



SOUNDBOARD

A Publication of the Alabama Music Teachers Association

Op. 66 No. 2

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Letter from the President

Happy Spring! I hope your start to 2019 has been a great and productive one.

I would like to begin by congratulating and recognizing our outstanding young students who placed in Southern Division Competitions for MTNA.

Young Artist Performance Voice

Winner	Claudia Affan	voice-soprano	Matthew Hoch
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Senior Piano Duet

Alternate	Savannah Howard	piano	Ronald Shinn
Alternate	Raymond Hou	piano	Ronald Shinn

Young Artist Performance Woodwind

Alternate	Blake Adams	saxophone	Jonathan Noffsinger
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Senior Composition

Honorable Mention	James McGalliard	composition	Nora McGalliard
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Congratulations to all the students and teachers for their hard work, dedication, and love for music. A special shout out to Claudia Affan who is a junior voice major at Auburn University. She will be competing as a National Finalist in Young Artist Voice in Spokane. If you are attending the National Conference, please do go and support her as she performs and competes.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the MTNA National Conference in Spokane WA. Our own VP/President Elect, Melody Ng, will be presenting a session. Our Southern Division Director, Diane Blanchard, will be organizing and hosting the Southern Division reception for us on Sunday evening. It is a lovely event and a great opportunity to meet old and new colleagues from other southern states. Please let Diane or myself know if you are planning to attend the National conference and would like to the Southern Division Reception. The more the merrier.

I would like to thank all our board members who have been working so very hard to serve all our students and members. I am excited for our AMTA State Conference this year. We have a star studded line up. I encourage all young budding composers to participate in our student composition competition this spring. The deadline for submission is April 5 to Brittney Patterson. (see following link for more information: <http://www.almta.org/composition-competition.php>) Teachers, please encourage your students to be creative. Remember, without composers we would be out of a job!

Earlier this year, AMTA sent disaster relief money to North Carolina. The president of NCMTA, Victoria Fischer Faw just sent me an appreciative letter back thanking our organization's generosity. I was happy to hear that three students along with one teacher were able to benefit from our donation. The three students' houses suffered severe or complete damage and the funds were distributed to support the continuation of their music study.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of our amazing and dedicated organization and am very thankful for all our unselfishly committed board members. Thank you for all your support and allowing me to serve as your president. I hope to see all of you at our AMTA State Conference where we can reconnect, celebrate, and learn.

Sincerely,

Josh Pifer – AMTA President

67th Annual Conference

Alabama Music Teachers Association

May 30 – June 1, 2019

The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, Alabama

A Musical Propulsion - Learning, Teaching, and Performing

Dear AMTA Members,

I hope 2019 is going well for everyone and that all of you are excited for the upcoming AMTA conference! Our guest artist will be Norman Krieger from Indiana University. His recital will include works by Beethoven, Brahms, and Chopin as well as a set of modern pieces. Our guest clinician will be Jessica Johnson from University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her sessions will include topics for students, teachers and performers with small hands. We are grateful that Guy Harrison will return to this year's conference as our guest string clinician to provide a string masterclass and session. In addition, we have created a new voice track this year! Amalia Osuga, a new resident in Alabama will be our guest voice clinician to provide a voice masterclass. This year will also mark the return of the Winner's Circle Recital. Those students who have been state winners for 2 years in a row in their division will be featured on this winner's recital. The Conference Banquet will be held at the UAH – Student Services Building with exquisite, delicious food and a prelude of happy hour. We are launching the 2019 state conference with a triple-track to propel everyone for a fulfilling musical journey, where we can all celebrate reunions, growth, inspirations, students' development and success, and meet new friends!

