

AMTA

SOUNDBOARD



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What an inspiring and rejuvenating experience we had at our 2007 AMTA annual conference! It was wonderful to see so many of you here in Birmingham renewing friendships, sharing teaching experiences, and learning even more tips to use in our own studios. While I am certainly a strong advocate for attendance at national conferences, I do understand that the costs of travel combined with the rising registration fees make these larger conferences difficult to attend on a regular basis. However, we are doing a tremendous job of bringing nationally and, indeed, internationally acclaimed artists and clinicians to our own state conferences for a very minimal cost to each attendee. Nowhere else could you attend over 10 workshops, an artist recital, recitals by professional musicians from throughout the state, numerous student recitals *and* a full catered banquet for only \$50! I want to thank Kevin Chance for the incredible job that he did in making all of this possible for us. Please take the time to drop him a note of appreciation for all of his hard work for our organization.

Everyone I talked to was stimulated by the wonderful session on practicing

that was led by Shearon Horton. Her extensive 8-page handout with recommendations for specific practice techniques in each of four style periods (Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Impressionistic) is a wealth of information. I am sure that we all found ideas that we already use regularly, some ideas that are similar to those we use but with a new twist, and some completely new ideas that we can't wait to try! The *Practicing and Motivation* discussion groups which were led by our own members gave us all the opportunity to share what has worked for us as well as a forum to ask questions of our colleagues about a particular challenge we have encountered. The small groups of 12-15 teachers provided the occasion to have each of our voices heard. As we all know, there is never only one way of achieving success; and what may work for one student may not work for another. So we must all continually strive to expand our "repertoire" of teaching practices in order to keep our students inspired and motivated.

Jean Barr's sessions on chamber music gave us great insight into working with young chamber musicians as well as tips for preparing our students to be ensemble pianists. Scott McBride Smith shared with us the

pedagogical considerations behind the new *American Popular Piano* series. And, of course, we received some terrific "goody bags" at this session which contained several full-length books from the series! Our guest artist, Anne Koscielny, thrilled us with her colorful performances of Beethoven, Ravel, and Schumann on Friday night. What an inspiration to see this lady with such a warm, engaging personality deliver such a powerful performance!

Rounding out these guests artists were thought-provoking sessions by several of our very own. Don Bowyer demonstrated examples of music software on the internet. What valuable, *free* resources he shared with us to help enhance our teaching! We all have faced those students who are concerned with playing the right notes at the right time, but their performances just don't seem to "speak" to us. Barbara Laurendine presented us with some creative ways to try to get our students to share more personality when they play. Barbara Shinn again led the ever-important *Workshop for Judges*. There are always some interesting issues that arise in this session and even those of us who are "seasoned" judges find something new and informative each time.

And finally, the amazing student recitals that we hear each year at

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IMPORTANT DATES

- September 15—Executive Board Meeting at Samford
- October 1—Deadline for the November Soundboard
- June 12-14, 2008 State Conference at Birmingham-Southern College



AMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

During the 2007 Alabama Music Teachers Association Conference, Hilda Hagins, received the AMTA Teacher of the Year award. The award is presented annually to a member who exhibits excellence in teaching, musicianship and service to AMTA and the community.

Hilda, from Enterprise, AL, has been teaching for over 35 years. She is a nationally certified piano and organ teacher and proprietor of her own music studio. She is also a member of the Alabama Music Educators Association, Music Educators National Conference, American Guild of Organists, and the National Guild of Piano Teachers. In addition, she serves as Music Associate at the First Baptist Church in Enterprise.

In 1994 AMTA District II had been inactive for several years when Hilda took the task of District II Auditions chairman. The auditions were held in Enterprise for the first time and she continued as chairman for ten years. Also in 1994 Hilda founded the Wiregrass Music Teachers Forum affiliated with AMTA and Music Teachers National Association. The forum began with four members and has grown to a membership of twenty-two. With Hilda's guidance, the first Sonata/Sonatina Festival was held in 1995 with fifty-two students registered. The Sonata Festival has been held each year since, and now has approximately 175 students who participate. In addition, the forum sponsors a Piano Hymn Festival each November to give the students an opportunity to prepare and perform music suitable for offertories and congregational hymn accompaniments. In May the forum holds an Honors Recital during which time scholarships for summer piano camps and scholarships to forum students who are college music majors are presented.

For the fifth anniversary of the Sonata Festival, Hilda suggested commissioning composer Kevin Olson to write new work for piano. The result was "Sonatina in Seasons," dedicated to the Wiregrass piano students. Mr. Olson attended the festival as well as the recital at which the work was premiered. For the tenth anniversary, Mrs. Elizabeth Greenleaf wrote a special work, "Wiregrass Sonata," which was also dedicated to the students. Like Mr. Olson, she also attended the Festival and recital.

In addition to teaching piano and organ, Hilda teaches Elementary Music, grades K-6 at two elementary schools in Enterprise. She has volunteered at Holly Hill Elementary School and founded and directed the Holly Hill Echoes, a vocal performance group made up of thirty-five students in grades four through six.

Hilda enjoys judging and often serves as an adjudicator for various scholarship, sonata and keyboard festivals. She judges for the National Guild of Piano Teachers as well as AMTA District Auditions.

As Organist and Music Associate at First Baptist Church of Enterprise, she serves as Children's Choir Coordinator, overseeing eight choirs from preschool to grade six. Hilda believes that music is meant to be shared and she feels blessed to be a part of celebrations in the lives of the church family as she prepares music for weddings, funerals and other events marking milestones in the lives of many. Sometimes Hilda must play "through her tears" to comfort families with the music in their times of great loss. Hilda feels blessed to be able to share these events with the church members, friends and students in the community.

Since the terrible aftermath of the tornado that struck Enterprise on March 1, 2007, Hilda has seen the tremendous healing power of music as the young people in high school have expressed their sorrow, their gratitude and their hope for the future through their music. The outpouring of love and support has been tremendous. Many music organizations have reached out to the choral and band students who have experienced this tragedy.

