

SOUNDBOARD

Newsletter for the Alabama Music Teachers Association

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From the President



Happy summer to everybody! I hope you are all gearing up for the school year after a refreshing break. We had a fabulous Conference planned by Sarah Cheatham Tanner and look forward to what she gives us next year at Auburn. Every year I am invigorated by the clinicians and artist, plus I enjoy renewing friendships with the teachers and hearing all of the winners perform. What talent and energy there is in this state!

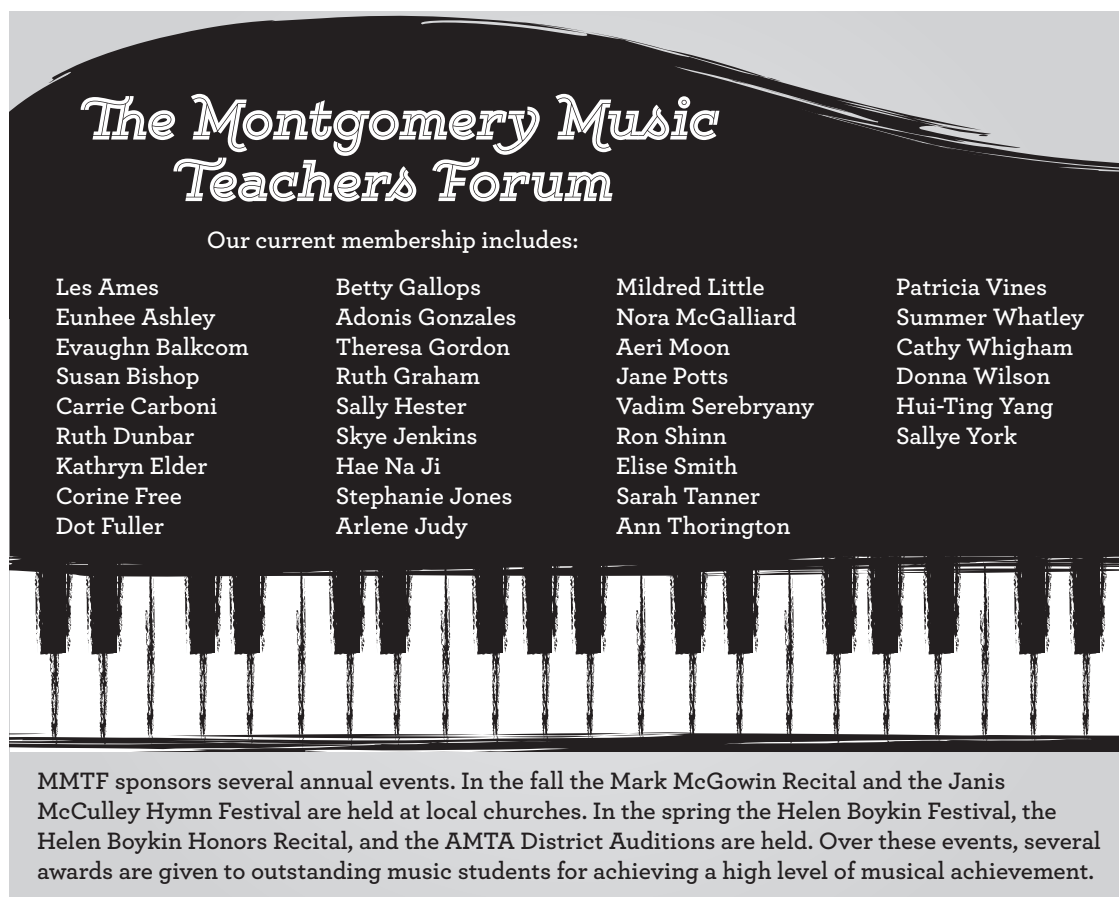
Please become as involved as possible with your local association. I know we all are very busy, but each local meeting and activity gives us a “mini” conference boost, and we can keep our students’ enthusiasm up when we are doing things locally. Also, we all know teachers in our areas that could benefit from the organization. Many teachers are

new to teaching or to our area and need guidance or camaraderie. Others may have been teaching for years, but have not been invited to become involved in an organization. Sit down with these teachers and let them know what benefits we have in the Alabama Music Teachers Association.

If you do not remember what benefits we have in AMTA, go online to www.mtna.org and look at member benefits. The discounts alone make it worth being involved! Our state conferences are a bargain at \$60 for 3 days with nationally recognized clinicians and artists. We give wonderful prizes to students who excel, plus opportunities to perform locally and in the state. Our state is also active with the MTNA auditions, held at Auburn in November. We have had students place and win both in the Southern Division and Nationally. What a great opportunity for these students!