We have worked hard to make accommodations affordable for you to attend this year's AMTA Conference and visit the Rocket City. Our conference hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn Space & Rocket Center, and 20 rooms (King or Queen beds) have been blocked for conference attendees for a special rate of \$94 per night. This is a hugely discounted rate specially negotiated for AMTA members – regular rate is \$136! Hilton Garden Inn Space & Rocket Center is only a short 4-minute drive to the UAH music building - Roberts Hall. The cut-off date is April 28th to receive this specially reduced AMTA rate! In addition, we are thrilled that UAH will be offering the brand new on-campus accommodations for AMTA members' family and friends for a rate as low as \$25 per room (twin bed, linens included) in a spacious 4-room suite per night. All details for room reservations for UAH on-campus housing and Hilton Garden Inn Space & Rocket Center can be found at the AMTA Conference website: www.almta.org/conference.php.

Registration is up and running! You can easily register online or mail in your conference registration form. Registration form and online registration are available at the AMTA website - www.almta.org/conference-register.php.

We are working closely with the visitors' bureau alongside our fantastic local AMTA members and are more than happy to help you plan your meaningful trip up north to Huntsville to attend the state conference and explore the Rocket City area. You can find more visitors' information at the AMTA Conference Website. We can't wait to welcome you to the Rocket City which houses a beautiful botanical garden, NASA's US Space & Rocket Center, Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment (the largest privately-owned arts facility in the US), microbreweries, new city development and preservation of the downtown historic district coupled with plenty of scenic greenways and hiking trails up in the mountains.

You are all amazing and inspirational musicians, and AMTA is an awesome organization! We look forward to seeing everyone soon at the AMTA Conference at UAH!

Sincerely,
Melody Ng – AMTA First Vice President

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For more information, contact Dr. Melody Ng at melody.ng@uah.edu.

AUDITION DATES
FEB. 2 & 5, 2019



DISCOVER MORE
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2019 Conference Guests

Guest Artist: Norman Krieger.



A native of Los Angeles, Norman Krieger is one of the most acclaimed pianists of his generation and is highly regarded as an artist of depth, sensitivity and virtuosic flair. As the Los Angeles Times put it, “Krieger owns a world of technique-take that for granted. He always knows exactly where he is going and what he is doing. He never for instant miscalculates. He communicates urgently but with strict control. He is alert to every manner of nuance and at every dynamic level his tone flatters the ear.” Myung -Whun Chung, Donald Runnicles, Leonard Slatkin, Michael Tilson Thomas, Jaap van Zweden and Zubin Mehta are just a few of the conductors with whom Krieger has collaborated. Krieger regularly appears with the major orchestras of North America, among them the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra and the National Symphony. He has performed throughout Europe, Asia and South America including tours of Germany, France, Poland, Holland Scandinavia, Korea, China,

New Zealand and Israel. He recently performed at the PyeongChang Music festival in Korea. In September 2014, he recorded the Brahms Sonata Op. 1 and the Piano Concerto No. 2 with the London Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Philip Ryan Mann, which will be released on Decca. In recital, Krieger has appeared throughout the United States, Europe, Mexico and Asia, while chamber music collaborations have included appearances with soprano Sheri Greenawald, violinists Paul Huang, Sarah Chang, Pamela Frank and Mihaela Martin, violist Nobuko Imai, cellists Myung Wha Chung, Jian Wang, Edward Aaron and Frans Helmerson as well as the Tokyo string quartet. His debut at New York City’s prestigious Carnegie Hall and Mostly Mozart Festival earned him an immediate invitation to Lincoln Center’s Great Performers Series. Krieger made headlines by being named the Gold Medal Winner of the first Palm Beach Invitational Piano Competition.

He began his studies in Los Angeles under the tutelage of Esther Lipton. At age 15, he became a full-scholarship student of Adele Marcus at The Juilliard School where he earned both his bachelor and master’s degrees. Subsequently, he studied with Alfred Brendel and Maria Curcio in London and earned an Artist Diploma from the New England Conservatory, where he worked with Russell Sherman. A champion of contemporary music, he features the music of John Adams, Leonard Bernstein, John Corigliano, Daniel Břubaker, Donald Crockett, Judith St. Croix, Lukas Foss, Henri Lazarof and Lowell Liebermann among his active repertoire. Krieger is the founding artistic director of The Prince Albert Music Festival in Hawaii. Since 2008, he has served on the summer faculty at the Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina. From 1997 to 2016, he was a professor at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. In August 2016, he was appointed Professor of Piano at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

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

Guest Clinician: Jessica Johnson.

