



SOUNDBOARD

A Publication of the Alabama Music Teachers Association
Op. 65 No. 2

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Letter from the President

Happy Spring Everyone!

I know it's early, but the weather has been gorgeous! I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of AMTA members in Florida very soon. But before I talk about the MTNA National Conference, I want to mention several other things.

This past January, I had the pleasure of helping at the last Southern Division Competition for MTNA. The weekend was full of talent, wonderful judges, and extreme organization by our very own Kevin Chance, MTNA Southern Division Director. Great job students, teachers, and Kevin! It was bittersweet knowing that this would be the last Southern Division competitions that are held on site. Next year this level of competition will be online only, but the presidents of Southern Division states are brainstorming ways we can continue to meet during this time of year to keep our division and camaraderie strong.

The following students placed:

Junior Performance Piano

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Luke Turner (AL)	Piano	Heather Conner

Senior Piano Duet

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Winner	Elisabeth Tsai (AL)	Piano	Eric Zuber
	Yannie Tan	Piano	Tatian Muzanova

Senior Performance Voice

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Honorable Mention	Caroline Oldfather (AL)	Soprano	Ginger Beazley

Young Artist Performance Voice

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Honorable Mention	Patty Holley (AL)	Soprano	Matthew Hoch

Young Artist Performance Brass

	<i>Entrant</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Teacher</i>
Honorable Mention	Jonathan Childers (AL)	Trumpet	Mark DeGoti

Early this year, AMTA sent money to both Florida MTA and Texas MTA for disaster relief. Both states have sent appreciative letters back thanking our organization's generosity. At our recent AMTA board e-meeting, we voted to also send money to Puerto Rico to aid in the enormous task they have ahead of them. This will help music teachers in the area start to rebuild their future.

I hope many of you are planning to attend the MTNA conference at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort on March 17th- 21st. Kevin is planning a fabulous Southern Division reception for us this year at the MTNA conference Sunday evening. Be sure to join us and bring a friend to our neighbor state! Please let me or Kevin know if you will be attending the MTNA conference and would like to come to the Southern Division reception. The more the merrier! Also, Kevin will be giving a MTNA webinar on Disney on March 2nd. Don't worry! If you miss it, you can always watch MTNA's webinars at a later date.

Just a reminder, the student composition competition is now held in the spring. Entry forms are due to Amir Zaheri by April 6, 2018. The forms are on the almta.org website under "Awards and Competitions." Please have your creative composing students enter!

And finally, I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your President for the past two years. I've been honored to represent our great organization at the local, state, and national levels. I've enjoyed the different tasks at hand and the new friendships across states that were formed. I hope to see you all at the AMTA state conference this summer which I'm sure we will all thoroughly enjoy!

Respectfully,

Sarah Tanner—AMTA President




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West Alabama Music Teachers Association



- Manley Blackwell
- Diane Boyd-Schultz
- Kevin Chance, NCTM
- Syble Coats
- Susan Fleming
- Tanya Galle
- Paul Houghaling
- Hyesook Jung
- Pamela Penick, NCTM
- Lillian Roberts
- Edsler Savitski
- Misti Short, NCTM
- Cindy St. Clair, NCTM
- Susan Williams
- Kevin Woolley

Birmingham 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.

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Vice-President & Immediate Past President
Secretary
Treasurer/Membership
Monthly Recitals Chair
New Music Festival Chair
Scholarship Chair
Theory Exams Chair
Webmaster

Brent Reeves
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<http://www.metromusicforum.com>



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Dr. Rebecca Whited, *Organ*



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66th Annual Conference
Alabama Music Teachers Association
May 31 – June 2, 2018
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

***Celebrating Collaborating, Teaching, and
Inspiring Students***

Dear AMTA Members,

Get ready to participate and be a part of YOUR Annual AMTA State Conference!!!

Our Guest Artist is Richard Cionco - World Class Steinway Artist, Pedagogue, Recording Artist, and Wonderfully Genuine Person.

Our Guest Clinician is Fred Karpoff - Internationally Acclaimed Artist and Pedagogue, World Class Steinway Artist, and Director of Professional Development at the Faber Piano Institute.