Hilda states that she is very humbled by this award. She believes that the most important treasures in life are faith, family and friends, and that music is one of the threads that weave these relationships together. "We teachers must carry the torch and light the way for a new generation of students so that they can experience the gift of music."



Hilda Hagins

Reflections on Betsy Barrett

Betsy Barrett, President of AMTA from 1970-1972, passed away recently in Mobile, Alabama. Although she had been ill for a few years, those who knew Betsy can reflect on what a dear friend she was to so many of us. She was a wonderful educator, as well as a composer, a journalist, and a leader. One of her best compositions, *The Cinderella Suite* for piano solo, was a favorite throughout the state when it was published. The "Lament" from the suite is still available. It is published by Alfred. Betsy wrote two small method books on teaching theory for teachers to use in preparing piano students entering AMTA auditions. The method books are Getting Into Scales and Arpeggios, Book I and Getting It Together, Book II. I still remember Betsy's student group presentation of this concept at an AMTA Convention!

Mrs. Barrett was very active in local associations in Tuscaloosa, the Piano Teachers Forum and Tuscaloosa Music Teachers Association; and at the state level of AMTA, serving in several executive positions as well as her term as President. She was encouraging to young teachers and she delighted in sharing musical ideas with others.

She was kind, caring, and interested in her friends and associates. She and her late husband, Henry Barrett, were instrumental in developing the string program in the association.

It is sad to lose a friend and a mentor. As I reflect on her life, I am glad our paths crossed. We, as music teachers, should strive to inspire others as Betsy Barrett did during her lifetime.

I am planning to make a memorial contribution to the *da capo* fund in Betsy Barrett's memory. The funds from the *da capo* fund will be used

to promote artists and clinicians in future AMTA conferences. Betsy would be pleased!

Perhaps you or your local association would like to join me in honoring Betsy in this way.

Syble Coats

The Da Capo Fund

The **Da Capo Fund** is an endowment fund for the continued excellence of the AMTA conference. It has as its purpose helping to underwrite the increasing costs of providing a guest artist and clinicians for our annual conference. Gifts to the **Da Capo Fund** may be made in memory or in honor of an individual or institution. Recognition of an honorary or memorial gift will be sent to an addressee as designated by the donor.

Donations may be sent to:

Nancy Vinson, NCTM
720 Highland Rd.
Auburn, AL 36830

With your contribution, please provide the following information:

1. Your name, address, and phone number
2. The name of the person you wish to honor
3. The designee for recognition of the gift, with address

There were two contributors to the Da Capo fund at the convention:

Barbara Laurendine - general contribution
Susie F. Dempsey - in memory of Betsy Barrett

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

There is a strict AMTA policy that states that a teacher may enter only his/her own personal students in our auditions. This means that if there is a "studio" which employs several teachers, each teacher must be a member of AMTA to enter students in the auditions. A teacher is not allowed to enter any nonmember's students. If you are "mentoring" a student teacher, the student teacher may join AMTA at a discounted student rate in order to be eligible to enter students in the auditions. Page 3 of our Students Activities Handbook outlines the consequence of not abiding by this policy. Under **Eligibility**, the next-to-last sentence states:

"Any member of AMTA who enters the student of a nonmember will be suspended from AMTA membership for one year."

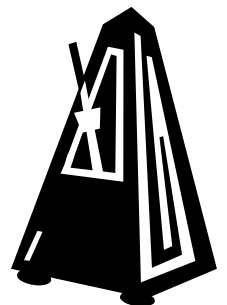
The 2008 Audition Forms will require that each teacher sign a statement indicating that all of the students entered by that teacher are indeed his/her own students.

COMPOSITION AWARD

The winner of the 2008 Commissioning Award from AMTA is William Price. William Price Assistant Professor of Music Theory at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. He received his M.M. and D.M.A. from Louisiana State University and his B.M.E. from the University of North Alabama.

Former Winners of the Commissioning Award include:

- 2000: Charles Norman Mason
- 2001: Craig First
- 2002: Dorothy Hindman
- 2003: Paul Clem
- 2004: Rusty Banks
- 2005 Phillip Ratliff
- 2006 Monroe Golden
- 2007 Ed Robertson



LOCAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Baldwin County MTA News

A new event for Baldwin County Music Teachers Association last spring was its first Music Scholarship Audition. Besides the audition, applicants submitted 2 recommendations, a statement about their musical goals and financial need. Thirteen year-old Patrick Gilmore of Montrose, AL was awarded \$125. The purpose of the scholarship is to help a deserving Baldwin County student meet a musical need, such as lessons or summer music camp.

students of five teachers participated on March 31st. In the photo, Mrs. Penick is seated at the piano with teachers and students surrounding her. She discussed the literature of the composers being performed, which was also helpful for the audience. All of us were thrilled with her warmth and enthusiasm!



Northeast Alabama Music Teacher's Master Class

The Northeast Alabama Music Teachers Association recently held a master class with Amanda Penick of the University of Alabama at Snead State Community College. Eight

Wiregrass MTA News

Tentative dates for the year:

Nov. 4—Hymn Festival (Dothan)

Recital Format

Nov. 6—Hymn Festival (Enterprise)

Private Judging

Feb. 9-10—Sonata Festival (Dothan)

April 5—AMTA District Festival at

FBC Enterprise

May 4—Honors Recital at FBC Enterprise

Hilda Hagins, President

THANK YOU!

A Special Thank You!

I want to offer my most sincere thanks to those of you from our own organization who offered your services through performance, leading a workshop, leading a discussion group, or coordinating an event for our annual conference. I didn't have room to mention everyone in this

month's "President's Message" but I want you to know that I did notice your contributions! Please forgive me if I have missed anyone (and let me know and I will correct that oversight in the next issue!). Thank you to:

Adam Bowles, Don Bowyer, Brett Dollar, Laura Doss, Wendy Faughn, Debbie Gray,

Barbara Laurendine, Connie Macon, Moya Nordlund, Donald Sanders, Barbara Shinn, Lauren Thompson, Nancy Vinson, and Roy Wylie.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Fouse



WWW.ALMTA.ORG

AMTA/MTNA 2009 COMPOSITION COMMISSION

Alabama Composers are invited to submit an application to be considered for an Alabama Music Teachers Association and National Music Teachers Association commission award.