Jessica Johnson serves on the piano faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy and Director of Graduate Studies. In 2006, she was the recipient of UW-Madison's prestigious Emil Steiger Distinguished Teaching Award for excellence in teaching. Johnson has formerly been on the faculties of Augustana College (Illinois), Sterling College, and the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.

In addition to her love for the standard keyboard repertoire, Johnson frequently commissions and programs contemporary solo and chamber works. She regularly performs with Sole Nero, a piano and percussion duo with Anthony Di Sanza, percussion. To contribute to the repertoire of this diverse medium, the duo has engaged in an extensive commissioning project resulting in many new works by composers such as Laura Schwendinger, Les Thimmig, Evan Hause, Dave Hollinden, Joel Naumann, Joseph Koykkar, Serra Hwang and Michael Kallstrom. In 2004, the duo released its first compact disc recording on the Equilibrium label titled Music per Due. Recent performance venues include the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the Society of Composers National Conference, the MTNA National Conference and multiple performances in the U.S. and China.

An active clinician, she has given workshops and presentations at the European Piano Teachers Association International Conference, World Piano Pedagogy Conference, ISME International Conference, MTNA National Conferences, Performing Arts Medicine Association (PAMA), National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (NCKP), Portland International Piano Festival, as well as held residencies at major universities and colleges throughout North America, Europe and China. Johnson has articles published in American Music Teacher, Piano Journal of the European Piano Teachers Association, Clavier Companion, Piano Pedagogy Forum and Piano Adventures Teacher Newsletter. She is a two-time winner of American Music Teacher's Article of the Year Award for "Feeling the Sound: Reflections on Claiming One's Own Musical Voice" (2014) and "The Art of Listening with Depth, Understanding, Flow and Imagery" (2007 – in collaboration with Midori Koga, University of Toronto).

A devoted teacher, Johnson's students have secured teaching positions in the U.S., Canada, Europe and Asia. Passionate about community engagement and arts outreach, she serves as Director of Piano Pioneers, a program that brings high quality piano instruction to low-income community members and high-risk youth in Wisconsin. Piano Pioneers has received generous support from the Evjue Foundation, the Morgridge Institute, the Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment, and the Billings Piano Gallery.



Johnson received the MM in Piano Performance and DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Michigan. She holds the BM in Piano Performance, magna cum laude, from East Carolina University. Her principal teachers include Arthur Greene, Charles Fisher and Donna Coleman, and piano pedagogy studies with Joanne Smith and Kerry Carlin. She lives in Madison with her husband, Anthony Di Sanza (UW-Madison Professor of Percussion), and her daughter, Maggie.

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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 Collegiate Chapters: Samford University, The University of Alabama, The University of Alabama at Huntsville, and The Univer- sity of Montevallo

At the start of the academic year, Samford began a new chapter with nine members. They hosted Dr. Joanne Haroutounian in conjunction with the Fletcher and Nell Morris Competition, and hosted a pre-concert event for 19 high school and college students before a recital by faculty advisor, Dr. Jovanni de Pedro. A trip to Ellis Piano Gallery topped off the end of the year. 2019 includes plans for a "Piano Palooza/Monster Concert," and the big event: presenting "Sink or Swim: How Personality Affects Performance" at the upcoming MTNA National Conference! Good luck President Morgan Kline and Samford Collegiate Chapter Members!

The University of Alabama Collegiate Chapter has been very active since the start of the school year. An important focus has been fundraising to help a family in the process of adopting a child from Korea. Fundraisers were held at two local restaurants and concession stands were set up at music concerts. Two members will travel to Spokane this year for the MTNA National Conference. Keep up the good work President Marisa Pickard and UA Collegiate Members!

Over at the University of Montevallo, collegiate members are meeting at least monthly and developing ideas for their future. President Molly Mize is working hard to grow membership numbers and promote activity in the state. They recently gave a presentation at the Montevallo Forte Festival about performance anxiety and musician's health and have plans for fundraising and a Showcase Recital. Best wishes for a smooth road as they go through the process of making the chapter an official university organization.