Our Guest Strings Clinician is Guy Harrison—Pedagogue, Artist, and Advocate of Youth String Education in Alabama.

I am looking forward to a fabulous conference where we can all celebrate reunions, growth, inspiration, and our students' success and growth. Some of our own who will be sharing their love for music as member presenters and performers are Nicole Agostino, Kevin Chance, Steven DiBlasi, Wendy Freeland, Melody Ng, Eun-Hee Park, John Robertson, Diane Boyd Schultz, and Vincentine Williams. I hope we will have growth in the area of celebrating string students and string teachers, as well as voice, brass, and woodwind students and teachers.

The Banquet will be held this year in one of the ballrooms at the Auburn Hotel and Conference Center, and the food will be exquisite and mouth-watering. We will also have Happy Hour with live music and drinks before the banquet.

Registration will be up and running on April 1 and look forward to bi-weekly announcements with updates. I hope to maintain and even surpass last year's goal of 75 participants.

You are all amazing and inspirational people, and AMTA is an awesome organization. Get Excited! Get Ready! Let Us Celebrate!

Sincerely,
 Josh Pifer—AMTA Vice President

***Soundboard
Deadlines:***

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

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



Richard Cionco

Pianist **Richard Cionco** -- praised by Donal Henahan of the New York Times for his “*sensitive pianism*” has performed as soloist with orchestras, as chamber musician, and as a recitalist on three continents.

A Steinway Artist, Mr. Cionco is a graduate of the University of Maryland and The Juilliard School. Important chamber music performances include those at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, the Festival of New American Music in Sacramento, and at the Orfeo Music Festival in Italy.

He has performed in recital in nearly every major U.S. city and his performances of Liszt’s complete *12 Transcendental Etudes* have brought him rave reviews. Recently, he performed at New Mexico State University, the University of New Mexico, Kent State University, Florida State University, University of Alberta in Canada, Stetson University, Pensacola State University,

the University of Florida, San Jose State University, the Chicago College of Performing Arts, the Great Music in Scarborough Series in New York, the University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Nevada Reno, Tulane University in New Orleans, in Anchorage, AK, and dozens more.

Mr. Cionco has recorded solo and chamber music by Daniel Kingman for *Innova Records* and his first solo CD, *Latin American Music for Solo Piano*, on the Centaur Records label has received rave reviews, notably by the American Record Guide. Each summer he serves on the artist faculty of the Orfeo International Music Festival and Competition in Northern Italy and performs at the Samsø Piano Festival in Denmark. He has given master classes, lectures, recitals and has served as adjudicator in China and Hong Kong. In 2012, he released a solo CD of Beethoven’s late piano music, and a CD of music by American composer, Sunny Knable -- both on the Centaur label.

Mr. Cionco was a Teaching Fellow for David Dubal at The Juilliard School for four years and is presently Professor of Piano at California State University, Sacramento where he teaches, performs, and composes. He also enjoys running competitively and cooking, as well as hiking far and wide.