The commission award is \$1000.

The composition must be completed by April 1, 2009

The commissioned composer must attend the June, 2009 AMTA conference (date and location to be announced).

The commissioned work can be for any size ensemble. However, the commissioned composer must provide performers for the performance of the commissioned work at

the AMTA conference. The composer is responsible for covering the cost of the performers and travel.

The commissioned work will be submitted by AMTA to NMTA in the Shepherd Distinguished Composer of the Year award. The composer will supply AMTA with a recording of the work for this submission. If the work wins the SDCY award, the composer will be responsible for providing the performer(s) for the presentation of the piece at the national conference (Composers will receive \$3000 for winning the SDCY).

Submit the following to Charles Norman Mason, AMTA Composition Commissioning Chairman, Box 549033,

Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, AL 35254:

- a. At least two, and no more than three scores and recordings (cassette or CD)
- b. Resume

A letter of intent detailing proposed commissioned work (instrumentation, length, etc.).

Deadline for receipt of materials: September 11, 2007.

AMTA reserves the right to not award the prize if it deems necessary.

If more information is needed, contact:

Charles Norman Mason at cmason@bsc.edu

Student Composition Competition Guidelines for 2007-08 competition:

Registration must be submitted online at www.mtna.org. Entry forms via fax and U.S. mail will not be accepted.

Application Procedure

The online application and four (4) copies of the score, which are to be mailed, must be postmarked by midnight September 11, 2007.

The application must be submitted online. Print two copies of the online application: one (1) copy for your records and the second to mail with four (4) copies of your score to the appropriate state coordinator. The addresses of the state coordinators can be found on the MTNA website at www.mtna.org. 2474

Send the four copies of the score and one copy of the online application to:

Charles Mason, Birmingham-Southern College, Box 549033, Birmingham, AL 35254

Composition Competitions

Elementary:

Age: 5–10 as of January 1, 2008

Entry Fee: \$50

Junior:

Age: 11–14 as of January 1, 2008

Entry Fee: \$70

Senior:

Age: 15–18 as of January 1, 2008

Entry Fee: \$100

Young Artist:

Age: 19–26 as of January 1, 2008

Entry fee: \$100

Collegiate Chapter Membership:

We thank our current collegiate chapter advisors, officers and members for “climbing aboard” last year! Let’s encourage more involvement from colleges in our state in organizing MTNA collegiate chapters for the upcoming year. There are benefits to students that include a significant cost reduction to become members of our professional organization and to attend our yearly conference. For more information on organizing a chapter, go to www.mtna.org and click on “Collegiate Membership.” This will give a step-by-step process for starting a collegiate chapter. It is a great incentive for students as well as a recruiting “plus” for colleges. I will be in contact with colleges after the start of fall semester 2007.

Melinda Brooks, AMTA Collegiate Advisor

AMTA PRECOLLEGE PIANO WINNERS

LOUISE MCALLISTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER (Piano)

Eric Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn
Lova Sun, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn

IDA TRUSS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER (Piano)

Minjoo Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn

Piano Concerto, Division III

Jacynth Greywoode, Montgomery.....Barbara Shinn
Eric Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn
Minjoo Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn
Lova Sun, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn

Piano Concerto, Division II

Edward Forstman, Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
Christy Hsu, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer
Crystal Wu, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
Wendy Zhao, Birmingham.....Tatiana Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division I

Aleksandra Kasman, Vestavia Hills.....Yakov Kasman
Botong Ma, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman

Piano Solo, Division III

Taylor Bos, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
Alan Cheng, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Aaron Choi, Huntsville...Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver
Jessica Choi, Mobile.....Barbara Laurendine
Cynthia Huynh, Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
Eric Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn
Minjoo Jo, Prattville.....Ronald Shinn
Mary Price, Marion.....Kevin Chance
Lova Sun, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Laura Wall, Anniston.....Brent Reeves
Amy Wu, Vestavia Hills.....Kevin Chance

Piano Solo, Division II

Wesley Ballew, Auburn.....Roy Wylie
Aleksandra Belotserkovskaya, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana
Kasman
Connie Chen, Hoover.....Tatiana Kasman

Josephine Chen, Birmingham.....Amy Boyd, Connie Macon
Alan Chou, Huntsville.....Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver
Edward Forstman, Vestavia Hills.....Yakov Kasman
Christy Hsu, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer
Ya Hui, Auburn.....Roy Wylie
Jeong Woo Kho, Montgomery.....Anne Nickles
Ji Na Kim, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Josh Kim, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Sarah Kim, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Karen Li, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
Sarah Marshall, Midland City.....Andy Martin
Christian Mays, Birmingham.....Amy McLelland
Jennifer Moore, Birmingham.....Nancy Wingard
Forrest Moody, Childersburg.....Kevin Chance
Shea Summerlin, Montgomery.....Theresa Gordon
Mary Katherine Whatley, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
Crystal Wu, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
Julie Yi, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman
Wendy Zhao, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman

Piano Solo, Division I

Daniel Blanchard, Montgomery.....Barbara Shinn
Aaron Cheng, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
Robert Ding, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
Garrett Fallon, Vestavia Hills.....Kathy Burdette
Richard Fuller, Prattville.....Ruth Graham
Adrian Gose, Hoover.....Brent Reeves
Phoebe Hauser, Jacksonville.....Brent Reeves
Vivian Ho, Mobile.....Connie Sullivan
Aleksandra Kasman, Vestavia Hills.....Yakov Kasman
Michelle Lai, Montgomery.....Theresa Gordon
Christopher Leitten, Birmingham.....Anita Ranelli
Mary Lichlyter, Alabaster.....Susan Berg
Botong Ma, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman
Joshua Moore, Birmingham.....Brent Reeves
Emma Reeves, Hoover.....Brent Reeves
Sarah Sumner, Montgomery.....Anna Perry
Angela Szasz, Birmingham.....Alina Voicu
Ashley Vechinski, Madison.....Susan Hoop