I could go on and on about our wonderful organization. We also help send money to the MTNA Foundation, which benefits those hurt by disasters. Look up the foundation on the MTNA website, and send money. Our MTNA Foundation chair Connie Teague will love you even more for it. Please stay involved and invite others to become involved, and let's make our state even stronger!

Musically Yours,
Jodean Tingle, NCTM
AMTA President



The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

Our current membership includes:

Les Ames	Betty Gallops	Mildred Little	Patricia Vines
Eunhee Ashley	Adonis Gonzales	Nora McGalliard	Summer Whatley
Evaughn Balkcom	Theresa Gordon	Aeri Moon	Cathy Whigham
Susan Bishop	Ruth Graham	Jane Potts	Donna Wilson
Carrie Carboni	Sally Hester	Vadim Serebryany	Hui-Ting Yang
Ruth Dunbar	Skye Jenkins	Ron Shinn	Sallye York
Kathryn Elder	Hae Na Ji	Elise Smith	
Corine Free	Stephanie Jones	Sarah Tanner	
Dot Fuller	Arlene Judy	Ann Thorington	

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. Over these events, several awards are given to outstanding music students for achieving a high level of musical achievement.

University of NORTH ALABAMA

MUSIC@UNA

- Accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music
- Superior performing ensembles open to all students regardless of academic major
- Outstanding music faculty comprised of dedicated artists, teachers, and scholars
- Competitive scholarships and performance awards available in all areas

DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Music in Performance (Instrumental, Piano, Vocal)
- Bachelor of Arts in Music/Bachelor of Science in Music (Instrumental P-12, Vocal/Choral P-12 - Music Education)
- Bachelor of Arts in Music/Bachelor of Science in Music (Instrumental, Vocal/Choral - General Music)

ACTIVITIES

- "Pride of Dixie" Marching Band • Symphonic Band • Wind Symphony
- Studio Jazz Band • Percussion Ensemble • UNA Pep Band • Jazz Combo
- Collegiate Singers • Vocal Jazz Ensemble • Chamber Choir
- Shoals Symphony at UNA • Opera/Musical Theatre
- Chamber Ensembles: Brass, Woodwind, String, Piano, Guitar

AUDITION DATES

- November 21, 2014 • January 30, 2015
- March 7, 2015 • April 25, 2015

Highlights from the 2015 AMTA Annual Conference

June 4-6, University of Montevallo

(Photos courtesy of Kristie Smith & Ron Shinn)



Conference Presenters Nancy Weems and Peter Mack



Sarah Tanner, Nancy Weems, Peter Mack, and Jodean Tingle



Division III Honorable Mentions Master Class with Peter Mack



Enjoying the conference banquet



Jack Yarbrough, ASRA winner for Division 3, and honorable mentions Mira Walker and Austin Riddle



Networking with fellow AMTA colleagues

AMTA STATE WINNERS Pre-College

Piano Concerto, Division III

Joanne Kim, Birmingham
Mira Walker, Bessemer

Teacher

Tatiana Kasman
Yakov Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division II

Rebecca Han, Tuscaloosa
Dina Kasman, Vestavia Hills
Mary Allen Murray, Birmingham

Pamela Penick
Yakov Kasman
Kevin Chance

Piano Concerto, Division I

Gabriel Feng, Tuscaloosa
Eleanor Lee, Tuscaloosa
Luke Turner, Tuscaloosa

Kevin Chance
Hyesook Jung
Pamela Penick

Piano Solo, Division III

Christopher Bandy, Owens Cross Roads
Elizabeth Bekken, Madison
Sebastian Black, Birmingham
Anna Callison, Daphne
Philipp Hauser, Jacksonville
Jingyu He, Birmingham
Leah Hong, Madison
Joanne Kim, Birmingham
Bronte Miller, Madison
Natalie Newton, Moss Point, MS
Austin Riddle, Hoover
Tina Tian, Madison
Mira Walker, Bessemer
Zoe Willis, Homewood
Braden Yang, Huntsville
Jack Yarbrough, Maylene
Lier Zhang, Auburn

Frances Schwemmer
Susan Hoop
Tatiana Kasman
Robert Holm
Brent Reeves
Alina Voicu
Ingrid von Spakovsky-Weaver
Tatiana Kasman
Susan Hoop
Robert Holm
Lucy DeSa
Frances Schwemmer
Yakov Kasman
Lucy DeSa
Frances Schwemmer
Lucy DeSa
Joshua Pifer

