



# SOUNDBOARD

A Publication of the Alabama Music Teachers Association

Op. 66 No. 3

## IN THIS ISSUE

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <i>President's Letter</i>                               | 2  |
| <i>2019 Conference</i>                                  | 3  |
| <i>Piano Audition Winners</i>                           | 6  |
| <i>Honorable Mentions</i>                               | 9  |
| <i>Huntsville News</i>                                  | 12 |
| <i>Wiregrass News</i>                                   | 13 |
| <i>Audition Winners</i>                                 | 14 |
| <i>CD Release, West Alabama,<br/>Certification News</i> | 15 |
| <i>Mobile and Collegiate News</i>                       | 16 |
| <i>Baldwin County News</i>                              | 17 |
| <i>AMTA Leadership</i>                                  | 20 |



# *Letter from the President*

Dear AMTA Members,

I sincerely hope you are having a wonderful summer. My summer was kicked off with an amazing AMTA State Conference at the beautiful University of Alabama at Huntsville. Congratulations and thanks to our VP Melody Ng who planned and executed a very special conference where we had the largest collegiate attendance ever. Melody also brought Norman Krieger as our Guest Artist who gave a breath-taking concert and a fabulous masterclass and Jessica Johnson who gave energetic and inspirational sessions as our Guest Clinician. We had our first ever hologram performance and a remote location performance which was such a cool experience. We have come so far with technology. Congratulations to Tatiana Kasman for being our AMTA Teacher of the Year. It was also a special treat to have Gary Ingle with us. He gave a wonderful keynote speech at our fabulous banquet. Gary was very appreciative for us handing him a check of \$500 to donate to the Foundation. Please do remember to donate to the MTNA Foundation. This is our organization's future.



A special thanks to all who helped at the conference and to UAH for hosting and making our conference an eloquent three days.

This year the south experienced many disasters and AMTA donated \$1000 of disaster relief to North Carolina. I received a lovely thank you letter from NCMTA President Victoria Fisher Faw that three students were able to receive relief after their homes were destroyed to continue lessons.

A special congratulations to the Mobile Music Teachers Association who celebrated their 100th year of existence and committed service towards the Mobile music community last month. What a milestone!

I would like to welcome two new Local Association Presidents and two new AMTA Board Members. Laurie Gruenloh is the new president of Baldwin County MTA, and Deborah Loach is the new president for Huntsville MTA. Barbara Shinn is our new Second Vice President of Membership and will continue as Certification Chair. Daniel DeKonty will be our new Grant Writer. Thank you, Mark DeGoti and Karen Hickok, for their many years of service to our AMTA Board. Thank you to all our board members for your generosity and commitment towards AMTA.

I look forward to representing Alabama again at the MTNA Leadership Summit in September and serving AMTA working closely with our board to help us continue in excellence of service for our members and students. I am so very honored to be a part of such an amazing organization that is committed towards serving our members, students, and community through music and excellence.

I wish you all a great rest of the summer and an energized start to the school year.

Sincerely,

Josh Pifer- AMTA President

# *The 67th Annual AMTA Conference at The University of Alabama in Huntsville on May 30 - June 2, 2019*

Thank you all for making the 67th Annual AMTA Conference at The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) such a huge success. This is the first time for Huntsville, the Rocket City, and UAH to be the host city and venue for the state conference, and we truly appreciate everyone traveling to North Alabama earlier this summer to attend the conference. The highly dedicated membership of the organization enables the annual conference to continue its historical success this year. This success is due to all the incredibly kind volunteers who put forth extra efforts and hard work to be there to help and ensure all conference events were well-executed.

My heartfelt gratitude to all the colleagues and students to make this conference possible and successful. Thanks to the kind arrangement by MTNA National Headquarters, the conference began with a special welcome introduction from our keynote speaker, Gary Ingle, CEO of MTNA and a Birmingham native, followed by an impressive Opening Concert with our MTNA National Winner, Alabama MTNA Winners and State Collegiate Winners. We are very excited to have a high number of conference attendees this year, in addition to celebrating more than 100 student winners performing in winners' recitals and masterclasses from across Alabama. The Winners' Circle Recital made a great return this year at the state conference, featuring marvelous performances by students who were state winners in the same division at the AMTA pre-collegiate state auditions for two years consecutively. Our guest artist, Norman Krieger, selected the Division III ASRA piano winner at the Winners' Circle Recital. Kreiger also gave a magnificent solo piano recital concluded with a standing ovation, and gave an insightful collegiate masterclass with his warm and incredible teaching. Our guest clinician, Jessica Johnson, gave two well-received pedagogical sessions and a masterclass featuring Division I, II and III students at the conference, interacting with all the attendees and students to dance and move to "awake the rhythmic intuition and flow". Thanks to Wendy Freeland and the adjudicating committee for their work. The poster session was held during the social hour prior to the Business Meeting and Banquet, displaying our collegiate members' research presentations from The University of Montevallo and UAH. The Members' Recital featured a fantastic variety of performances in percussion, solo piano (with and without hologram effects), piano duo, and various chamber ensemble settings, concluded with the piano trio work - *Letters*, the 2019 AMTA Commissioned Composition Award composed by Lori Ardovino and performed by the LeBaron Trio. The state conference continued showcasing the wonderful presentations by our fantastic AMTA members and collegiate chapter. Thanks to Susan Hoop, Wendy Freeland, Stephanie Archer, and UAH Collegiate Chapter for sharing their research and passion in their great sessions! Special thanks to Christina Volz-Stomackin and Amalia Osuga for their sharing of pedagogy and expertise at the strings masterclass and voice masterclass which they conducted respectively. The talent of the students on all winners' recitals and masterclasses was tremendous. Thank you AMTA teachers for all your hard work to continue to grow and develop incredible musicians across the state!