The University of Alabama-Huntsville had an exciting start to the new year with a trip to James Madison University for the 2019 Pedagogy Symposium. Membership in this chapter is composed of mostly non-pianists. At the Symposium, vocalist Kayla Wright and flutist Andrew Creech presented "Why Culturally Diverse Music Should Be Included in Private Lessons," named 1st place winner in Best Idea. With Case Dattilo, Julia Herda, Stephen Sivley and Nguyen Vo they presented a plenary session titled "Fostering a Love of Classical Music in Pop-centric Students." They were recognized for their professionalism and preparedness and were the only undergraduate student group to present a plenary session among graduate students and music professionals at the event. Go University of Alabama at Huntsville!

Wendy Freeland—Collegiate Chapters Chair



Pictured: University of Alabama at Huntsville Collegiate Members present at the 2019 Pedagogy Symposium and University of Alabama at Huntsville and University of Alabama students and alumni enjoy lunch together at the 2019 Pedagogy Symposium

Jacksonville State University Welcomes New Faculty Member: Rachel Park

Rachel Park joined Jacksonville State University as Assistant Professor of Piano in the fall of 2018. She teaches class piano, basic piano skills, accompanying, primary and secondary applied piano, and has a big heart for future musicians. In her first semester as a JSU faculty member, she introduced herself to the community by performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 with JSU Community Orchestra under the baton of Dr. Jeremy Benson.

As an active solo and collaborative pianist, Rachel unleashes tremendous passion and color in her performances. Since 2002, Rachel has given more than a thousand concerts and recitals with various vocal and instrumental soloists and ensemble groups. She played for numerous recording sessions and released five CDs with the *Pilgrim Ensemble* in Korea and *King's Brass* in the United States. Rachel also released her piano solo album 'The Love and My Songs' featuring her own hymns arrangements in 2014. Her heart for arranging music, collaborating with other musicians, and sharing music with people has been a leading force in her amazing musical journey.

Rachel received her Bachelor degree from Sookmyung Women's University in South Korea studying with Dr. Sung Yeon Kim. She also had two years of piano study at Kyungwon University with pianist Seung Hye Choi. She was awarded scholarships for academic achievement from both universities.

After completing her undergraduate studies, Rachel joined the *Pilgrim Ensemble* in Korea and served for seven years as pianist, giving numerous concerts in cities throughout South Korea, China, Taiwan, Thailand, Iraq, Kuwait, and the United States, including performing in Carnegie Hall, Isaac Stern Auditorium in New York, the Crystal Cathedral in California, and at the Embassy of Korea in Washington D.C. She was named as an honorary ambassador for the Korean organizations *Food for the Hungry International* and the *Africa Future Foundation*. In addition, Rachel served as a cultural honorary ambassador to the Seoul Metro as one of the members of the *Pilgrim Ensemble*.

Rachel came to the United States in 2009 and studied piano with Dr. Mark Hussung at Carson Newman College. In 2013, Rachel earned her Master of Church Music in Piano Performance from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX where she studied piano with Dr. Robert Smith and piano pedagogy with Dr. Jill Sprenger. She joined Tim Zimmerman and the *King's Brass* as pianist and organist, performing 100 concerts per year throughout the States and overseas from 2012 to 2016. She is a DMA candidate at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and is currently writing her dissertation with titled "A Performer's Analysis of Piano Sonata No. 30 in E Major, Op. 109 by Ludwig van Beethoven and *Trois Mouvements de Petrouchka* by Igor Stravinsky: A Historical and Analytical Study for Performance Guidelines and Musical Interpretation."

Rachel has been the recipient of several awards throughout her career. She received the First Prize Minister of Education award in the National Student Music Competition in South Korea. In the States she received the James McKinney Outstanding Performer Award, the Wayne (Polly) McNeely Piano Award, and the Cathinka Venth Scholarship from the European Club. She has performed for the Fort Worth Music Teachers Forum, served as staff accompanist, and collaborated with Dr. Leo Day, dean of the School of Music at Southwestern Theological Seminary. She also performed as a soloist with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra upon winning the Piano Texas International Academy & Festival Concerto Competition in 2011. She is a member of MTNA, AMTA, ASCAP, Asian Society of Arts, and Delta Omicron.