Piano Solo, Division II

Fion Chang, Birmingham
Enrique Diaz, Birmingham
Tiffany Dong, Hoover
Jane Fan, Auburn
Rebecca Han, Tuscaloosa
Sarah Han, Huntsville
Savannah Howard, Eufaula
Alison Hu, Huntsville
Jonathan Hu, Montgomery
Dina Kasman, Vestavia Hills

Ronald Shinn
Barbara Shinn
Tatiana Kasman
Jeremy Samolesky
Pamela Penick
Frances Schwemmer
Ronald Shinn
Frances Schwemmer
Vadim Serebryany
Yakov Kasman

Janna Ren, Hoover
 Mia Sedgwick, Huntsville
 Andrew Smith, Auburn
 Jeremiah Steele, Anniston
 Ti-Ara Turner, Montgomery
 Mary Elisa Wagner, Birmingham
 Carmen Williams, Birmingham
 Kevin Yang, Huntsville
 Lawrence Zhang, Madison

Tatiana Kasman
 Joan Glotzbach
 Mary Slaton
 Wendy Freeland
 Corine Free
 Tatiana Kasman
 Lucy DeSa
 Frances Schwemmer
 Ingrid von Spakovsky-Weaver

Piano Solo, Division I

Sally Bussian, Birmingham
 Catherine Chung, Mobile
 Gabriel Feng, Tuscaloosa
 Ella Fridriksson, Mobile
 Gareth Hill, Birmingham
 Eleanor Lee, Tuscaloosa
 Autumn Pernell, Tuscaloosa
 Young-Ho Seo, Montgomery
 Ruth Sommer, Dothan
 Kevin Song, Madison
 Jackson Taylor, Dothan
 Luke Turner, Tuscaloosa
 Kendall Whatley, Birmingham
 Lindsay Whatley, Birmingham
 Jenny Wang, Huntsville

Joyce Terry
 Lin-ya Hsu
 Kevin Chance
 Lin-ya Hsu
 Connie Macon
 Hyesook Jung
 Hyesook Jung
 Joshua Pifer
 Andy Martin
 Susan Hoop
 Andy Martin
 Panela Penick
 Nancy Wingard
 Nancy Wingard
 Frances Schwemmer



AMTA State Honorable Mentions

Piano Concerto, Division III

Elizabeth Bekken, Madison
 Sebastian Black, Birmingham
 Natalie Newton, Moss Point, MS

Teacher

Susan Hoop
 Tatiana Kasman
 Robert Holm

Piano Concerto, Division II

Savannah Howard, Eufaula
 Catherine Mitchell, Mountain Brook

Ronald Shinn
 Tatiana Kasman

Piano Concerto, Division I

Daniel Ji, Homewood
 Yihe Wang, Vestavia Hills

Tatiana Kasman
 Tatiana Kasman

Piano Solo, Division III

Katy Atchison, Mobile
 Garrett Anderson, Anniston
 Erica Burleson, Satsuma
 Daniel Burton, Prattville
 Claudia Chu, Madison
 Kirsten Davis, Madison
 Lydia Deuel, Birmingham
 Annie Hsu, Gulfport, MS
 Grace Ji, Chelsea
 Olivia Jones, Birmingham
 Joey Li, Madison
 Caroline Karson, Homewood
 Sean Kim, Montgomery
 Hunter Mason, Birmingham
 Emily McLeod, Prattville
 Matthew Moore, Birmingham
 Caroline Smith, Auburn
 Nathan Solomon, Birmingham
 Julie Sommer, Dothan
 Trey Sullivan, Shelby County
 Randi Swanson, Toney
 Ben Tidwell, Birmingham
 Nikita Udayakumar, Hoover
 Cayton Walker, Auburn
 Karen Wang, Auburn
 Jessica Webster, Fultondale

Robert Holm
 Wendy Freeland
 Carol Evers
 Donna Wilson
 Jan Irvine
 Frances Schwemmer
 Nancy Wingard
 Robert Holm
 Tatiana Kasman
 Ronald Shinn
 Frances Schwemmer
 Connie Macon
 Corine Free
 Jenny Halterman
 Donna Wilson
 Brent Reeves
 Joshua Pifer
 Jonathan Brown
 Andy Martin
 Lucy DeSa
 Diana Pettit
 Connie Schweigert
 June McAfee
 Joshua Pifer
 Jeremy Samolseky
 Jonathan Brown