We are deeply grateful for all our sponsors from local, state and national levels. We are thankful for David Ragsdale, Chair of the UAH Department of Music, who helped securing all the conference venues for free, but also helped sponsoring the conference. With the fantastic work from April Harris at UAH Events, conference attendees enjoyed a beautiful and delicious banquet. Thanks to UAH Admissions and CAHS, for arranging the walking tour guides, and providing the golf cart and shuttle bus to transport attendees between conference and banquet sites. Special thanks to Jackson Love, who provided live remote background music playing from Roberts Recital Hall (located a mile away from the banquet site) to feature the great advanced music technology and engineering we utilized daily right here in Alabama. We are grateful to our newest conference sponsors, Yamaha Corporation of America (represented by French Forbes) & AB Stephens (represented by John Miller), who provided the gourmet appetizers at the social hour and beverages throughout the banquet evening, in addition to the breakfast reception for the guest clinician. We are also grateful to our long-time sponsor, Alabama Piano Gallery (represented by Jon McClaran), for their continued sponsorship of the guest



artist reception after Norman Krieger's concert. Thanks to Robbie James, Noteworthy continued to be our prominent vendor at the state conference and provided a wide array selection for attendees to browse and purchase at the exhibition hall. Special thanks to Debi Loach and HMTA members who not only helped providing the hospitality table with great goodies but also worked behind the scenes to make the conference successful. A big thanks to Laura Beth Mitchell-Bisset for securing great advertisers, Matthew Wilson for preparing and presenting the individualized name plaques and T-shirts for student winners, and Kristie Smith for all the wonderful photography throughout the conference. The conference booklet could not have been made possible without the amazing help by Ron and Barbara Shinn. Thank you!

My most sincere thanks to Josh Pifer, Steven DiBlasi, Susan Hoop, and Frances Schwemmer, as well as to all the board and AMTA members who worked tremendously to prepare for the conference, guided me to organize and host the first AMTA conference in Huntsville, and provided amazing support to allow each segment of the conference to run smoothly.

Congratulations to everyone who had students perform at the AMTA State Conference. Congratulations to everyone who performed and presented at your conference. Congratulations to everyone who attended and participated in making this year's conference an exciting conference. I am truly honored to serve and be a part of such an amazing organization filled with great people who share the musical passion. Thank you for the opportunity to serve and I look forward to seeing you soon at the next AMTA event!

Melody Ng—Vice President





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For more information, contact Dr. Melody Ng  
at [melody.ng@uah.edu](mailto:melody.ng@uah.edu).

AUDITION DATES  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

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# ***AMTA Pre-College State Piano Solo Winners***

\* denotes Winners Circle

## **Division III**

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Savannah Howard, Birmingham.....        | Ronald Shinn                |
| Tori Camp, Birmingham.....              | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Macy Steele, Pelham.....                | Joyce Terry                 |
| Yoon Seo Jeong, Montgomery.....         | Haerin Kim                  |
| Catherine Mitchell, Vestavia Hills..... | Tatiana Kasman              |
| *Kevin Yang, Huntsville.....            | Frances Schwemmer           |
| Janna Ren, Hoover.....                  | Tatiana Kasman              |
| *Timothy Berry, Madison.....            | Kevin Chance and Susan Hoop |
| Ruth Sommer, Dothan.....                | Andy Martin                 |
| *Gareth Hill, Birmingham.....           | Lucy DeSa                   |
| *Mary Allen Murray, Birmingham .....    | Kevin Chance                |
| Mary Prichard, Birmingham .....         | Joyce Terry                 |
| *Jeremiah Steele, Hokes Bluff .....     | Wendy Freeland              |
| *Shane Mackey, Vestavia Hills .....     | Tatiana Kasman              |
| *Mary Elisa Wagner, Birmingham .....    | Tatiana Kasman              |
| J. T. Morris, Cullman .....             | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Lawrence Zhang, Madison .....           | Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver |
| Max Coryell, Birmingham .....           | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Jake Evans, Auburn .....                | Jeremy Samolesky            |
| Eleanor Lee, Tuscaloosa .....           | Hyesook Jung                |
| *Carson Campbell, Decatur .....         | Margery Whatley             |
| Charlie Yeager, Birmingham .....        | Susan Berg                  |
| Michael Luster, Birmingham .....        | Barbara Shinn               |
| Lindsay Whatley, Mountain Brook .....   | Margery Whatley             |
| Aidan Miles-Jamison, Anniston .....     | Lucy DeSa                   |
| *Nathaniel Pride, Decatur .....         | Janet Varner                |