2019 Alabama MTNA Competition

November 1-2, 2019

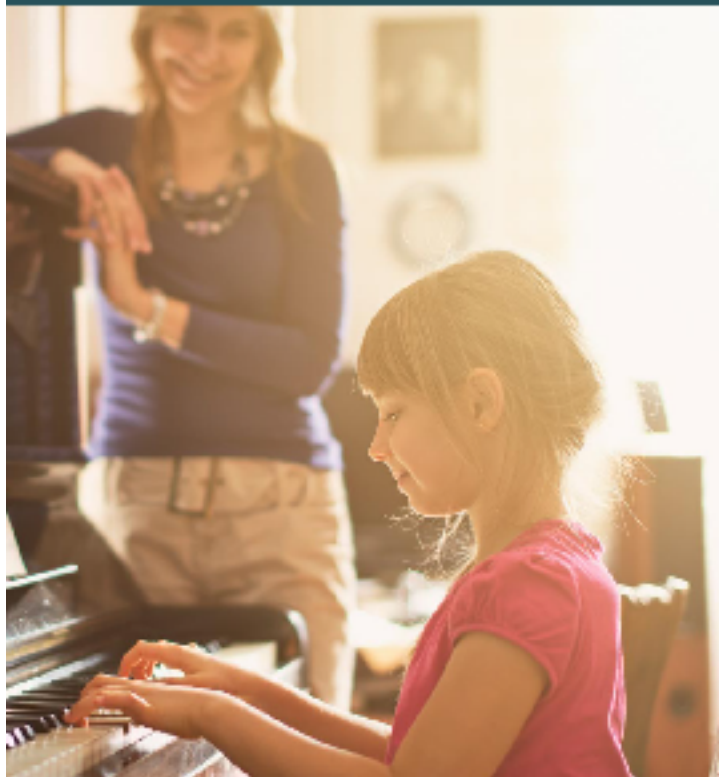
Birmingham-Southern College

Forms and instructions will be updated on the MTNA website in August.

Jodean Tingle—MTNA Competition Chair



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MTNA Foundation

Dear AMTA Members,

I hope everyone's school year is going well and that all teaching and performing endeavors are bearing fruit. I received the MTNA Foundation Third Quarter Individual Contribution Report and would like to honor Ginger Beazley, Daniel Dekonty, Benjamin Rollings, Jodean Tingle, Noel Beck, Susan Berg, Mary Crowell, Tammy Dennis, Steven DiBlasi, and Nora McGalliard for your generous contributions. From July 1 through September 30, 2018, we have collectively donated \$259 to the MTNA Foundation and our organization has contributed \$266 during the same period. Thank you so much for your support and for your investment in the future of MTNA.

Yours respectfully,

Monica Baker—MTNA Foundation Chair

Certification

News

Applause and “pats on the back” to our members working toward certification! They are Christina Mathis (Decatur), Nicholas Robertson (Birmingham) and Heather Weber (Montgomery). We look forward to presenting you as newly certified AMTA members!

Barbara Shinn - AMTA Certification Chair

The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

Our current membership includes:	Evaughn Balkcom	Berry Gallops	Hae Na Ji	Laryne Monte	Ann Thornton
Los Ames	Susan Bishop	Adonis Gonzalez	Stephanie Jones	Aeri Moon	Patricia Vines
Cortne Anderson-Free	Heejoong Chae	Ruth Graham	Haein Kim	Beverly Shaffer	Summer Whatley
Eunhee Ashley	A Yeong Chi	Diana Gray	Christy Kreitz	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 McGowan 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.

Soundboard Deadlines:

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

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.