Piano Solo, Division II

Timothy Berry, Harvest
 Mary Bodden, Birmingham
 Carson Campbell, Decatur
 Henry Chang, Birmingham
 Ben Cockrell, Daphne
 Evelyn Collis, Pelham
 Abigail Currier, Union Grove
 Ashley Eng, Huntsville

Susan Hoop
 Alina Voicu
 Janet Varner
 Barbara Shinn
 Vincentine Williams
 Amy McLelland
 Marche Altom
 Frances Schwemmer

Amy Fan, Auburn
 Blaire Finlayson, Eufaula
 Melody Handy, Montgomery
 Matthew Hudson, Trussville
 Ashley Hsu, Huntsville
 Harrison Jones, Birmingham
 Ange Long, Madison
 Shane Mackey, Vestavia Hills
 McKenzie McLeod, Daphne
 Beatrice Severance, Montgomery
 Troy Simeone, Ozark
 Drew Haley Smith, Auburn
 Hunter Tyon, Mobile
 Eric Wang, Vestavia
 Tripp Watkins, Birmingham
 Charlie Yaeger, Birmingham
 Simon Yang, Huntsville
 Heesun Yoon, Madison
 Kevin Zheng, Madison

Piano Solo, Division I

Bethany Bradshaw, Dothan
 John Choung, Madison
 Harrison Coleman, Birmingham
 Allison Frederick, McCalla
 Kate Gillum, Homewood
 Grace Greer, Auburn
 Joseph Han, Madison
 Jenny Hong, Auburn
 Isaac Hwangpo, Birmingham
 Chase Jones, Dothan
 Samuel Jones, Birmingham
 Madison McCoy, Decatur
 Anusha Mukherjee, Hoover
 Clarisse Nacilla, Huntsville
 Hanbie Park, Auburn
 McKaime Patrick, Hoover
 Simon Shelley, Auburn
 Isaac Wang, Madison
 Mike Zhang, Madison

Mary Slaton
 Janet Blair
 Corine Free
 Brent Reeves
 Anna Sunwoo
 Connie Schweigert
 Frances Schwemmer
 Tatiana Kasman
 Tammy Dennis
 Summer Whatley
 Andy Martin
 Mary Slaton
 Robert Holm
 Kathryn Burdette
 Jenny Halterman
 Susan Berg
 Frances Schwemmer
 Giejung Lee
 Frances Schwemmer

Rebecca McManus
 Rhonda Stamps
 Gloria Bryant
 Connie Macon
 Connie Macon
 Karen Hickok
 Giejung Lee
 Elizabeth Rutland
 Susan Berg
 Andy Martin
 Susan Berg
 Janet Varner
 Heather Byars
 Renee Collins
 Sunny Hahn
 Misti Short
 Dwiantini Fergus
 Jan Irvine
 Frances Schwemmer

Piano Studies

Auburn University | www.auburn.edu/music

Piano Auditions

Saturday, February 14, 2015 9:00AM – 4:00PM



Degrees

- Bachelor of Music Degree (Performance)
- Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Bachelor of Music Education
- Master of Education in Music Education
- Specialist in Education in Music Education
- Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education

Piano Faculty

- Laurelie Gheesling
- Josh Pifer
- Jeremy Samolesky
Area Coordinator



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Department of Music

www.auburn.edu

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer

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.

President: Barbara Shinn

Vice-President: Brent Reeves

Treasurer/Membership: Kathy Burdette

Secretary: Jody Coombs

<http://www.metromusicforum.com>



2014 – 2016 Officers

President:

Diana A. Pettit

Vice-President:

Frances Schwemmer

Secretary:

Laura Knaupp

Treasurer and Arts Council Representative:

Ka Man Ng

Recital and Social Media Chair:

Lisa Belk

Technology Chair and Immediate Past President:

Wendy Bramhall

Visit us at www.hsvmta.org

AMTA STATE WINNERS RECITAL!

Photos courtesy of Kristie Smith



MTNA Winners and AMTA Chamber Music & Composition Winners



Division III Winner's Recital



Division II Winner's Recital



Division I Winner's Recital



- State-of-the-art facilities and an all-Steinway school
- Young Performing Artists Program
- Piano studio recitals each semester
- Piano Ensemble course with instructor Tatiana Kasman
- Scholarships available
- Sample lessons available. Email kasman@uab.edu or call (205) 934-8942 for details.