## **Division II**

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Carson Hicks, Vestavia.....       | Becky Thornton           |
| Michael Dubruiel, Birmingham..... | John Robertson           |
| *Stana Choi, Columbus.....        | Jeremy Samolesky         |
| Myeonghwan Choi, Montgomery.....  | Corine Free and Haena Ji |
| Jonathan Yang, Madison.....       | Susan Hoop               |
| Simon Shelley, Auburn.....        | Jeremy Samolesky         |
| David Caycedo, Birmingham.....    | Tatiana Kasman           |
| Yiwen Wang, Tuscaloosa.....       | Kevin Chance             |
| Jimin Lee, Montgomery.....        | Sarah Tanner             |
| Daniel Yoon, Montgomery .....     | Kyunghee Jeon            |
| Reena Chen, Montgomery .....      | Ronald Shinn             |
| Jane Bae, Vestavia Hills .....    | Tatiana Kasman           |
| Courtney Lin, Madison.....        | Susan Hoop               |
| Mike Zhang, Madison.....          | Frances Schwemmer        |
| Leo Shen, Auburn.....             | Mary L. Slaton           |
| Patrick Pan, Tuscaloosa .....     | Kevin Chance             |
| Ruthie Wilson, Foley.....         | Laurie Gruenloh          |
| Everett Sanders, Birmingham ..... | Patty Kirkley            |
| Kaija Sorensen, Madison.....      | Susan Hoop               |

Hannah Evans, Madison.....Giejung Lee  
 Daniel Zhao, Birmingham .....Alina Voicu  
 Emily Lee, Madison .....Giejung Lee  
 Rhea Rastogi, Montgomery .....Adonis Gonzalez  
 Vickie Kim, Greystone .....Becky Thornton  
 Raymond Hou, Montgomery .....Ronald Shinn  
 Gemma Sommer, Dothan .....Andy Martin  
 \*Timothy Zhu, Madison .....Frances Schwemmer  
 Carrigan Crowe, Chelsea .....Cathy Taylor  
 Sheri Peng, Birmingham .....Barbara Shinn  
 Chase Jones, Dothan .....Andy Martin

Ludia Bruns, Madison .....Susan Hoop  
 Shannon Boutwell, Helena .....Connie Macon  
 \*Sarah Yi, Hoover .....Tatiana Kasman  
 Nathaniel Handler, Birmingham .....Brent Reeves  
 Isaac Hwangpo, Birmingham .....Susan Berg  
 \*Lillian Zhu, Madison .....Susan Hoop  
 Benjamin Tzou, Auburn .....Jeremy Samolesky  
 Minjae Eum, Montgomery .....Hae Na Ji  
 Courtney Chen, Birmingham .....Hyesook Jung  
 Thomas Nguyen, Madison .....Susan Hoop  
 \*Gabriel Feng, Tuscaloosa .....Kevin Chance  
 Irene Wong, Birmingham .....Patty Kirkley

### Division I

\*Ian Shen, Tuscaloosa.....Kevin Chance  
 \*Samantha Chan, Madison.....Susan Hoop  
 Conrad Feng, Birmingham.....Margaret Denton  
 Richard Chen, Montgomery.....Eunhee Ashley  
 Anastasia Klochkova, Hoover.....Tatiana Kasman  
 Jesse Yuan, Vestavia Hills.....Dina Kasman  
 Wren Whitaker, Mt. Laurel.....Connie Macon  
 Rosa Schwebel, Birmingham.....Tatiana Kasman  
 Katherine Grigsby, Trussville.....Margery Whatley  
 Peter Bayley, Madison.....Susan Hoop  
 Yuhyun Ko, Montgomery.....Aeri Moon  
 Annie Zhao, Mountain Brook.....Margery Whatley  
 Bethany Yin, Mountain Brook.....Elena Osadchaya-Endo  
 \*Sophia Johnson, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer  
 Mina Hu, Vestavia Hills.....Heather Byars  
 Annabelle Coan, Homewood.....Connie Macon  
 \*Hendrix Bailey, Gordo.....Kevin Chance  
 \*Erin Pernell, Tuscaloosa.....Kevin Chance  
 Ian Poole, Daphne.....Tammy Dennis  
 Christine Wang, Madison.....Susan Hoop  
 Kyra Brown, Decatur.....Janet Varner  
 Austin Zhan, Auburn .....Jeremy Samolesky  
 Luke Blackstone, Birmingham .....Susan Berg



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Department of Music



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UAB PIANO IN THE NEWS  
SPRING 2018-19

**FEBRUARY 12 -**

**UAB Piano Series presents NIKOLAI LUGANSKY,**  
One of the world leading pianists of today  
Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 7:00 pm.