Fred Karpoff

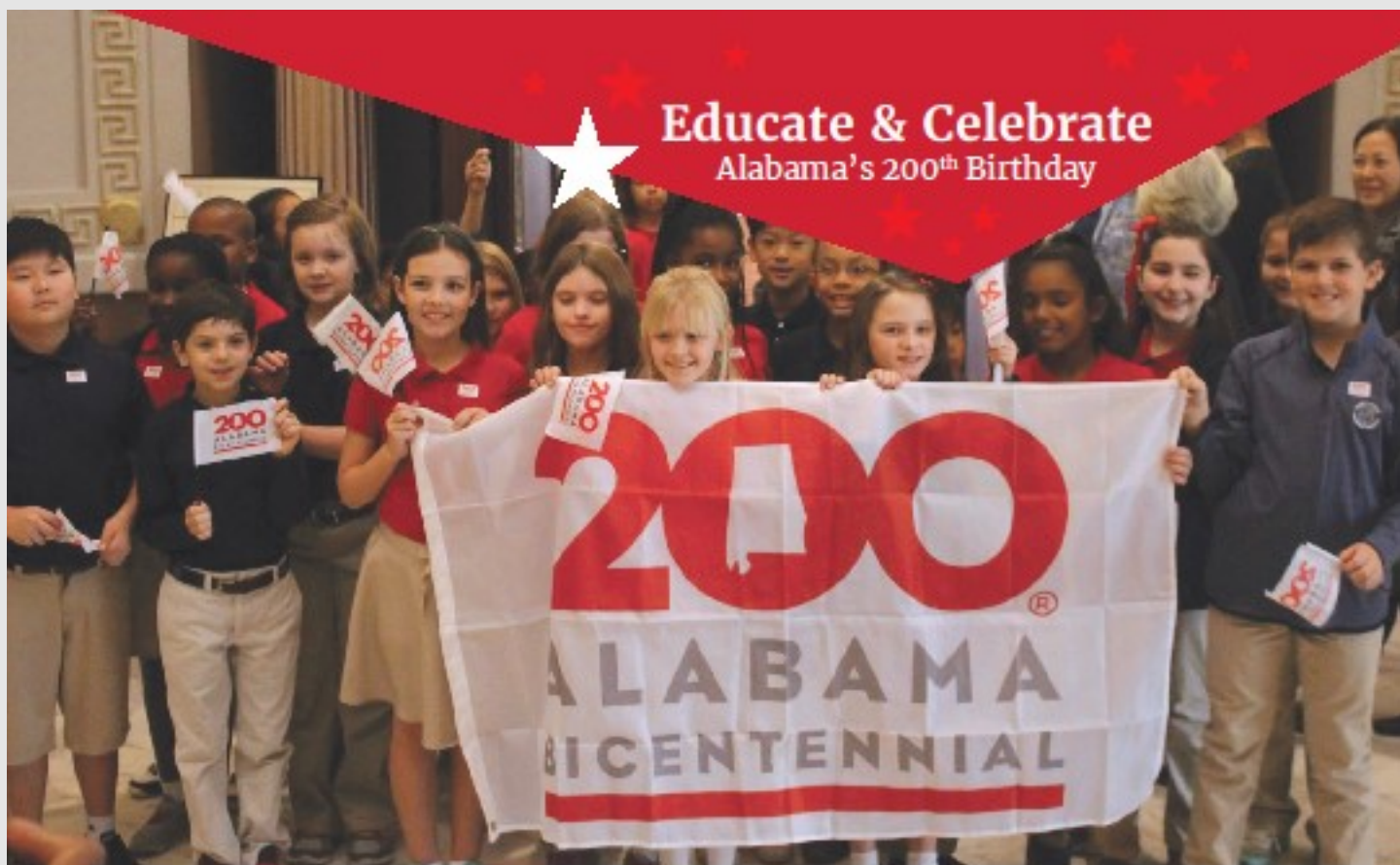
Dr. Fred Karpoff has performed as soloist and collaborative pianist on four continents, including venues in Germany, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Finland, Italy, China, and the U.S. A former Artistic Ambassador for the U.S. Information Agency, Fred is a prize winner in the San Antonio, Dublin and Competition Internationale piano competitions. As a guest artist at music festivals in the U.S. and Europe, he has collaborated with many of America’s foremost musicians.

Winner of the Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award presented by the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Fred presents workshops and master classes throughout North America, including appearances at MTNA and recently with Randall Faber at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy conference (NCKP). He is the artistic producer of *Entrada Piano Technique*, an online video resource for teachers and students to achieve effortless piano technique. Entrada has partnered with the Faber Piano Institute to produce *Technique & Artistry Online*, a professional development resource for teachers and pianists. More information is available at faberpiano.com.

Fred has studied with Leon Fleisher, Ann Schein, Robert Weirich, and Yoheved Kaplinsky, with extensive coaching by Karl Ulrich Schnabel and Richard Goode. He holds a DMA from the Peabody Conservatory and an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University.

He is Professor of Piano at the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University and has served as Visiting Professor at the Eastman School of Music. He is a Steinway Artist and Director of Professional Development at the Faber Piano Institute.