UAB Piano Faculty :
Dr. Yakov Kasman, Professor/Artist-In-Residence
www.yakovkasman.com

UAB Piano in the News (spring 2015)

- March 21** UAB Piano Series presents international piano star Nikolai Lugansky. Reynolds-Kirschbaum Hall, 4:00 pm.
- March 7** “Keys to A Miracle”, Fundraiser for children's diabetes awareness. Yakov Kasman performs N. Medtner's Piano Concerto No. 3, “Ballade”. Alabama Piano Gallery, 2:00 pm.
- April 12** UAB Piano Studio and Piano Ensembles recital. Hulsey Recital Hall, 7:30 pm.
- May 9** Second Annual UAB Piano Day for pre-college students. Master-class at 10:00 am and festival of polyphonic music “Bach and Friends” at 2:00 pm.. Reynolds-Kirschbaum Hall.

In the spring of 2015 UAB piano students Eamon Griffith, Eric Mobley and Aleksandra Kasman successfully competed in various state, regional and national competitions

www.uab.edu/cas/music/

AMTA Names Kevin Chance as Teacher of the Year

At the annual AMTA Member's Banquet, part of the State Conference, Dr. Kevin T. Chance was named the 2015 "Teacher of the Year." He is the most recent recipient of this most distinguished state award, and continues a long line of extremely fine teachers to hold this honor.



Dr. Chance began teaching in high school, and continued while pursuing his undergraduate degree at Birmingham Southern College, where he was called "Little Professor" for his penchant of coaching his peers. He never stopped teaching, as he pursued graduate degrees at Louisiana State University and the Eastman School of Music. He has taught at the Alabama School of Fine Arts and the Birmingham Southern College Conservatory. He has served as a sabbatical replacement at the University of Montevallo and Samford University, and teaches during summers at the New Orleans International Piano Institute and the Crimson Music Camp. He has also served on the faculties of the Samford University Piano and Chamber Music Institute, the Huntingdon College Piano Camp, and the Piano Festival at the University of TX at Brownsville. He is currently on the faculty of the University of Alabama.

Dr. Chance has excelled at grooming students to reach their potential. They regularly participate in AMTA's District Auditions, and he frequently has winners at the State Auditions. His students have won or placed in many competitions, such as the MTNA Competitions, the Clara Wells Piano Competition, the Alabama Federated Music Clubs Competition, the Birmingham Music Club Competition, and the Huntsville Music Study Competition. They have also participated in festivals and won events sponsored by the New Orleans International Piano Institute and the Classical Music Festival Piano Seminar in Eisenstadt, Austria.

Many of his students are making an impact professionally; they've been accepted and completed music programs at prestigious schools such as Florida State University, the University of Maryland and Mannes School of Music. They are around the world and around the state, serving in a variety of capacities. They're filling the roles of teacher at Lake Michigan College, Samford University Arts Academy, the Community Music School at the University of Alabama, the Indian Springs School in Birmingham, the Velocity Music Academy in Austin, TX, and in private studios. They're active as collaborative pianists with the Virginia Opera, and in places such as Arizona State University, and they are performing as soloists and collaborative pianists in Austria and Brazil. He has also been the musical father to a cellist and a music therapist.

In addition to producing many accomplished pianists and music professionals, he has been dedicated to volunteering and serving in many roles for our professional organizations. He is a former AMTA President, and has served as Certification Chair and State Clinician. He has been a member of several committees for MTNA on the National and Southern Division levels, has chaired the Southern Division Competitions, and is currently the Southern Division Director-Elect. He is conscientious in all his responsibilities, and maintains an extremely professional rapport with others at association events. A member of the MTNA staff states "I can always depend on Kevin to do things right!"

He is dedicated to music, and works tirelessly. He is the Director of Music at Trinity United Methodist Church in Tuscaloosa, where he has expanded the program to include a concert series. He also arranges performances by his students at Tuscaloosa's retirement home, Capstone Village. He serves on the board of the String Quartet Society in Tuscaloosa, and has been involved with the Birmingham Chamber Music Society and the National Society of Arts and Letters in Birmingham. His work with the Birmingham Music Teachers Association has been extensive, and includes involvement with the Sonata-Sonatina Competition, and the Keyboard Artist Competition.