**MARCH 26-**

**Junior YPAP recital: Fred Song\***

**MARCH 28-**

**Senior YPAP recital: Zoe Willis\***

**APRIL 6-**

**Junior YPAP recital: Mira Walker\***

**APRIL 9 -**

**UAB Piano Series presents YEOL EUM SON,**  
One of the world leading pianists of today  
Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 4:00 pm.

**APRIL 14 -**

**UAB Piano Studio and Piano Ensembles recital**  
Mary Culp Hulsey Recital Hall, 4:00 pm.

**APRIL 16-**

**Junior YPAP recital: Jacob Skiles\***

**APRIL 23 -**

**Yakov Kasman with ASO "Concertmaster and Friends"**  
Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 7:00pm.

**MAY 18 -**

**Sixth Annual UAB Piano Day for pre-college students:**  
**Master-Class with Dr. Kasman and Polyphonic Music**  
**Festival "Bach and Friends"**

Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall

\* All student recitals are held at Hulsey Recital Hall at 7:00 pm

<http://www.uab.edu/cas/music/>



# ***AMTA State Pre-College Piano Solo Honorable Mentions***

## **Division III**

|                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ethan Bracker, Oneonta.....           | Deborah Sarcinellie-Beason  |
| Bethany Bradshaw, Dothan .....        | Rebecca McManus             |
| Andrew Burleson, Satsuma.....         | Carol Evers                 |
| Xavier Carmichael, Montgomery.....    | Corine Free                 |
| Henry Chang, Birmingham.....          | Barbara Shinn               |
| Eli Davis, Huntsville .....           | Frances Schwemmer           |
| Camille Farrow, Montgomery.....       | Corine Free                 |
| Terrence Goosby, Chelsea .....        | Susan Berg                  |
| Noah Gregory, Huntsville.....         | Frances Schwemmer           |
| Daniel Ji, Homewood .....             | Tatiana Kasman              |
| Meghan Johnson, Enterprise.....       | Hilda H. Hagins             |
| Harrison Jones, Birmingham .....      | Ronald Shinn                |
| Liesl Langer, Montgomery .....        | Evaughn Balkcom             |
| Clarisse Nacilla, Cullman .....       | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Michael Nance, Madison .....          | Wendy McGee                 |
| Junseo Park, Montgomery .....         | Eunhee Ashley               |
| Camryn Prater, Montgomery .....       | Betty Gallops               |
| Christina Rollins, Montgomery.....    | Corine Free                 |
| Adela Sheng, Montgomery .....         | Evaughn Balkcom             |
| Hyobeen Shin, Montgomery .....        | Corine Free                 |
| Yifei Song, Birmingham.....           | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Kirsten Wallace, Montgomery.....      | Corine Free                 |
| Isaac Wang, Madison .....             | Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver |
| Kendall Whatley, Mountain Brook ..... | Margery Whatley             |
| Helen Wu, Madison.....                | Giejung Lee                 |
| Simon Yang, Huntsville .....          | Frances Schwemmer           |
| Melodie Zhu, Madison .....            | Frances Schwemmer           |

## **Division II**

|                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Angela Ai, Madison .....           | Susan Hoop                  |
| Reagan Allen, Birmingham .....     | Jessica Scott               |
| Mary Ellis Alley, Birmingham.....  | Barbara Shinn               |
| Elaine Bao, Madison .....          | Susan Hoop                  |
| Carlin Chacko, Madison .....       | Susan Hoop                  |
| Dabeen Choi, Montgomery.....       | Aeri Moon                   |
| John Choung, Madison .....         | Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver |
| Harrison Coleman, Birmingham ..... | Gloria Bryant               |
| Julia Culpepper, Oneonta.....      | Deborah Sarcinelli-Beason   |
| Marcus Daniel, Montgomery .....    | Corine Free                 |
| Maria Deng, Vestavia Hills .....   | Connie Macon                |
| Jackson Dickey, Bessemer.....      | Margery Whatley             |
| Camilla Friday, Sylacauga.....     | Cathy Taylor                |
| Dima Gambino, Birmingham.....      | Lucy DeSa                   |
| Emma Gan, Auburn.....              | Yvonne Chu                  |
| Abraham Ha, Huntsville .....       | Melody Ng                   |
| Derek Handy, Montgomery .....      | Corine Free                 |
| Ty Hartman, Spanish Fort.....      | Amy Morgan                  |
| Helen Hotten, Birmingham.....      | Jessica Scott               |

