Elder Corine Anderson-Free Dorothy Fuller Betty Gallops Adonis Gonzalez Theresa Gordon, NCTM Ruth Graham Sally Hester Skye Jenkins Hae Na Ji Stephanie Jones, NCTM Arlene Judy Mildred Little Nora McGalliard Vadim Serebryany Barbara Shinn, NCTM Ronald Shinn, NCTM Elise Smith Ann Thorington, NCTM Patricia Vines Summer Whatley Cathy Whigham Donna Wilson, NCTM Hui-Ting Yang Sallye York

MMTF sponsors the annual Mark McGowin Recital and the Janis McCulley Hymn Festival in the Fall, the Helen Boykin Festival and Honors Recital each spring, the Montgomery District III AMTA Auditions, and the Helen Boykin Scholarships, several annual awards to outstanding music students who have a high level of musical achievement.





Department of Music

an All-Steinway school featuring small class size and personal attention



Join us for Piano Day - November 23, 2013

Piano study at Montevallo

Offering the Bachelor of Music Degree with Specialized Courses in:

Piano Pedagogy Piano Literature Keyboard Harmony & Technique Composition





Inspired by the Past, Dedicated to the Future To schedule a visit or sample lesson, contact Dr. Cynthia MacCrae, Keyboard Area Head: 205-665-6667 cmaccrae@montevallo.edu

www.montevallo.edu/music

2014 District Audition Schedules

*** Teachers sending students to districts other than their own MUST be courteous and request this favor of the District Chair well before that district's deadline. District Chairs may require such requests in writing, and have the option of refusing to take such students if doing so will overload their facilities and judges. Students within a district always have scheduling priority over "extra" students from other districts. ***

District	District Chair(s)	Date of Auditions	Deadline Date
I Mobile	Vincentine Williams 14 Cannonade Blvd Spanish Fort, AL 36527 (251) 626-2712 Elizabeth Petro 253 West Street Mobile, AL 36604 (251) 478-6021 west253@aol.com	April 5	March 21
II Enterprise	Carol Windham P.O. Box 157 New Brockton, AL 36351 (334) 894-2141 crlwindham@aol.com	April 19	April 5
III Aubum	Karen Hickok 2525 E. Glenn Avenue Auburn, AL 36830 <u>hickokkaren@bellsouth.net</u>	April 11-12	March 28
III Montgomery	Sarah (Cheatham) Tanner 1651 Sheffield Road Montgomery, AL 36107 (334) 462-1741 sarah.cheatham31@gmail.com	April 19	April 5
IV Tuscaloosa	Syble Coats 8714 Hudson Court Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 (205) 752-8823 (205) 391-2270 (work) <u>scoats@sheltonstate.edu</u>	April 19	April 5
V Boaz	Marche Altom 3249 Lakeland Drive Guntersville, AL 35976 (256) 582-3365 mmaltom@yahoo.com	April	March
VI Florence	Carol Lynn 335 County Rd. 12 Florence, AL 35633 (256) 766-6393 <u>clynn356@bellsouth.net</u>	April 12	March 21

VII Birmingham	Alice Butler 606 1st Street SE Cullman, AL 35055 205-585-3554 <u>alicebutler@pianopathways.com</u> Packets to Alice Butler Checks payable to Barbara Shinn	April 12	March 14
VIII Huntsville	Frances Schwemmer 126 Robin Lane S.E. Huntsville, AL 35802 (256) 881-6879 eddosch@aol.com	April 12	March 21
AMTA Collegiate and Pre-College Woodwind, Brass & Voice Auditions	Dr. Paul Houghtaling University of Alabama School of Music PO Box 870366 810 Second Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0366 phoughtaling@music.ua.edu	April 5	March 15
AMTA State Collegiate Piano Auditions	Dr. Paul Houghtaling University of Alabama School of Music PO Box 870366 810 Second Avenue Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0366 phoughtaling@music.ua.edu	April 5	March 15
State String & Chamber Music Auditions			
State Auditions University of Montevallo	Melodie King 2116 A Montreat Lane Birmingham, AL 35216 <u>mmking@samford.edu</u> IMPORTANT: if you send entries by certified or express mail, be sure to check the box stating no signature is required. If I must go to the Post Office to retrieve your packet, it is delayed by at least a day!	May 9-10	One week after District Auditions FINAL DEADLINE: April 20