Dr. Chance receives the highest praise from students, the parents of students, and colleagues. He is known as a stellar performer, who possesses impeccable musicianship and flawless technique. His reputation is strong as both a soloist and collaborator, and he encourages and inspires his musical partners. His great knowledge of piano repertoire allows him to choose "just the right piece" for students. Further, as one parent puts it, "He is able to articulate a scene or mood and plot for each score...in a way that specifically relates to what a student can understand." He believes that a teacher should "teach himself out of a job." The idea behind this is to make oneself irrelevant, equipping the student to discover music's beautiful revelations on his own. In the studio he exerts great care in showing the student how to observe the markings of the score and respect the intent of the composer. He also gives students specific tools so that they develop a method, an approach for learning music. He inspires them, and asks them to make discoveries for themselves, and believes in teaching by "questioning –not telling," thus allowing the student to articulate an answer, and place a concept in their own words. He is an enthusiastic, passionate and kind teacher. One student stated "He is wonderful at convincing students of the power of the most subtle musical gems in a given composition." This teacher is generous with his time, giving extra lessons, calling students after events to check on them, and even attending non-musical events to support their personal development. "Relationships" is a concept that is foundational to all of his superior attributes," declares one parent.

It is with delight and pride for the Alabama Music Teachers Association to name Dr. Kevin Chance the 2015 Teacher of the Year. Congratulations Dr. Chance! —**submitted by Wendy Freeland**



An overwhelmed Kevin after receiving his award

Photo by Kristie Smith

2015 AMTA Winners and Honorable Mentions Strings and Chamber Music

AMTA Special Recognition Award

Division 3

Amy Zhao

Teacher

Ai Yi Bao

College Division

Lindsey South

Jenny Gregoire

Winners

Ages 6-9

Concerto: Difei Zhu

Solo: Cynthia Li

Solo: Iris Lee

Ai Yi Bao

Ai Yi Bao

Barbara Poularikas

Division 1

Solo: Sophia Fox

Solo: Olivia Fox

Solo: Steven Lee

Solo: Emma Boyd

Chamber: Cynthia Li, Steven Lee,

Difei Zhu, Philip Mitchell

Jeffrey Dortch

Jeffrey Dortch

Ai Yi Bao

Veronika Johnson

Ai- Yi Bao

Division 2

Concerto: Lynne Clark

Solo: Cooper Paddison

Solo: Henry Chang

Chamber: David Chung, Grace Xu, Hannah Yi

Veronika Johnson

Jeffrey Dortch

Anne Donaldson

Ai Yi Bao

Division 3

Concerto: Amy Zhao

Solo: Amy Zhao

Ai Yi Bao

Ai Yi Bao

College

Solo: Lindsey South

Jenny Gregoire

Honorable Mentions

Ages 6-9

Concerto: Philip Mitchell

Teacher

Ai Yi Bao

Division 1

Concerto: Felicia Onawola

Solo: Will Fox

Solo: Hanbie Park

Chamber: Eugene Park, Cecilia Duykers, Jenny Wang

Veronika Johnson

Jeffrey Dortch

Seung Hee (Sylvia) Kang

Barbara Poularikas

Division 2

Concerto: Joy Onawola

Concerto: Grace Friar

Concerto: Ashley Eng

Solo: Ashley Eng

Solo: Fran Hudson

Solo: Ethan Wan

Solo: Nathan Don

Veronika Johnson

Veronika Johnson

Barbara Poularikas

Barbara Poularikas

Jeffrey Dortch

Jeffrey Dortch

Barbara Poularikas

Division 3

Concerto: Judy Oh

Solo: Fion Chang

Boris Abramov

Anne Donaldson



2015 AMTA State Pre-College Voice and Instrumental Audition Results

VOICE

Division I Winner

Lauren Price, Oneonta

Teacher

Lynda Rhymes

Division II

Winner: Mary Meg Brewer, Oneonta

Honorable Mention: Jessica Beason, Section

Lynda Rhymes

Deborah Beason

Division III

ASRA Award Winner

Ian Copeland, Mobile

Randall Sheets

Honorable Mentions

Abbey McCullough, Oneonta

Rachel Price, Oneonta

Jay Wiginton, Oneonta

Lynda Rhymes

Lynda Rhymes

Lynda Rhymes

WOODWIND

Division III ASRA Award Winner

Karena Choi, Auburn

Nancy Vinson

* Our ASRA (AMTA State Recognition Awards) replace the former named awards, and they represent the top-ranked competitor in their respective competitions.