Natalie Vlach, Birmingham.....Jenny Halterman
 Tony (Yi) Zeng, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman



VOICE PRECOLLEGE WINNERS

Voice, Division III

Amberlyn Richardson, Birmingham.....Laura Doss
 Emily Richey, Birmingham.....Laura Doss

Voice, Division II

Leah Doss, Cullman.....Laura Doss
 Mary Katherine Whatley, Birmingham.....Laura Doss

**AMTA State String Audi-
 tion Results**



Solo Division I Winners

Sophie Wang, violin, Huntsville. Jeff Dortch
 Veronica Marino, violin, Huntsville. Nina Li
 Lindsey South, violin, Huntsville. Jeff Dortch &
 Barbara Poularikas

Solo Division II Winners

Sylvia Wehrs, violin, Auburn. Lorna Wood
 Sunny Yue, violin, Auburn. Lorna Wood
 Haleigh Black, violin, Birmingham. Ai-Yi Bao
 Alexis Cote, violin, Madison. Nina Li

Solo Division III Winners

Bryan Lee, violin, Auburn. Lorna Wood
 Allyson Dyer, violin, Birmingham. Ai-Yi Bao

Lower Concerto Winners

Christy Hsu, violin, Huntsville. Barbara Poularikas
 Diane Yang, violin, Huntsville. Nina Li
 Sophie Wang, violin, Huntsville Jeff Dortch
 Rebecca Marino, violin, Huntsville. Nina Li

Upper Concerto Winner

DaYong Lee, viola, Madison. Barbara Poularikas

Lower Chamber Music Winners

Hsu, Park, Tian Trio
 Christy Hsu, violin, Huntsville Barbara Poularikas
 Michelle Park, viola, Madison. Barbara Poularikas
 Tina Tian, violin, Madison. Barbara Poularikas

Gachupin Trio

Chenoa Gachupin, violin, Madison. Barbara Poularikas
 Sherwin Chiu, viola, Huntsville. Barbara Poularikas
 Karen Li, piano, Madison. Frances Schwemmer

Upper Chamber Music Winner

Trio Mundana
 Elisha Benjamin, flute, Birmingham. Kevin Chance
 Jisoo Kim, cello, Opelika. Craig Hultgren
 Mary Price, piano, Marion. Kevin Chance

AMTA COLLEGE AUDITION WINNERS

**KELSEY AND DOROTHY TROTTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
 (Piano)**

Cahill Smith, U of A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Upper Division Piano

Eunhae Bae, U of A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
 Cahill Smith, U of A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Lower Division Piano

Eri Hayakawa, U of North Alabama.....Yi-Min Cai
 Diana Preoteasa, Samford University.....Beth McGinnis

Voice

Robert Pendergraft, Samford U.....Randall Richardson

COLLEGIATE HONORABLE MENTIONS

Upper Division Piano

Dahae Bae, U of A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
 Carrie Edwards, Huntingdon College.....Ronald Shinn
 Lance Hensley, Huntingdon College.....Ronald Shinn
 Jeremy McMillan, U of Montevallo.....Cynthia Jones

Julia Oh, Uof A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
 Rosita Ruiz, U of A at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Lower Division Piano

Jessica Terry, Samford University.....Beth McGinnis

AMTA State Honorable Mentions

Piano Concerto, Division III

Taylor Bos, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
 Christina Kim, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer
 Grace Li, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Mary Price, Marion.....Kevin Chance

Piano Concerto, Division II

Andrew Bell, Pinson.....Brett Dollar
 Connie Chen, Hoover.....Tatiana Kasman
 Josephine Chen, Birmingham.....Amy Boyd, &
 Connie Macon
 Ji Na Kim, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
 Sarah Kim, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
 Sarah Vianey, Vestavia Hills.....Connie Macon
 Mary Elizabeth Wilson, Trussville.....Jodean Tingle

Piano Concerto, Division I

Daniel Blanchard, Montgomery.....Barbara Shinn
 Austin Cheshire, Fairhope.....Vincentine Williams
 Alex Davis, Daphne.....Sue Trosclair

Piano Solo, Division III

Amy Chen, Hoover.....Tatiana Kasman
 Ryan Currie, Mobile.....Elizabeth Petro
 Jacinth Greywoode, Montgomery.....Barbara Shinn
 Wendi Guo, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Elijah Hudson, Florence.....Marian Gordon
 Jessica Johnson, Florence.....Carol Lynn
 Jesse Kawell, Birmingham.....Donna Shugart
 Matthew Kelley, Birmingham.....Jody Coombs
 Michael Kelley, Birmingham.....Jody Coombs
 Mimi Kim, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Grace Li, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Mandy Liu, Birmingham.....Donna Shugart
 Mingchun Liu, Birmingham.....Betty Jackson
 Tina Lu, Helena.....Nancy Wingard
 Sarah Macon, Chelsea.....Melodie King
 Riley Mitchell, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
 Cecilia Powell, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer

Danna Thomas, Anniston.....Karolyn Rice
 Herbert Williams, Birmingham.....Kevin Chance
 Laryne Williford Montgomery.....Corine Free

