



SOUNDBOARD

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Letter from the President



Dear AMTA, Congratulations!!! We did it!!! This is a time to celebrate!!!

Give yourselves a BIG pat on the shoulder. Take a deep breath and please take a moment to look back at what you, your students, and your surrounding musical family accomplished over the past four months. Undoubtedly, some of the toughest, scariest, and most challenging four months many of us have ever experienced. You have demonstrated to be resilient, flexible, tenacious, driving, forward thinking, innovative, teachable, goal oriented, positive, uplifting, inspiring, encouraging, kind, generous, unselfish, loving, caring, empathetic, passionate, disciplined, and hard working. Thank you for your commitment to our profession of music, teaching, mentoring, and the people you touch. AMTA is profoundly amazing and inspirational.

Your MTNA National President, Martha Hilley, and I had a lovely conversation at the end of our virtual state conference, and she asked me to relay the following to all of you:

*“Congratulations to all of AMTA for being an inspiration for MTNA and the country. I am so pleased to hear that Alabama is the **first** state of all 50 affiliates to successfully conduct all the planned and scheduled competitions and activities on time even with converting them to on-line versions, as well as to convert and launch a successful virtual state conference. I had an enjoyable, uplifting Sunday as I watched all the presentations and performances. Alabama has some amazing performers and the professionalism of the videos were impressive. Thank you for sharing your virtual state conference with me.”*

It gave me overwhelming joy to be able to share with Martha the names of our AMTA Board members; our district, state, and competition chairs; our local presidents; the members of our District and State Auditions Contingency Planning Committee; our Virtual State Conference Contingency Planning Committee; our Virtual State Conference Technology Team; and key people who all helped to convert all the competitions, auditions, and state conference to virtual events, so that we could protect our members, their students, and their families while maintaining a sense of normalcy, purpose, and vision.

Martha was also excited to hear that the local associations all came together to promote inclusion and music over one weekend in February to impact the entire state. Our “AMTA Statewide Music Weekend” was an opportunity for AMTA to reach further into the community and will hopefully be something we can continue to do in the years to come. This is another unique event Alabama is leading the way in. I was also able to share with Martha how incredible Southern Division is and how hard the presidents of Southern Division worked together and helped each other over the past four months. Our AMTA Virtual State Conference was also observed and celebrated by the other Southern Division Presidents and Vice Presidents and will serve as a template and model for the other Southern Division states as they prepare for their fall virtual state conferences.

Please read carefully what Melody Ng writes below:

“This Virtual State Conference had a profound impact and touched an unprecedented number of lives in the many thousands. Division 1 Winners Recital alone had over 2000 hits in one week. Repeat viewings do not add to the number of hits/viewings. I was so delighted to hear the many requests of “Can we keep the virtual conference running for another week, the whole month...?” I am sorry that we could not extend our virtual conference to accommodate the many requests. This decision had legal reasons we had to adhere to protect our organization. None the less, it was so inspiring and satisfying to hear how much our conference was enjoyed by so many.”

Congratulations Melody! What a way to finish your term as VP and to bring proud recognition of Alabama to all of MTNA.

Congratulations to all the students who participated as winners in our State Conference! I am so proud of all of you for your hard work, commitment, and accomplishments. You touched the hearts and souls of so many people who watched your videos. You are uplifting and inspiring! I look forward to what new goals you set this year and to see and hear how much you grow. Congratulations to Savannah Howard (student of Dr. Ron Shinn) for winning the Piano Division 3 ASRA Award! Congratulations to all the collegiate members and members who presented posters and pedagogical sessions at our virtual conference. Your presentations were informative, inspiring, and professional. Thank you for the pursuit of excellence and your willingness to share with others. Congratulations to all the students who participated in district and state auditions, concerto competitions, composition competitions, and MTNA Competitions. With the new addition of Silver and Bronze tracks for pre-college piano auditions and the push of composition participation, our numbers this spring were strong, and we showed growth in composition. I encourage all student composers to continue to create and share your musical ideas. Without composers, we musicians would be out of a job. Congratulations to all the parents and family members for the accomplishments of your children. Thank you for trusting AMTA with the growth and development of your children in the field of music. Thank you, parents, for all your support and commitment, and raising great citizens who are committed to sharing music with the world. We could not have done any of this without you. Congratulations to all the teachers for all the accomplishments you and your students have achieved this past year. Thank you for your hard work, inspiration, commitment, and your flexibility and resilience to be able to continue to serve the world and community. You are raising great music lovers and compassionate dedicated people. You give your students purpose and a higher meaning.