2015 AMTA Collegiate Voice, Instrumental, & Piano Audition Results

VOICE

ASRA Award Winner

Andrew Livingston, University of Alabama

Teacher

Paul Houghtaling

WOODWIND

ASRA Award Winner

Madeline Cawley, University of Alabama

Diane Boyd Schultz

Honorable Mention

Jessica O'Brien, University of Alabama

Diane Boyd Schultz

PIANO

ASRA Award Winner

Aleksandra Kasman, UAB

Yakov Kasman

Lower Division Winners

Nicholas Alagna, University of Montevallo

Cynthia MacCrae

Aleksandra Kasman, UAB

Yakov Kasman

Eric Mobley, UAB

Yakov Kasman

Lauren Ashley Williams, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Honorable Mentions

Nick Guerrero, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Meghan Hanley, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

David Mach, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Upper Division Winners

Jonathan Scofield, University of Montevallo

Cynthia MacCrae

John Walker Tootle, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Honorable Mentions

Andrew Bullard, Auburn University

Joshua Pifer

Jeongwoo Kho, Samford University

Ronald Shinn

Christian Mays, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Graduate Division Winners

Ruirui Ouyang, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Collin Webster, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

Honorable Mention

Jeremey McMillan, University of Alabama

Kevin Chance

IMTF Information for Reviewing the “Business” Part of our Studios!

Perhaps we may have an extra minute this summer to review our studio polices and procedures. They might need updating because of the events during the past year or two. www.mtna.org has a Members-Only section with valuable services and documents to read. Do have your member number handy when you go to this site. It is located on the membership card you received in the mail after paying your dues for the coming year. FYI: This number remains the same if your membership has been uninterrupted since you first joined this organization. Included information is listed here. If you have trouble downloading this site, you may call toll free (888) 512-5278 for help.

- Credit Card Services
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- Personal Insurance Products
- Professional Insurance Products
- Professional Support Line
- Publications
 - A Brief Tax Guide
 - A Guide for Talking to Parents and Students
 - Assessment Tools

—Submitted by Frances Schwemmer, IMTF
Chair

College Piano Concerto Audition

College piano faculty are encouraged to enter undergraduate and graduate students in this audition. It will take place on Friday, March 18, 2016, at Samford University’s Brock Hall. For further audition information and forms please visit <http://almta.org/audition-forms>. The deadline for receiving forms is Friday, February 26, 2016.

Dr. Brent Reeves
Audition Chair
brentreevespiano@bellsouth.net



AMTA District VIII Piano News

Audition Date: April 16, 2016
Location: First Baptist Church, Huntsville, AL
Deadline for forms: March 25, 2016
Location: 126 Robin Lane, Huntsville, AL 35802

State Audition: May 13 & 14, 2016
Location: University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
Detailed information at our HMTA web site:
hsvmta.org

—submitted by Frances Schwemmer, District
VIII chair, eddosch@aol.com



PIANO STUDIES at



University of South Alabama Department of Music



More info at www.southalabama.edu/colleges/music

CONTACT PIANO FACULTY:

Dr. Robert Holm
Professor
Piano,
Keyboard Area
Coordinator



rholm@southalabama.edu



Dr. Jasmin Arakawa
Assistant Professor
Piano,
Accompanying

arakawa@southalabama.edu

Undergraduate Degrees:
BM Performance
BM Music Education
BM Elective Studies in
Business,
and Specific Outside Fields

Graduate Degrees:
MM Performance
MM Collaborative Keyboard

Audition & Scholarship DATES

November 14, 2015
January 9, February 27,
March 19, April 9, 2016
or by appointment

USA Department of Music
5751 Laidlaw
Performing Arts Center
Mobile, AL

PHONE: (251) 460-6136

Remembering Honorary AMTA Member Jane Self Burnham

Mrs. Jane Self Burnham, an Honorary Member of the Alabama Music Teachers Association, passed away on April 13, 2015 at the Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center in Anniston. Mrs. Burnham was 85 years of age. She received her bachelor's degree in music education from The University of Alabama in 1950 and her master's degree from Columbia University in New York City in 1951.



She lived in Anniston for over 60 years, and was a long time member of Parker Memorial Baptist Church where she served as organist and pianist. She was also involved in the Knox Music Club, and initiated the Music at the Museum Series at the Anniston Museum of Natural History. Mrs. Burnham taught many private piano students over the years. Together with her close friend and fellow musician, Sarah Evans Collins, she performed many concerts in churches and other venues in the Anniston community. Jane will be sorely missed.

—submitted by Wendy Freeland

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

Report from the AMTA Collegiate Chapters Chair

We had nine collegiate members attend our State Conference, which is the largest number yet. We had two Poster Presentations from Samford University and Auburn University. Samford Collegiate Chapter was awarded Honorable Mention and Auburn Collegiate Chapter was awarded Winner and presented with a \$50 honorarium. A special thanks to Jodean Tingle, Sarah Tanner, and Frances Schwemmer for judging the poster presentation and providing wonderful constructive comments. We were able to recognize these two collegiate chapters and present the awards at the banquet, which was a nice new addition to the festivities this year and greatly appreciated by the collegiate members.