Piano Solo, Division II

Elizabeth Abernathy, Vestavia Hills.....Charlotte Clarkson
 Yaejee Bak, Madison.....Nicky Wilson
 Mary Ann Banks, Hueytown.....Patty Kirkley
 Madeleine Boudreaux, Mobile.....Barbara Laurendine
 Daniel Brown, Anniston.....Brent Reeves
 Benjamin Burleson, Satsuma.....Carol Evers
 Jack Chen, Vestavia Hills.....Connie Macon
 Jenny Chong, Dothan.....Andy Martin
 Esther Clarke, Florence.....Noel Beck
 Kyle Coleman, Glencoe.....Kathy Thompson
 Russell Day, Mountain Brook.....Deborah Gray
 Lily Deng, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer
 Christian Depken, Helena.....Connie Macon
 Savannah Ekelund, Fairhope.....Vincentine Williams
 Karen Fang, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Tegan Fuqua, Decatur.....Janet Varner
 Adam Grigsby, Birmingham.....Moya Nordlund
 Christian Hauser, Jacksonville.....Brent Reeves
 Grace Ann Hobson, Dothan.....Jeanne Focht
 Jordan Holley, Montgomery.....Barbara Shinn
 Jonathan Huie, Oneonta.....Melinda Brooks
 Elizabeth Hurren, Killen.....Gail Spires
 Steven Hwang, Madison.....Janet Holland
 Carmen Johnson, Birmingham.....Jenny Halterman
 Tiffany Keodouangdy, Montgomery.....Anne Nickles
 Emily Lin, Hoover.....Jonathan Brown
 Mary Kate McLaurine, Northport.....Nancy Wingard
 Patrick Ovalle, Vestavia Hills.....Alice Butler
 Ben Simon, Montgomery.....Theresa Gordon
 Skipper Stradtman, Birmingham.....Melodie King
 Daniel Tankersley, Vestavia Hills.....Connie Macon
 Ivan Truss, Clanton.....Patricia Vines
 Ashley Tucker, Birmingham.....Donna Shugart
 Shawn Wright,
 Daphne.....Ruth Skaggs

Honorable Mentions Continued

Piano Solo, Division I

Matthew Brown, Huntsville.....Kay Brotherton
 Sarah Buckelew, Madison.....Brooke McLaran
 Angela Cheng, Huntsville.....Jay Young
 Hannah Cherry, Prattville.....Donna Wilson
 Adelaide Cochran, Birmingham.....Jody Coombs
 James Eaton, Madison.....Hope Duve
 Sonin He, Birmingham.....Susan Berg
 John Thomas Hudson, Florence.....Marian Gordon
 Emily Jenkins, Prattville.....Donna Wilson
 Alyssa Lamb, Birmingham.....Gloria Bryant
 Trent Larson, Mobile.....Elizabeth Petro
 Daniel Lee, Madison.....Brooke McClaran
 Lainy Lee, Daphne.....Connie Sullivan
 Michael Lee, Birmingham.....Jenny Halterman
 Gina Liu, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Joseph Neumeier, Birmingham.....Amy McLelland
 Maria Oswalt, Muscle Shoals.....Elizabeth Counts
 Laura Rice, Birmingham.....Jody Coombs
 Julianna Rosborough, Birmingham.....Donna Shugart
 Sarah Swain, Anniston.....Karolyn Rice
 Briana Williams, Dothan.....Janet Blair
 Nate Williams, Dothan.....Janet Blair
 Diane Yang, Huntsville.....Jay Yang

Voice, Division II

Kayla Lamb, Birmingham.....Laura Doss
 Caryn Wheeler, Birmingham.....Laura Doss

String, Division I

Connie Bao, violin, Birmingham.....Ai-Yi Bao
 Audrey Wang, violin, Huntsville.....Jeff Dortch
 Tina Tian, violin, Madison.....Barbara Poularikas

String, Division II

Rebecca Marino, violin, Huntsville.....Nina Li
 Christy Hsu, violin, Huntsville.....Barbara Poularikas
 Howie Chan, violin, Hampton Cove.....Barbara Poularikas

India Wallace, cello, Mobile.....Sarah Ellen Stebbins

String, Division III

DaYong Lee, viola, Madison.....Barbara Poularikas
 Leandria Lott, violin, Madison.....Barbara Poularikas

String, Lower Concerto

Connie Bao, violin, Birmingham.....Ai-Yi Bao
 Christina Ding, violin, Madison.....Nina Li
 Veronica Marino, violin, Huntsville.....Nina Li
 Rebecca Johnson, violin, Huntsville.....Barbara Poularikas

String, Upper Concerto

Jisoo Kim, cello, Opelika.....Craig Hultgren

Lower Chamber Music

Ding Trio

Christina Ding, violin, Madison.....Nina Li
 Jenny Shen, violin, Madison.....Nina Li
 Karen Fang, piano, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Nam Trio

Hyunsu Nam, violin, Huntsville.....Barbara Poularikas
 Earl Wells, viola, Huntsville.....Barbara Poularikas
 Pearl Xie, piano, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer

Upper Chamber Music

Shubert Trio

DaYong Lee, violin, Madison.....Barbara Poularikas
 Christina Kim, cello, Huntsville.....Carlton McCreery
 Ashley Whang, piano, Huntsville.....Frances Schwemmer



Educational Music Software on the Internet

If you were one of the people who got out of bed for the technology session at the AMTA Conference June 1, then you are excused (and thank you both). This column will be a summary of that session.

Computer-Assisted Instruction in Music

Software that teaches music has been around for 40 years, starting with big main-frame computers in the 1960's. The latest generation of this type of software runs over the Internet, and is usually made in Java, Javascript, or Flash.

This software can be divided into five categories:

Drill-and-Practice software often works like flash cards, helping the student learn through repetition.

Guided Instruction software can be compared to textbooks, guiding the student through educational material.

Game software should be self-explanatory.

Exploratory software packages are analogous to multimedia coffee table books, frequently delving into a subject from multiple directions.

The **Creative** software category includes programs that either give the student an opportunity to create music or assist in practicing music.

The most common subject areas for CAI music programs are music theory, general music (including music history), and performance.

Below are thirteen examples of CAI music programs that work on the Internet. All of these are free to access. Each example includes the web address and my opinion of the appropriate age, the subject matter covered, and the category of instruction. Some cover more than one type or subject. These are obviously subjective in some cases, so please feel free to form your own opinions!

If you hate typing web addresses as much as I do, then look on this one page for links to all of these programs: www.almta.org/technotes.

Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra

Guided Instruction / Exploratory / Game; General Music; Younger students

<http://www.weillmusicinstitute.org/listeningadventures/ypgto/ypgto-gamelogon/index.jsp>

This is an animated cartoon that allows students to explore the orchestra using Benjamin Britten's well-known composition.