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Jason Jeong, Montgomery .....     | Kyunghee Jeon       |
| Danielle Kim, Huntsville.....     | Sun Goodloe         |
| David Klimjack, Fairhope .....    | Amy Morgan          |
| Jay Kwon, Auburn .....            | Sunny Hahn          |
| Injun Lee, Montgomery.....        | Sarah Tanner        |
| Jessica Ma, Vestavia Hills .....  | Tatiana Kasman      |
| Paul Mercer, Spanish Fort .....   | Vincentine Williams |
| Ashley Minchae Ki, Auburn .....   | Sunny Hahn          |
| Nicasio Montelara, Wetumpka ..... | Gloria Bryant       |
| Eric Mun, Auburn .....            | Karen Hickok        |
| Mayu Nakano, Birmingham .....     | Hyesook Jung        |
| Bryan Nam, Montgomery.....        | Evaughn Balkom      |
| Cam Nguyen, Madison.....          | Justine Seeley      |
| Luke Pappalardo, Birmingham ..... | Karen Krekelberg    |
| Sumin Park, Montgomery .....      | Haein Kim           |
| Jackson Parvin, Gardendale.....   | John Robertson      |
| Owen Poole, Daphne.....           | Tammy Dennis        |
| Lilian Qu, Madison .....          | Susan Hoop          |
| Sophia Rabbideay, Hoover .....    | Tatiana Kasman      |
| Savitri Sasse, Birmingham .....   | Karen Krekelberg    |
| Anna Wade, Birmingham.....        | Jody Coombs         |
| Lily Watts, Birmingham.....       | Jessica Scott       |
| Noah Weber, Trussville.....       | Liudmila Hoskin     |
| Isabella Wu, Tuscaloosa.....      | Tanya Gille         |
| Dylan Zhao, Vestavia Hills .....  | Tatiana Kasman      |

#### Division I

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hyoju An, Montgomery .....         | Aeri Moon          |
| Juhi Arora, Vestavia.....          | Laura Steele       |
| Sarah Bae, Auburn .....            | Sunny Hahn         |
| Peter Bogdan, Hoover .....         | Nadezhda Bogdan    |
| Piper Bonner, Prattville.....      | Donna Wilson       |
| John Brinkley, Huntsville.....     | Frances Schwemmer  |
| Caden Carpenter, Montgomery.....   | Betty Gallops      |
| Brandon Cui, Birmingham .....      | Alina Voicu        |
| Gavin Deason, Northport .....      | Lillian Roberts    |
| Anna Dooley, Meridianville .....   | Tatiana Fedoseyev  |
| Evelyn Gallagher, Florence .....   | Noel Beck          |
| Grace Ge, Auburn .....             | Jeremy Samolesky   |
| Heaven Gray, Mobile .....          | Teresa Fleming     |
| Catherine Hinson, Birmingham ..... | Stephanie Archer   |
| Cynthia Kim, Montgomery .....      | Sarah Tanner       |
| Daniel Kim, Montgomery .....       | Eunhee Ashley      |
| Kaden Kim, Huntsville.....         | Lisa Belk          |
| Chloe Anderson, Birmingham .....   | Adam King          |
| Timothy Li, Birmingham .....       | Alina Voicu        |
| Ethan Lin, Madison.....            | Susan Hoop         |
| Andrew Monson, Montevallo .....    | Alice Butler       |
| Chloe Nacilla, Cullman .....       | Tatiana Kasman     |
| Cindy Niu, Auburn.....             | Mary Slaton        |
| Oliver Pang, Birmingham.....       | Alice Butler       |
| Rosson Peek, Birmingham .....      | Joyce Terry        |
| Stephen Pernell, Tuscaloosa .....  | Sara Seligosky     |
| Hendley Reid, Trussville.....      | Liudmila Hoskin    |
| Elijah Robinson, Daphne.....       | Melanie Ward       |
| Anna Rogalski, Decatur .....       | Debbie Bailie      |
| Stacy Rose, Mobile .....           | Barbara Laurendine |
| Tara Samant, Montgomery .....      | Corine Free        |
| Aliza Scott, Trussville.....       | Liudmila Hoskin    |
| Andrew Wales, Deatsville .....     | Donna Wilson       |
| Eva Watts, Birmingham .....        | Jessica Scott      |
| Grace Xiang, Auburn .....          | Stephen Hickok     |



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## *Huntsville News*

HMTA members were thrilled to have the most recent AMTA State Conference at UAH. We are so proud of our own immediate past president, Dr. Melody Ng, for her work hosting the very successful recent AMTA conference.

The Huntsville Music Teachers Association will have its Annual Meeting on Friday, August 16, at 10am, Roberts Hall, UAH Campus. Current HMTA members are encouraged to bring new prospective members to our Annual Meeting. There is no cost to attend the HMTA Annual Meeting.

After the HMTA Annual Meeting, we will have a luncheon to celebrate Frances Schwemmer. We are celebrating Frances for her long-standing service to HMTA & AMTA. HMTA would like to thank her for previously running the AMTA District Auditions in Huntsville, Alabama for many years. She is stepping down from running the AMTA district auditions in Huntsville. Long time AMTA & HMTA member Susan Hoop will be taking over running the AMTA District Auditions in Huntsville beginning spring 2020. The luncheon celebration for Frances Schwemmer will be held at Newk's (4925 University Dr. Huntsville, AL) at 12:30pm on Friday August 16. All are welcome to both the HMTA Annual Meeting & Frances' luncheon at Newk's. More information on HMTA can be found at [hsvmta.org](http://hsvmta.org).