It's not every day that a state celebrates two centuries of statehood. Be a part of our statewide initiatives that focus on educating all students about Alabama's history and involve them in the bicentennial celebration.

Be a Part of Our Bicentennial Schools!

- Request an **ALABAMA 200** flag and fly it at your school.
- Apply to receive a \$2,000 grant for a community project and be designated an Alabama Bicentennial School.
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Visit Alabama200.org and find out how you can incorporate Alabama's bicentennial into your curriculum.

To inquire about becoming a Bicentennial School, contact Erik.Haeuser@archives.alabama.gov or call **334-353-9152**



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★ Celebrate our state.



Certification News

Congratulations to a recently certified member of MTNA and AMTA, Dr. Edward "Ted" Hoffman III. He is a member of the faculty of the University of Montevallo where he teaches graduate coursework in the Master of Education program, directs tuba/euphonium studies, administers the summer *Young Musicians' Camp* and much more. He holds degrees from Auburn University, University of Montevallo and the Ph.D. from University of Nebraska.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Barbara Shinn—Certification Chair

Composition Competition

On behalf of the Alabama Music Teachers Association's Executive Board, it is my pleasure to invite students between the ages of 5-26, who live in Alabama or who study with a teacher who is a member of AMTA, to participate in the 2018 Student Composition Competition. I know that our state boasts a number of students, at all levels of study, who are creating new and exciting compositions. This competition is one of many ways in which students have an opportunity to have their original pieces reviewed by professional composer judges and considered for an award. The application process is easy. You can find information about the competition, as well as the application, by following this link: <http://www.almta.org/composition-competition.php>. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions about this wonderful opportunity. I look forward to receiving lots of new music!

Amir Zaheri—Composition Competition Chair

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!

Place an ad in the next issue of the Soundboard!

If your school, organization, or association, would like to place an ad in the Soundboard, please email Pam Penick, AMTA Advertising Chair, at pwpenick@att.net for a full list of sizes and prices. We want to know about the opportunities your organization provides, so advertise today!

SHOALS AREA NEWS

The Shoals Area Music Teachers Forum has been very active the past few months. In October, we were fortunate to have Elena Sandrell present an incredibly interesting program on Russian piano repertoire for young students. Elena is from Ulyanovsk, Russia and studied music at the N. G. Zhiganov Kazan State Conservatory in Kazan, Russia.

Our annual Ritz Recital was held at the Ritz Theater in Sheffield, Alabama in early November. This event is for our advancing young pianists and gives them a true performance opportunity on stage with a grand piano. It was a memorable Sunday afternoon with thirty-eight students performing.

We celebrated the holidays in December at the Holly and Ivy luncheon at the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence. We enjoyed ending the year with beautiful music, wonderful food, and fellowship.

Dr. Tim O'Steen began our January meeting with a superb performance of Rachmaninov Prelude in D Major, Op. 23, No. 4. He also shared his ideas and teaching philosophy with our members, primarily focusing on beginning students. Tim earned a bachelor's degree in piano performance from Auburn University and his MM from Southern Illinois-Edwardsville while studying with Ruth Slenczynska. He also holds a DMA from LSU.

We are now looking forward to Music Olympics in March which is our biggest event of the year. Last year, 80 Shoals area students participated. Students are not only given the opportunity to perform, but also to demonstrate their knowledge of keyboard theory, written theory and composers. The event ends with an Honors Recital showcasing the best performances of the day.