CreatingMusic.com

Game / Creative; General Music; Younger students

<http://www.creatingmusic.com/>

Composer Morton Subotnick has created four CD-ROMS that he sells through this web site. Several of the activities on the various CDs are available for free from the web site.

Carnegie Hall Listening Adventures

Guided Instruction / Exploratory; General Music; Younger students

<http://www.weillmusicinstitute.org/listeningadventures/nws/splash.html>

This program includes an animation synchronized to Dvorak's *New World Symphony*.

Seventh Chord Identification Drill

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "7th Chord Recognition Drill - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~tas3/harm2/7hs/7hs.html>. The page content includes the "Sojourn" logo, the title "7th Chord Identification Drill", and a "7th Chord Drills MENU" link. The main area displays a music staff with a chord and a list of chord subtypes: M7, V7, m7, ø7, and O7. Below the list is a text input field with the question "What is the quality of this chord?". At the bottom, there is a score table with columns for "Subtypes Correct" and "Attempted" for each subtype, and a "Cumulative Score" and "Problems Attempted" section.

Subtypes Correct:	Attempted:	Cumulative Score	Problems Attempted
100%	1	3	3
100%	1		
100%	1		
100%			
100%			

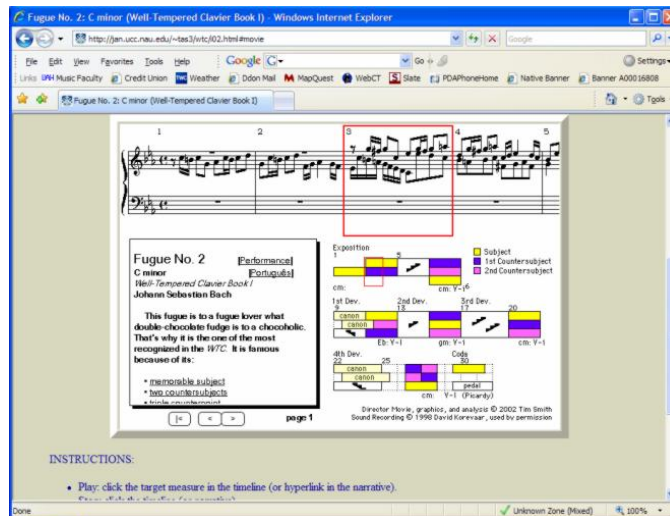
Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Older students
<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~tas3/harm2/7ths/7ths.html>
 Students can practice identifying written seventh chords on a staff.

Well-Tempered Clavier

Guided Instruction / Exploratory; General Music / Performance; Middle / Older students

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~tas3/wtc.html>

Explore the fugues of J.S. Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier*. This is probably my favorite of all of these sites.

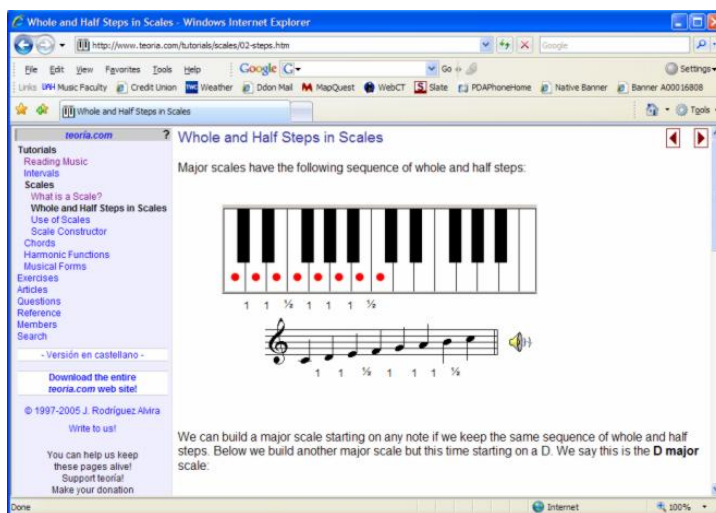


Big Ears

Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Middle / Older students

<http://www.ossmann.com/bigears>

Student can practice the ear training by identifying ascending and descending intervals.



MusicTheory.net

Guided Instruction / Exploratory / Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Older students

<http://www.musictheory.net/>

This site and the next one both work like music theory textbooks, but they will play audio examples and they also provide drills for practicing.

Teoría - Music Theory Web

Guided Instruction / Exploratory / Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Middle / Older students

<http://www.teoria.com/>

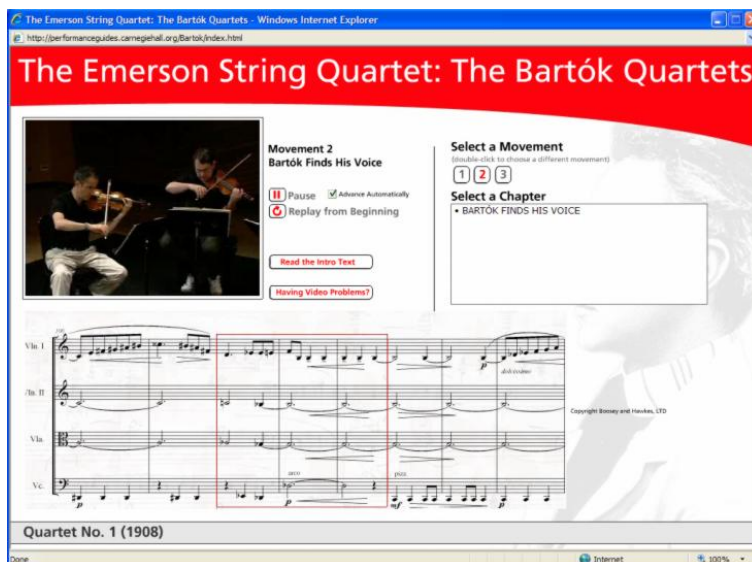
This site and the previous one both work like music theory textbooks, but they will play audio examples and they also provide drills for practicing.

Dr. Estrella's Incredibly Abridged Dictionary of Composers

Exploratory; General Music; Middle / Older students

<http://www.stevenestrella.com/composers/>

This dictionary of composers includes very brief information on nearly 500 composers.