The Collegiate Member Presentation was given on Saturday morning by Nicole Agostino from Auburn, who just finished her Doctorate. We presented Nicole with a \$100 honorarium award for being this years collegiate presenter. Nicole gave a very informative lecture on her harmonic analysis, formal analysis, and Schenkerian analysis of Brahms's Ballade Op. 10 #2. We had some technological difficulties, but after using three different laptops and some help from our members, the lecture turned out to be a great success and was well received.

A special thanks to Sarah Tanner and the board for making all these wonderful opportunities for our collegiate members possible. Thank you members at large for your support in attending the collegiate functions and networking with our current/future colleagues of AMTA. Overall, from a collegiate stand point, the conference was a great success. We all look forward to continuing participation from our collegiate members this coming year.

—submitted by Josh Pifer, AMTA Collegiate Chapter/Faculty Forum Chair



Josh Pifer with Nicole Agostino



Auburn University Collegiate Chapter, 2015 Poster Presentation Winner



Ronald Shinn with Honorable Mention
Presenter Trent Smith

Frances Schwemmer Awarded Distinguished Member Service Award

Congratulations to AMTA member Frances Schwemmer on winning the Distinguished Member Service Award at the 2015 conference. Frances has dedicated many years of service to AMTA at the state and local levels. She is a long-time AMTA board member currently serving as the Independent Music Teachers Chair. She has also flawlessly run the Huntsville local AMTA auditions for many years. In addition, Frances has served in the offices of HMTA president, vice-president, and numerous other HMTA offices and board positions. Frances is a wonderful and dedicated master teacher in the Huntsville, AL area. Her students have won numerous awards and have become wonderful teachers themselves.

This past spring, Frances was recognized at the 2015 MTNA National Conference for being a 50-year MTNA member! Thank you, Frances, for tirelessly serving AMTA, and for being a shining example to us of teaching and leadership.

If you would like to send Frances a note, her contact information can be found under the AMTA Board listing at the end of this newsletter.



Frances Schwemmer after the presentation of her Distinguished Service Award presented by Dr. Kevin Chance

Report from the Alabama MTNA Foundation Chair

Not the Time TO LET UP!!!

In 2014, Alabama ranked 5th in the nation for percentage of membership contributing to the MTNA Foundation. Our total was \$971.50, which was contributed by 51 members. This represented 13% of our state membership. Can you all imagine how much we could increase the support of our foundation if even 20% of our membership contributed?

Giving to the MTNA Foundation should be viewed as a privilege and not just a responsibility. It is the foundation for so many funds that are available to musicians now and in the future to keep music alive and well in our state. Scholarships, grants, travel expenses, and many more funds are there through our foundation to be utilized at all levels. Take a moment and go to <https://www.mtnafoundation.org/foundation-overview/> to check out all the wonderful programs offered through our foundation. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised. The real zinger here is that YOU are the ones supporting these great opportunities! The following list includes the AMTA members who have given to MTNA foundation in 2015:

Marche Altom	Wendy McGee
Ginger Beazley	Rebecca McManus
Manley Blackwell	Amy Morgan
Kathy Burdette	Jeanne O'Connell
Janet Blair	Diana Pettit
Kevin Chance	Josh Pifer
Lyra Crapps	Elizabeth Rutland
Claire Crenshaw	Connie Schweigert
Mary Crowell	Frances Schwemmer
Laura Deal	Barbara Shinn
Susie Dempsey	Ron Shinn
Tammy Dennis	Mary Slaton
Alice Butler Eaton	Connie Teague
Carol Evers	Jodean Tingle
Wendy Freeland	Nancy Vinson
Karen Hicks	Margery Whatley
Karen Hickok	Vincentine Williams
Karen Kreckelberger	Nancy Wingard
Cynthia McCrae	

To all of these individuals, a heartfelt thank you is extended! Your contribution helps our foundation function as it should and furthers the purposes of musical endeavors for future generations. Thanks to all of you for realizing the importance of our foundation and its programs!! So far this year, our total contribution is \$669.00. It is certainly not too late to add your name to the list members in our organization who realize the responsibility of supporting our profession through our foundation. Please do your part this year and send your contribution, either by a simple online form here: <https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/donation-form/> or by mail. Here's the address for snail mail:

MTNA National Headquarters
1 W 4th St, Ste 1550
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Be a part of a program that furthers music for the future. Let's see LOTS more names on that next list of contributing members in the Soundboard!

Connie Teague
MTNA Foundation Chair

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