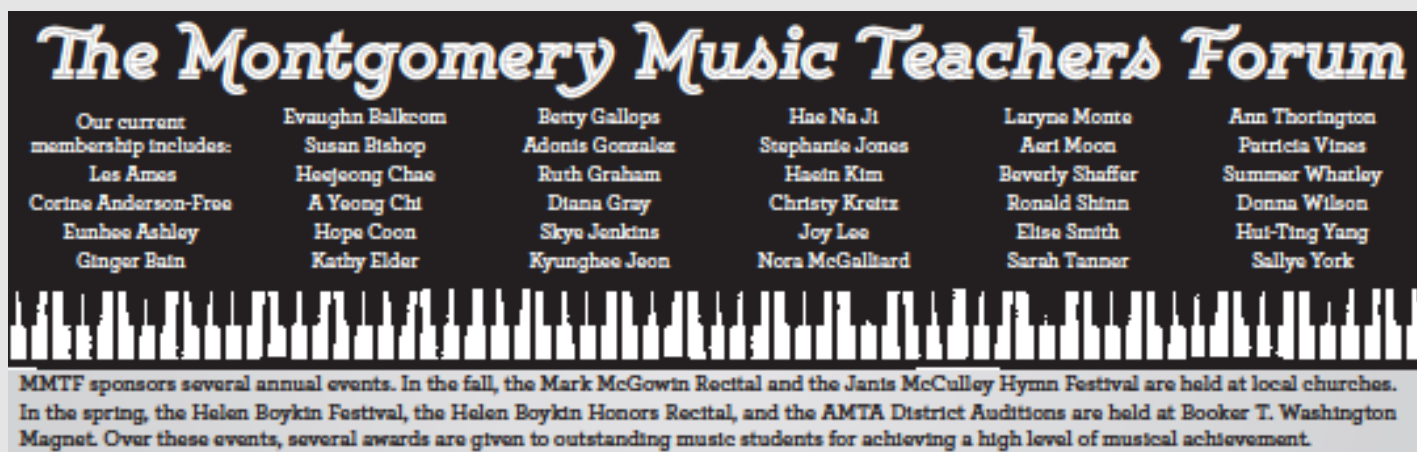
Shoals Area also has four recently added teachers to officially welcome to AMTA:

Elena Sandrell

Tim O'Steen

Abbie Byrom

Allison Tucker (collegiate)



The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

Our current membership includes:	Evvaughn Balkroom	Betty Gallops	Hae Na Ji	Laryne Monte	Ann Thornton
Les Ames	Susan Bishop	Adonis Gonzalez	Stephante Jones	Aeri Moon	Patricia Vines
Corine Anderson-Free	Heejeong Chae	Ruth Graham	Haein Kim	Beverly Shaffer	Summer Whatley
Eunhee Ashley	A Yeong Chi	Diana Gray	Christy Kretz	Ronald Shtnn	Donna Wilson
Ginger Bain	Hope Coon	Skye Jenkins	Joy Lee	Elise Smith	Hut-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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UAB PIANO IN THE NEWS
Spring 2018

FEBRUARY 9&10-	Yakov Kasman, soloist with the Alabama Symphony, Rachmaninoff, Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Jemison Concert Hall, 8:00 pm.
MARCH 24-	Junior YPAP recital: Zoe Willis*
MARCH 28-	Student solo recital: Fred Song
APRIL 3-	Sophomore recital: Schumann, Piano Concerto-Jacob Skiles Scriabin, Poem of Ecstasy-Mira Walker and Yakov Kasman
APRIL 5-	Senior YPAP recital: Eamon Griffith
APRIL 8 -	UAB Piano Series presents Kenneth Broberg, 2017 Van Cliburn Silver Medalist. Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 4:00 pm.
APRIL 12 -	Yakov Kasman with ASO "Concertmaster and Friends" Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 7:30pm.
APRIL 15 -	UAB Piano Studio and Piano Ensembles recital Mary Culp Hulsey Recital Hall, 7:30 pm.
APRIL 19-	Senior recital: Travis Chin
MAY 19 -	Fifth Annual UAB Piano Day for pre-college students Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall

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

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

BALDWIN COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Even though the Baldwin County Music Teachers Association is small in number, we do not lack for activities for our students.

The Fall Recital was held on Saturday, October 21, 2018 at the Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church in Fairhope. So many students were involved that two recitals were planned to accommodate them all.



Recital #1



Recital #2

The future of church music ministers is more promising after the BCMTA hosted a Hymn Festival on Monday, November 6 at First Baptist Church in Fairhope. Adults and children played one hymn and another selection plus a scale for an adjudicator and received comments on their performance. Many students enjoy this event each fall.