Deborah Loach—HMTA President



### B i r m i n g h a m Metro Music Forum

Birmingham Metro Music Forum, the local affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association and the Alabama Music Teachers Association, strives to dedicate its efforts to promote and enhance musical life and education in the Metro Birmingham area including district auditions, master classes, monthly recitals, the New Music Festival and the annual theory exams in January.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><i>President</i><br/> <i>Vice-President &amp; Immediate Past President</i><br/> <i>Secretary</i><br/> <i>Treasurer/Membership</i><br/> <i>Monthly Recitals Chair</i><br/> <i>New Music Festival Chair</i><br/> <i>Scholarship Chair</i><br/> <i>Theory Exams Chair</i><br/> <i>Webmaster</i></p> | <p><i>Brent Reeves</i><br/> <i>Margery Whatley</i><br/> <i>Valerie Merrell</i><br/> <i>Kathy Burdette</i><br/> <i>Tatiana Kasman</i><br/> <i>Karen Krekelberg</i><br/> <i>Julia Peterson</i><br/> <i>Becky Schultz</i><br/> <i>Ronald Shinn</i></p> |
|---|---|



<http://www.metromusicforum.com>

# HMTA

Huntsville Alabama's Music Teachers Association



For more information on the Huntsville Music Teachers Association, and for a list of our upcoming events, please visit our website at:

## hsvmta.org



# Wiregrass News

The Wiregrass Music Teachers Forum held our annual Hymn Festival on November 4, 2018 with 21 students participating in recital format. It was held in Dothan at Covenant United Methodist Church with Michelle Bende as Chairperson.

Our 25<sup>th</sup> annual Sonata Festival was February 9-10, 2019 with Becky McManus serving as Chairperson. On Saturday, 138 students of 14 teachers played one movement of a Sonatina or Sonata. Ron and Barbara Shinn served as judges and selected 57 students as winners. On Sunday afternoon, the winners performed in the Winners Recital.

In celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Sonata Festival, WMTF commissioned a sonatina which will soon be published by FJH. The premier performance was at the Honors Recital with four different students of four different teachers performing.

*Sonatina of the South*  
by Kevin Olson

*Lightnin' Bug Boogaloo*  
*Spanish Moss*  
*Boll Weevil Blues*  
*Hurricane Warning*

On April 13, 2019 our AMTA District Auditions were held at First Baptist Church in Enterprise with Carol Windham as District Chair. Judges were Josh Pifer from Valdosta and Christine Adolf from Auburn.

## West Alabama Music Teachers Association



- Masley Blackwell
- Kevin Chance, NCTM
- Syble Coats
- Alkis Donald
- Tanya Gille, NCTM
- Paul Houghaling
- Hyessok Jung
- Jennifer Loefer
- Lillian Roberts, NCTM
- Benedict Rosario
- Elisher Savitski
- Misti Short, NCTM
- Cindy St. Clair, NCTM
- Susan Williams
- Kevin Wooley

The WMTF Honors Recital was May 5, 2019. Among the 23 participants were students who received Outstanding in Performance and Theory at AMTA District Auditions. Four summer music camp scholarships were presented to students who will be attending camp at the University of Montevallo or Pensacola Christian College. In addition, one college scholarship for \$350 was presented to Meghan Johnson, a student of Hilda Hagins, who will be majoring in music starting at Enterprise State Community College in the fall.

Our annual planning meeting for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year will be held on Sunday afternoon, August 11, 2019, at Covenant United Methodist Church. Last year's meeting was very successful and an enjoyable time of sharing ideas with other teachers.

Janet Blair—WMTF President

## Wiregrass Music Teachers Forum

*Established 1995*

### Annual Events

- Hymn Festival
- Sonata Festival
- District II Auditions
- Honors Recital



### Annual Scholarships

- College Music Major Scholarships
- Summer Music Camp Scholarships

Janet Blair, President

Rebecca McManus, Vice-President

Hilda Hagins, Secretary/Treasurer

## ***Soundboard Deadlines:***

***Fall: October 6  
Spring: February 6  
Summer : July 6***

## ***AMTA State Woodwind, Brass, and Voice Auditions***

### **DIVISION III BRASS WINNER**

Kendall McCay, Oneonta.....Deborah Beason

### **DIVISION I VOICE WINNER**

Abbi Arriaga, Oneonta.....Lynda Rhymes

### **DIVISION I VOICE HONORABLE MENTION**

Bella Brooks, Pelham.....Heather Batey

### **DIVISION II VOICE WINNER**

Lauren Price, Oneonta.....Lynda Rhymes

### **DIVISION III VOICE WINNER**

Elizabeth Hanje, Vestavia Hills.....Heather Batey

### **DIVISION III VOICE HONORABLE MENTION**

Talia Ponas, Oneonta.....Lynda Rhymes

### **DIVISION II WOODWIND WINNER**

Stacey Yoo, Pike Road.....Aeri Moon

### **COLLEGIATE WOODWIND WINNER**

Alanna Bradley, University of Alabama.....Diane Schultz

## ***AMTA Collegiate Piano Solo Auditions***

### **LOWER DIVISION WINNERS**

Jeff Bell, University of Alabama .....Kevin Chance  
Dina Kasman, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman  
Weixiang Peng, University of Alabama.....Edisher Savitski  
Rebekah Presswood, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