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

Brent Reeves
Margery Whatley
Valerie Merrell
Kathy Burdette
Tatiana Kasman
Karen Krekelberg
Julia Peterson
Becky Schultz
Ronald Shinn



<http://www.metromusicforum.com>

Birmingham News

The Birmingham Metro Music Forum is proud of the following students and teachers for their accomplishments in the recent MTNA competitions.

State:

Senior Voice Winner:	Elizabeth Hanje, student of Heather Batey
Piano Duet: Winners:	Raymond Hou and Savannah Howard, students of Ronald Shinn
Junior Piano Winner:	Raymond Hou, student of Ronald Shinn
Junior Piano Honorable Mention:	Reena Chen, student of Ronald Shinn
Junior Piano Honorable Mention:	Dima Gambino, student of Lucy DeSa
Senior Piano Winner:	Dina Kasman, student of Yakov Kasman
Senior Piano Honorable Mention:	Savannah Howard, student of Ronald Shinn
Young Artist Piano Winner:	Mira Walker, student of Yakov Kasman
Young Artist Piano Alternate Winner:	Jacob Skiles, student of Yakov Kasman

Southern Division:

Piano Duet Alternate Winners:	Raymond Hou and Savannah Howard, students of Ronald Shinn
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Congratulations to everyone!

Brent Reeves—BMMF President

Wiregrass Music Teachers Forum

Established 1995

Annual Events

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



Annual Scholarships

- o College Music Major Scholarships
- o Summer Music Camp Scholarships

Janet Blair, President
Rebecca McManus, Vice-President
Hilda Hagins, Secretary/Treasurer

Huntsville District VIII Dates:

**AMTA District Audition --
April 13, 2019**

**Deadline for forms --
March 23, 2019**

More Information: hsvmta.org

West Alabama News

District IV, Tuscaloosa, will have its AMTA District Auditions on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at the University of Alabama School of Music. Lillian Roberts is the Chair. The deadline for teachers to submit applications is March 23, 2019. All teachers should use the AMTA Theory Sheets from the AMTA website when submitting forms with the student's information.

West Alabama Music Teachers Association



- Masley Blackwell
- Kevin Chance, NCTM
- Syble Coats
- Aldis Donald
- Tanya Gille, NCTM
- Paul Houghtaling
- Hyesook Jung
- Jennifer Louise
- Lillian Roberts, NCTM
- Benedict Rosario
- Edsher Savitski
- Misti Short, NCTM
- Cindy St. Clair, NCTM
- Susan Williams
- Kevin Wooley

Calling for nominations for
AMTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

This award is presented to recognize a member of AMTA for excellence in teaching, musicianship, and service to AMTA and/or the community. The award, presented at the Conference Banquet, includes a plaque, recognition in the AMTA *SoundBoard* and in the conference program, and a waiver of fees for the conference and banquet.

Nominee Requirements

The nominee must:

- be a member in good standing of MTNA and AMTA.
- have a minimum of five years teaching experience.
- have had students participating in AMTA District and/or State Auditions for the past three years.

Nomination Process

Nomination of a teacher in any medium will be accepted from local AMTA affiliated associations or individual AMTA members. It is the responsibility of the nominator or nominating group (not the nominee nor the Award Committee) to see that the application is complete. Completed applications should be sent to the Immediate Past President by April 13.

Information to be included with the nomination:

- Current MTNA membership number
- Summary of teaching experience
- Achievements of the nominee's students including numbers entered, ratings, winners, etc., in various AMTA and/or MTNA auditions for the past three years
- Brief philosophy of teaching music
- Statement by the nominator indicating why the person is being nominated
- Brief resume including the following:
 - Description of the nominee's involvement in community musical activities
 - List of musical achievements of former students
 - Summary of activities from the last five years resulting in professional growth, such as workshops (held or attended), publications, conferences, college courses, recitals, accompanying, performances, adjudicating, leadership activities, honors, AMTA and/or MTNA certification, etc.
- Additional letters of recommendation from colleagues, parents, and/or students

Teacher of the Year Award Committee

A standing committee of three persons will be appointed by the President to be in charge of the gathering of information and determining the winner of this award. They will be appointed for two/year terms. The members of the committee will consist of the Immediate Past President (Chair of the committee) and two members from different areas of the state.