Steinway Piano Gallery of Spanish Fort secured the Harvey Lavan Cliburn piano in November. For the past two and a half months, his spectacular nine foot historic instrument has been available to the pianists in south Alabama and western Florida. Many events were planned to provide opportunities to play and perform on this special instrument. Some of the teachers of BCMTA performed a recital using this instrument. It truly was a unique experience to play the same keys that the famous Cliburn played. One can even see where his hands rubbed some of the finish off the cabinet as he stood to bow. The Steinway Gallery also showed the video of Cliburn's early years and the significance of winning the Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in 1958.



The Van Cliburn piano played by BCMTA Teachers Jeanne O'Connell, Tammy Dennis, and Lindsey Hughes and two students.

The last weekend of January was especially busy for BCMTA. Musicpalooza is our mid-year music camp held in Robertsdale on Saturday, January 27. All school-aged students could participate in this event which presents music games, ear training, composition, history, theory, note reading, and master classes. Our clinician for the Master Class this year was Dr. Robert Holm, Chair of the Keyboard division at the University of South Alabama. Teachers prepared a variety of sessions appropriate for the age and skill level of the students. This year's focus was on 20th century music. The four age groups were named Copland, Bernstein, Gershwin and Stravinsky. The closing ceremony was a performance by Dr. Holm and a short excerpt of the ballet THE FIREBIRD by Igor Stravinsky danced and choreographed by Abby Kiernan, a 12th grade piano student involved in the music camp. All students received a ribbon for participating.



On Sunday, January 28, we held the Adult Musicale. Any adult studying privately with a BCMTA teacher is encouraged to perform for other adults without the intimidation of hearing younger students play. Because the Van Cliburn piano was still at the Steinway Piano Gallery, our adults had the opportunity to perform on this outstanding instrument. Harp, cello, and piano players participated.



We have had a busy and productive year so far and there are many more events planned. February 17 is our Boys Recital which is exclusively reserved for boys only. District Auditions are on April 7 in Mobile and each BCMTA studio is planning a spring recital. Our students never lack for an event in which to be involved.

Jeanne O'Connell—Baldwin County Member



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PIANO AREA FACULTY

Dr. Kevin T. Chance, Piano Area Coordinator

Dr. Tanya Gille, Professor of Piano

Dr. Edisher Savitski, Assistant Professor of Piano

Dr. Kevin Woosley, Instructor of Class Piano

Dr. Faythe Freese, Organ Area Coordinator

2018 AUDITION DATES

Saturday, January 27, 2018

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Please visit our website for complete information on degrees, audition applications and upcoming performances.

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2017-2018 HMTA Events



HMTA would like to invite teachers in the area to come and visit us for meetings and events!

Visit us at www.HSVMTA.org

TEACHING MUSICIANSHIP THROUGH TECHNIQUE

Presented by Dr. Adam Clark
November 3rd, 2017 | 10am
UAH Choral Rehearsal Room

COMMUNITY PALOOZA

December 2nd, 2017 | 12-3pm
Huntsville Library Downtown
Sign up Online by October 20th < www.HSVMTA.org/signup >

HMTA HONORS RECITAL

April 29th, 2018 | 2pm
UAH Roberts Recital Hall

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Teachers' Exchange: Informal Gathering
Monthly Chair Sign-up

2016-2018 Officers

President | Melody Ng
President-elect | Debi Loach
Vice President | Tamar Saliashvili

Secretary | Lisa Belk
Treasurer | Frances Schwemmer
Immediate Past President | Diana Pettit

AMTA District VIII Piano Audition News

Frances Schwemmer, NCTM – Chair
126 Robin Lane SE, Huntsville, AL 35802
Email: eddosch@aol.com
Tel: 256.881.6879

Date: April 14, 2018

Place: First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive, Hsv. 35801

Deadline for forms: March 24, 2018 Use 2018 District Solo Forms only—located on the AMTA web site (almta.org). Please staple the theory sheet behind the application sheet. Detailed information on HMTA's web site (hsvmta.org). Forms may be mailed or left on my front porch any day the week of March 19th and the deadline is March 24th.