### **LOWER DIVISION HONORABLE MENTIONS**

Connor Lancaster, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Tatiana Kasman  
Julie Sommer, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance  
Paola Sommer, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance  
Carmen Williams, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman  
Jen Wilson, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

### **UPPER DIVISION WINNER**

Jacob Skiles, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

### **UPPER DIVISION HONORABLE MENTION**

Zoe Willis, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

### **GRADUATE DIVISION WINNER**

Scott Santoro, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

### **GRADUATE DIVISION HONORABLE MENTION**

Minwoo Park, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance



## CD Release

The CD album *Notes from Home - Music of the British Isles* has been released to purchase as well as is available through digital streaming services. Featuring clarinetist Jonathan Holden and pianist Eun-Hee Park, the album includes works for clarinet and piano and for solo clarinet by British composers, such as Hurlstone, Finzi, Bliss, Roxburgh, Bennett, Stanford, and Ireland. Dr. Holden is currently Assistant Professor of Clarinet at Florida State University and Dr. Park is Assistant Professor of Music/Head of Keyboard Area at the University of Montevallo.

Eun-Hee Park—AMTA Member



## West Alabama News

The West Alabama Music Teachers Association held a Spring Student Recital on May 4 at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa.

Back during the 1990's AMTA members, who were active at the National Level, worked with the Gloria Naramore Moody Foundation, the AMTA Executive Board, and the MTNA Foundation. Because of their vision, the Amanda Ward Penick Endowment Fund was established. This fund "supports teacher enrichment grants benefiting Alabama and MTNA Southern Division Teachers." Ms. Penick was on the piano faculty at the University of Alabama from 1953-2014. She was awarded the AMTA Teacher of the Year Award in 1996 and the MTNA Teacher of the Year Award in 2008. From her studio came state, regional, national, and international competitions winners. Her students now teach throughout the state, region, and nation. It has been some time since this fund was established. Ms. Penick passed away in 2016, but the Amanda Ward Penick Endowment Fund is still in place. I hope we never forget that members who give to the MTNA Foundation have the option of designating a gift to this fund.

Manley Blackwell—WAMTA President

## Certification News

Congratulations to our two newest certified members! Robert Bryant (Huntsville) and Christina Mathis (Decatur) (pictured) have both completed certification.

Other members with certification "work in progress" are Nicholas Robertson (Birmingham), Heather Weber (Montgomery) and Olivia Jones (Birmingham). We look forward to presenting you as newly certified AMTA members!

Barbara Shinn—AMTA Certification Chair

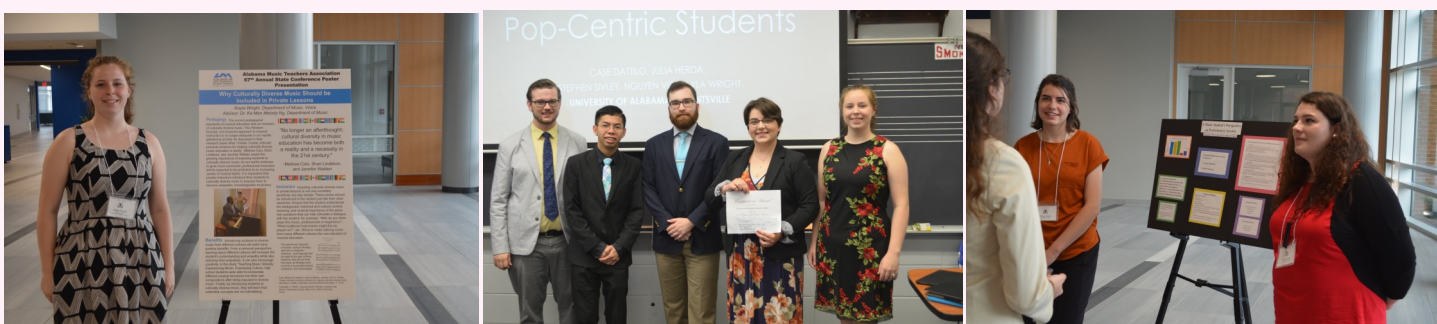


## Collegiate Chapter News

AMTA Collegiate Members and prospective collegiate members enjoyed the annual conference held at the University of Alabama/Huntsville earlier this year. All were impressed by the presentations given by two of our six collegiate chapters in both traditional and poster format.

The UAH and University of Montevallo Chapters impressed judges Ron Shinn, Jodean Tingle, Josh Pifer and Wendy Freeland with their poster presentations. UAH's poster presentation was titled *Why Culturally Diverse Music Should Be Included in Private Lessons* and the University of Montevallo's poster presentation was on *A Music Student's Perspective on Performance Anxiety*. A presentation with lecture, visuals, and audio was given by the UAH Chapter Saturday morning entitled *Fostering a Love of Classical Music in Pop-centric Students*.