Go to almta.org, click on Awards & Competitions tab, then select Teacher of the year. Here you will find the above information, a list of previous AMTA Teacher of the Year, and the application form needed for nomination.

Sarah Tanner—Immediate Past President



Concerto Auditions

The AMTA Pre-College and Collegiate Concerto Auditions were held at the University of Alabama on February 23. Congratulations to all who participated!

AMTA State Winners

Piano Concerto, Collegiate

Dina Kasman, University of Alabama at Birmingham..... Yakov Kasman
Mira Walker, University of Alabama at Birmingham Yakov Kasman
Mimi Xinyu Zhang, University of Alabama Kevin Chance

Piano Concerto, Division III

Timothy Berry, Madison Kevin Chance and Susan Hoop
Daniel Ji, Homewood Tatiana Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division II

Reena Chen, Montgomery Ronald Shinn
Gabriel Feng, Tuscaloosa..... Kevin Chance
Raymond Hou, Montgomery Ronald Shinn
Patrick Pan, Tuscaloosa..... Kevin Chance

Piano Concerto, Division I

Hendrix Bailey, Gordo Kevin Chance
Anastasia Klochkova, Hoover Tatiana Kasman
Erin Pernell, Tuscaloosa Kevin Chance
Rosa Schwebel, Birmingham Tatiana Kasman



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Audition Dates: November 10, 2018 | February 16, 2019

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AMTA State Honorable Mentions

Piano Concerto, Collegiate

- Yangmingting Fang, University of Alabama Kevin Chance
- Olivia Jones, Samford UniversityJovanni de Pedro
- Jacob Skiles, University of Alabama at Birmingham Yakov Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division III

- Shane Mackey, Vestavia Hills Tatiana Kasman
- Janna Ren, Hoover Tatiana Kasman
- Mary Elisa Wagner, Birmingham Tatiana Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division II

- Dylan Zhao, Vestavia Hills Tatiana Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division I

- Ian Shen, Tuscaloosa Kevin Chance



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SHOALS AREA NEWS

Once again, our Forum has had an eventful fall and winter! In September, Susan Hoop presented a very informative and relevant program to our group entitled *New Repertoire for Elementary and Intermediate Students*. She played through an extraordinary selection of music and gave us some great ideas for keeping students engaged in their piano study by matching them with fun and exciting pieces.

Ben Edwards, a piano performance major at UNA, performed selections from his senior recital at our October meeting. We ended the month with the ever popular *Make It Minor* performance party. For the annual *Make It Minor* event, students play pieces in a minor key and dress up in Halloween costumes.

The Ritz Recital in November was one of our best ever with forty-five students participating. Two of our teachers, Libby Counts and Elena Sandrell, gave an impressive duet performance of Mozart's Sonata in D Major, K. 381, III. Allegro molto before intermission. Ben Edwards concluded the recital with a beautiful interpretation of Pour Le Piano, I. Prelude by Claude Debussy. The Ritz Recital is held each year at the historic Ritz Theater in Sheffield.

In January, we were delighted to hear Dr. Kevin Chance present a program on maximizing benefits of our MTNA membership at the home of Noel Beck. As always, we learned so much and greatly appreciated him traveling to North Alabama to share this information with us. We are excited about the benefits of belonging to our local, state and national professional organizations and passing those benefits on to our students.

Thanks to Carol Lynn's efforts, we now have a Facebook page up and running so that our group can have more exposure through social media. Search for Shoals Area Music Teachers Forum and "like" our page! We also plan to set up a website in the next few months. By increasing our online presence, we hope to make it easier to find a music teacher in the Shoals.

We are looking forward to the remainder of the year with Music Olympics coming up in March, AMTA auditions in April, and our spring luncheon in May!

Lynne Crabtree—Shoals Area MTF

“A student is almost always motivated to practice when they leave their lesson feeling capable.”
- Frances Clark



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AUDITION DATES

Friday, February 1, 2019

Saturday, February 16, 2019

Saturday, February 23, 2019



I AM *true*
BLUE.



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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!