The Emerson String Quartet: The Bartók Quartets

Guided Instruction / Exploratory; General Music; Older students

http://www.carnegiehall.org/article/explore_and_learn/art_performanceguide_bartok.html

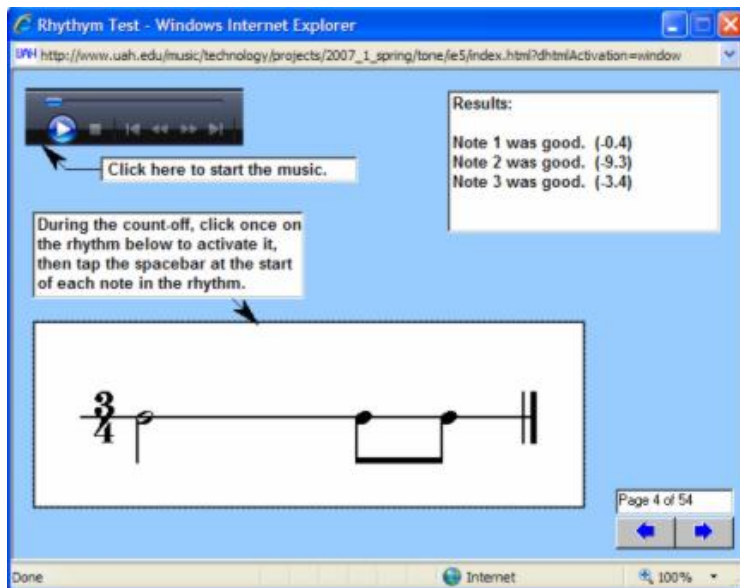
The Emerson Quartet plays and discusses the Bartok string quartets, using video that is synchronized to the score.

Pocket Ears

Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Middle / Older students

<http://www.uah.edu/music/technology/pocketears/triads.swf>

Students can drill on aural identification of triads. This is a program that I created a couple of years ago as a demonstration.



Rhythm Tester

Drill-and-Practice; Music Theory; Middle / Older students

http://www.uah.edu/music/technology/projects/2007_1_spring/tones/index.html

This program and the next one were created by music technology students at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. They are both a little rough around the edges, but they are functional. This one shows a short rhythm, gives a count-off, then asks the student to tap the rhythm on the computer keyboard.

Interval Blaster

Game; Music Theory; Middle / Older students

http://www.uah.edu/music/technology/projects/2006_1_spring/robersonx/blaster2.swf

This program and the previous one were created by music technology students at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. They are both a little rough around the edges, but they are functional. This one plays an interval then lets the student try to shoot at that interval in an environment similar to the old Space Invaders arcade game.

Don Bowyer

Educational Technology Chair

MTNA Foundation News

Summer! Everyone who attended our state conference the first week in June began the summer with a real treat! The workshops on practice guidelines and ideas were full of innovative and, yes, even some old tried and true techniques. I think that all attending would agree that each of us went out refreshed with new inspiration and, at least, a few new ideas.

Student recitals were, as always, truly uplifting. It's always so nice to realize how much wonderful talent is being developed here in Alabama! Anne Koscielny, of course, lived up to all our expectations for a wonderful recital. Last, but certainly not least, our own member's recital was fantastic! The final half was somewhat bittersweet at this recital as it was, regrettably, Roy Wylie's farewell performance as an AMTA member. Truly, he has represented us in the best possible light here and nationally as one of our own. Hopefully, he will return soon to thrill us with his brilliant artistry at the keyboard! We surely wish him well in future endeavors and want him to know that he will always be one of us!

As always, MY top priority is to collect money for OUR MTNA Foundation. As of May 22, 2007, our contributions totaled \$712.00, representing nine contributors. I have not, yet, received the names of those members; but, to them I still would like to send a very grateful and heartfelt "Thank You" for their contributions! At our conference, I was able to collect over \$800.00. Again, "Thank You!" to all of those who so generously contributed there!

I think that it such a shame that more of our members do not or cannot attend our yearly AMTA conferences. I realize, of course, that there are many valid reasons existing that keep some of our members from attending each year. The opportunities for enrichment, inspiration, new ideas, and fellowship with your peers which develop into lasting friendships are only a few of the benefits of attendance. These are some of the things which cannot be really described in words, but are invaluable in life. As an AMTA/MTNA member, I would urge all of you to try to attend next year's conference!

This year, I have urged everyone to evaluate circumstances and determine your own spending habits in your life. As mentioned before: you may be a Spender, Selector, or Saver. Spenders are those who just LOVE to spend money....anytime and on anything! It's just FUN to spend money!!! Those who are Selectors pick and choose their expenditures, checking for the best quality, value, and price before spending their hard-earned money. The Savers, of course, are the VERY tight-fisted persons who save every single penny possible! If a rainy day comes, they will be prepared...if it doesn't, their heirs can enjoy their savings! Obviously, the wise choice for spending money is to be a Selector. This is where MTNA Foundation comes into the picture. As a Selector, investing in OUR foundation is one of the best investments possible for us as professional musicians. The grants, scholarships, and enrichment programs offered through the foundation are invaluable! As a Selector, it the responsibility of every member to support OUR foundation! The future of music and, indeed, our profession depends on each and every one of us. Only a fraction of our membership attends our conference each year and continues to build our foundation, I would like to urge EVERY member of our association to realize the importance of our foundation and feel compelled to contribute. Contributions can be made by check, credit card, or even on-line. The address for your contribution is:

MTNA Foundation
The Carew Tower
441 Vine Street, Suite 505
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2814

Or, for those electronically savvy: www.mtnafoundation.org However you choose to send your money; PLEASE, send it in to OUR foundation!!! It is our responsibility and our foundation. Take this opportunity to keep our foundation strong!!!

I am asking that EVERY member be responsible and select wisely. Invest in MTNA Foundation!

And, remember: Money Makes the World Go Around and, more important.... Money Makes MTNA Foundation Go Around!!!