Wendy Freeland—Collegiate Chapter Chair



## Mobile News

The Mobile Music Teachers Association was honored to have Dr. Kevin Chance as a guest at the May 21, 2019 meeting of the association held at Andy's music in Mobile. Dr. Chance presented a program on the many benefits of membership in MTNA and AMTA. He included helpful tools to help navigate the website. Topics covered included certification, National Conference, various competitions, MTNA E-Festival, professional development, grants and awards, and discounts available to members. Also highlighted were the auditions held by AMTA and the AMTA handbook which is available on the state website. Many of the members present at the meeting commented that they hadn't been aware of all the many benefits of their membership in MTNA and that they very much appreciate the valuable information given by Dr. Chance and look forward to taking advantage of all that their membership offers.

Tammy Dennis—1st Vice President MMTA

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# Baldwin County News

Each fall the Baldwin County Music Teachers Association presents a fall recital with each child presenting a piece which sets them on track for progress throughout the year. Instruments performed included piano, guitar, and voice. Teachers whose students were involved this past fall came from the studios of Daniel K. DeKonty, Jr., Tammy Dennis, Laurie Gruenloh, Karen Hicks, Eric Marrero and Vincentine Williams. This solo and duet recital was performed on October 27th, 2018 at Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church.



Our association provides students with many performance opportunities. The Christmas Season gives students ample opportunities to play their favorite pieces. Several BCMTA members have students participate in the Sonata Contest hosted by the Mobile Music Teachers Association. Several of these students came out on top in this contest. The Boys Recital was held at Summerdale City Center on February 9. This event is exclusively for boys of whom many enjoy not sharing the stage with girls!



Several teachers in BCMTA provide lessons to adults who have decided that it is not too late to pursue their dreams of making music. In January, Steinway Piano Gallery gave them an opportunity to share their music-making with one another. This is an afternoon of support, encouragement, nurturing and guidance with refreshments afterwards. Pianists, a harpist, and a guitarist performed.

This spring, Steinway Piano Gallery of the Eastern Shore gave the area a splendid opportunity to play on a historic instrument. They brought the Steinway piano on which Vladimir Horowitz performed his many concerts throughout the world. I had the opportunity to play this magnificent sounding instrument. No wonder he made the effort to take it with him wherever he went! Students had a once in a life-time opportunity to perform on the very keys on which this historic pianist made his fabulous music. Many BCMTA teachers booked their spring recitals so that their students could take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Tammy Dennis and her students are pictured here with certificates given by Steinway Piano Gallery of Eastern Shore verifying their experience.



Each month students who have selections prepared are welcomed at Westminster Village in Spanish Fort to perform for a crowd of senior residents. The students and teachers vary from month to month. Students love performing in BCMTA!



Jeanne O'Connell—BCMTA Member

## The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

|                                  |                 |                 |                 |                 |                |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Our current membership includes: | Evaughn Balkcom | Betty Gallops   | Hae Na Ji       | Laryne Monte    | Ann Thornton   |
| Les Ames                         | Susan Bishop    | Adonis Gonzalez | Stephanie Jones | Aari Moon       | Patricia Vines |
| Corine Anderson-Free             | Hoejeong Chae   | Ruth Graham     | Haein Kim       | Beverly Shaffer | Summer Whatley |
| Eunhee Ashley                    | A Yeong Chi     | Diana Gray      | Christy Kretz   | Ronald Shinn    | Donna Wilson   |
| Ginger Bain                      | Hope Coon       | Skye Jenkins    | Joy Lee         | Elise Smith     | Hui-Ting Yang  |
|                                  | Kathy Elder     | Kyunghee Jeon   | Nora McGalliard | Sarah Tanner    | Sallye York    |

MMTF sponsors several annual events. In the fall, the Mark McGowin Recital and the Janis McCulley Hymn Festival are held at local churches. In the spring, the Helen Boykin Festival, the Helen Boykin Honors Recital, and the AMTA District Auditions are held at Booker T. Washington Magnet. Over these events, several awards are given to outstanding music students for achieving a high level of musical achievement.



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Music Administration

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Choral Conducting, Church Music,  
Composition, Theory, Arranging,  
Music History

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Education Specialist

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Jazz Ensemble  
Jazz Band and Jazz Combo  
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Early Music Ensembles



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## AUDITION DATES

Friday, February 1, 2019

Saturday, February 16, 2019

Saturday, February 23, 2019



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*Congratulations to the*  
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*Celebrating 100 years of*  
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# ***AMTA Executive Board***

## ***2019 – 2020***

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## Have something you want to share with the AMTA membership?

All members of AMTA may submit articles or announcements for consideration of inclusion in an issue of the SoundBoard. Please send your articles to Stephanie Archer, SoundBoard editor, at sarcher@samford.edu. We want to hear from our members! Please do not hesitate to send any feedback regarding this publication. We want to make it the best it can be for all members!