Helpers: Always needed and appreciated— if you can volunteer an hour or two please indicate on your form. Pick up for forms: Sunday, April 15, 2018 – my front porch -- 12 – 6 p.m.

All forms not picked up will be mailed, unless you email me that you want to pick them up on Monday morning. Sometimes the mail is slow.....

Make special requests ONLY in the most urgent situations since only a limited number of special time requests can be accommodated.

Write 1 check payable to Frances Schwemmer for all of your students' audition fees. The audition fee is \$25.00 per student. Sign the line that confirms that you are the teacher of all students listed on the forms.

MTNA Foundation News:

2018 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Truly, we hope it is a wonderful Happy New Year! I believe that everyone will agree that last year enough fires, floods, earthquakes, and natural disasters were experienced to last for years to come. Fortunately, Alabama was spared this last year and we did not get the brunt of the hurricanes nor tornadoes as in previous years. It was our privilege to help others in their time of need this year.

It is with true gratitude that I want to thank all of you who so very generously contributed to the MTNA Foundation, OUR foundation, as well all these other areas in such desperate need! I realize that I always sound like a television evangelist begging for money when I get on the pedestal about OUR foundation..... I REALLY DO believe this!!! It is by us and for us!!! We MUST support it! However, I also know what wonderful people we have in our organization who support so many other worthy causes. And, obviously, we are the backbone of fine music and the arts in this world. We are not the rock stars being invited to sing and entertain at the Superbowl and other such venues. Wonder why? To the supporters and true rock stars of music our foundation extends a heartfelt THANK YOU!!!

Manley Blackwell	Melody Ng	Miles Doolittle
Barbara Laurendine	Adam Bowles	Lawren Ware
Ginger Beazley	Diana Pettit	Margery Whatley
Cynthia MacCrae	Martha Brouse	Ruth Dunbar
Noel Beck	Brent Reeves	Lisa Wiggins
Nora McGalliard	Kathy Burdette	Alice Eaton
Tammy Benson	Elizabeth Rutland	Vincentine Williams
Rebecca McManus	Kevin Chance	Kathleen Fisher
Veneta Billmayer	Connie Schweigert	Donna Wilson
Laura Beth Mitchell	A Yeong Chi	Wendy Freeland
Susan Bishop	Frances Schwemmer	Matthew Wilson
Amy Morgan	Lyra Crapps	Paul Houghtailing
Janet Blair	Barbara Shinn	Robbie James
Mary Crowell	Ron Shinn	William Justice
Sarah Tanner	Daniel DeKonty	Melinda Parrish
Susie Dempsey	Tammy Dennis	Amy Jenson
Connie Teague	Jodean Tingle	Daniel Driskell

Again, THANKS to all of you who teach the great and not so great musicians of the world! Through our teaching, mentoring, and supporting the many programs our foundation offer to us and students alike, a very heartfelt thank you is given! Through our foundation we can touch and enrich so many more lives than we can in our little corner of the world. The opportunities are endless. I urge you to go to our website and peruse it to find all can be done with the donation that you personally contribute. I believe that you will be very pleased to see how far your money will go. This year, I challenge Alabama to set a goal of \$2,000. We came close in 2017 with contributions of \$1,826. For just a few more dollars from each person and a few more NEW contributors, we can achieve that goal.

Let's do it, Alabama! LET'S MAKE A GOAL OF \$2000.00 FOR ALABAMA

Our foundation needs every one of you! Even if you've never given before: DO IT NOW! Don't miss out on your opportunity and responsibility! Keep OUR foundation STRONG! Go to:

MTNA National Headquarters
1W 4th St, Ste 1550
Cincinnati, OH 45202
mtnafoundation@mtna.org

Find all the information you need and then contribute as your heart leads.

Connie Teague - MTNA Foundation Chair



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AMTA Local Association Presidents 2016-2017

Auburn Opelika MTA

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Baldwin County MTA

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Northeast Alabama MTA

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Shoals Area MTF

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West Alabama MTA

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Wiregrass MTF

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