Connie Teague
MTNA Foundation, Chair

P.S. Watch for YOUR name in the next Soundboard as a Selector and contributor to OUR foundation and future!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM PAGE 1

our conference never fail to inspire. I always enjoy marking my programs when I hear exciting new pieces, or rediscover forgotten "gems." It is certainly wonderful to enjoy the vast repertoire that has been written for our instrument; but I also lament all the great pieces that I don't know – and there are so many out there! I often wish that it were possible to have a real grasp of all the possible repertoire at our disposal. But I have found that attending conferences is a wonderful way to expand my knowledge in this area.

If you are one of those teach-

ers who didn't attend the conference because "I had no winners this year," I challenge you to make plans to attend next year – even before you know whether you have "winners" or not. As we all know, all of our students are "winners" in their own way. They are all taking the time to study a noble and gracious art in a world which often values instant gratification. Those who are named as "winners" just happened to give a performance that "spoke" to a particular judge on a particular day. And at the end of a long year of teaching, we all need the support, the inspiration, and the camaraderie that is

always present at these meetings. And who knows, you just might find a new twist to add to your own teaching to continue to encourage and motivate your own winners!

We had a enjoyable and educational three days here in Birmingham. I want to offer our most sincere thanks to Samford University for allowing us to use their wonderful new facilities at no cost to AMTA. We are indeed fortunate to have had this opportunity.

Kathryn Fouse, NCTM
AMTA President

We had a fantastic "Alabama contingent" at the 2007 MTNA national conference held in Toronto in March! There were 12 of us from our great state who made the trek to Canada. (Actually the travel time wasn't very long!) From all accounts, everyone found the trip inspiring and enjoyable. We heard fabulous performances, attended motivating workshops, and enjoyed some delicious food. If you have never attended a national conference, I highly encourage you to do so. There are so many choices of sessions to attend – sometimes maybe too many because you want to go to several that are offered at the same time! But you are sure to find something that piques your interest. And there are numerous opportunities to attend discussion groups and open committee meetings where your voice can be heard. Please consider taking the time to share your expertise with your fellow teachers throughout the country. The 2008 MTNA conference will be held March 29-April 2 in Denver, Colorado. I would love to see even more of us gather together in Denver to let everyone know that music teaching is thriving in the state of Alabama!

Kathryn Fouse, NCTM
AMTA President



MTNA 2007
NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Wendy Faughn, Lauren Thompson, Tony Pattin, Kathryn Fouse, Kevin Chance, Melinda Brooks, Amanda Penick, Gloria Tham.

MTNA's new publication, *Making the Connection: A Guide for Talking with Parents and Students* is now out. This brief guide looks at the relationship between the child and music and also addresses topics such as establishing studio policies/agreements, discipline, student accountability and addressing difficult statements. Order your copy today, by visiting the MTNA marketplace online at www.mtna.org/Marketplace/tabid/158/Default.aspx. Another great way to improve connections is by keeping in touch. MTNA offers everyday and holiday note cards to help you with correspondence with students and parents. The everyday note cards feature new designs and are available in boxes of five each of four designs or as 20 of one design. You can use them for general notes or sending holiday greetings. These note cards are available through the MTNA Marketplace.

In order to stay in touch with the national headquarters, you will need to update your address book—the MTNA office will relocate to the 31st floor of the Carew Tower on August 2, 2007. The phone, internet and e-mail addresses will remain the same. The postal mailing address will change from Suite 505 to Suite 3100.

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The Alabama Music Teachers Association is a non-profit organization representing music teachers in studios, music schools, public schools, and institutions of higher education in the State of Alabama. It is affiliated with the Music Teachers National Association.

The AMTA SoundBoard, the official publication of the Alabama Music Teachers Association, is published three times a year in November, March, and July. Individuals receive the SoundBoard by maintaining membership in the AMTA organization. Contact the editor for additional copies.

Any AMTA member may submit articles to be published by emailing Jodean Tingle, editor, at jtingle@bsc.edu, or typing and mailing it to her at 1411 Mitchell Road NW, Cullman, Alabama 35055. The deadline for submissions is October 1 for the November publication, February 1 for the March publication and June 1 for the July publication.

If you wish to purchase an ad, please contact Connie Macon. Local affiliates may purchase ads at a reduced rate. Please contact Connie for details: **Mrs. Connie Macon Division of Music Samford University Birmingham, AL 35229, 205-726-4020 (fax), 205-726-2810 (office)**

NEWSLETTER AD RATES

Ad Size	3 Issues	2 Issues	1 Issue
Full page (7 1/2" x 10")	___\$300	___\$210	___\$110
Three-column half page (7 1/2" x 5")	___\$270	___\$200	___\$100
Two-column half page	___\$255	___\$160	___\$90
Three-column quarter page	___\$195	___\$140	___\$75
Two-column quarter page	___\$155	___\$110	___\$60
One-column half page	___\$155	___\$110	___\$60
One-column quarter page	___\$75	___\$55	___\$30
One-column eighth page	___\$55	___\$45	___\$25

DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF THE SOUNDBOARD IS OCTOBER 1 TO JODEAN TINGLE.

PICTURES FROM THE YEAR



STUDENTS WERE GREETED BY SMILING
FACES AT THE STATE AUDITIONS IN
MONTEVALLO BACK IN MAY.



MUST HAVE BEEN EARLY IN THE AUDI-
TIONS WEEKEND. DEBORAH GRAY IS
STILL SMILING!



SCOTT MCBRIDE SMITH WORKED WITH THIS STUDENT IN THE BEAUTIFUL
NEW RECITAL HALL AT SAMFORD UNIVERSITY
DURING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE THIS YEAR.



JEAN BARR WORKED WITH
THE CHAMBER MUSIC
WINNERS.



ANNE KOSCIELNY THRILLED THE AUDIENCE
WITH HER SENSITIVE PERFORMANCE.
HERE SHE IS STANDING WITH OUR PRESIDENT,
KATHRYN FOUSE.



SHEARON HORTON WAS VERY HELPFUL
WITH HER HANDOUTS.