Congratulations to Olivia Jones for completing your NCTM Certification this year. This is a wonderful accomplishment. I encourage each AMTA member to consider pursuing NCTM Certification.

Gary Ingle, MTNA CEO, thanked AMTA for donating to the MTNA Foundation again this year. I encourage all of you to give to the MTNA Foundation to fortify the future of your organization.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, Georgia and Alabama joined forces to do a successful faculty exchange recital program run by GMTA's Tracy Xian and AMTA's Wendy Freeland. This was well received, and this coming 2020-2021 academic year Tennessee and Florida have joined Georgia and Alabama in this faculty recital exchange. Southern Division once again leads the way in another innovative program.

The new development of multiple tracks (gold, silver, bronze) for our pre-college piano auditions has been received with excitement, enthusiasm, and positivity. I look forward to this development growing our state numbers significantly in the years to come and to inspire more students and teachers to participate in the many opportunities AMTA offers. Alabama has successfully answered MTNA's national call to tackle a movement towards more inclusion and more diversity in music, opportunities, and students. This is another way AMTA is leading the way at the state affiliate level with hope and vision.

The AMTA Board has been working hard for you to better your organization and create and develop opportunities for you and your students. These board members and your local association board members give so much of their time and effort for no reimbursement what so ever. Their love and commitment for service is monumental and inspiring. Please do take a moment this summer to thank them for all that they do for the great state of Alabama and music in your community. I want to personally thank a few board members who have given so much of their time and life to your organization and will be leaving the board this July for a variety of reasons. Their many years of service have been so critical to the success of your organization, and their contributions will be remembered with thankfulness and admiration.

Sarah Tanner (Immediate Past President, President, Vice President/President Elect, Secretary, Historian, & Awards Chair), who has been an incredible force of drive, inspiration, and doing. Sarah, thank you for all your enthusiasm, dedication, and leadership. I have no doubt we will be seeing you again soon back on the board in another capacity.

Steven DiBlasi (Treasurer & Secretary), who has been so giving and passionate about service and taking every opportunity and call received with full on commitment and an energetic "Yes" all the time. Steven, thank you for your bottomless kindness and giving. We will miss you so very dearly on the board and wish you the best. I hope you get to enjoy a little bit of extra time for yourself for a change.

Jeremy Samolesky (Judges Coordinator & MTNA Competitions Chair), thank you for your many years of service to AMTA.

Matthew Wilson (Awards Chair & willingness to step up to Treasurer this year), who joined the board two years ago and showed great commitment and dedication to AMTA. We are so sorry to see you leave but are very excited for you to move to Minnesota to start a new chapter in your life and career. We wish you the best as you embark on a new chapter of your life and thank you for your willingness to accept the call to serve and to give with professionalism to AMTA.

Laurie Middaugh (Collaborative Chair), thank you for the many years of service to AMTA. We will miss you. The Collaborative Chair position on the AMTA Board has been dissolved to make the board leaner and more effective for the future.

Susan Hoop (Publicity), thank you for all that you have given to the AMTA Board member for the many years. Your commitment to be a passionate voice of the private studio teacher on the board has given the board many years of wise insight and direction. The Publicity position on the AMTA Board has been combined with the Historian position to make the board more efficient.

Monica Baker (Foundation Chair), who joined the board two years ago and now is expecting her first child. Congratulations and we wish you the best and many great things as you embark on this new chapter and addition to your family. The Foundation Chair position on the AMTA Board has been combined with the Grant Writer position, and Daniel DeKonty will take on these responsibilities.

Janet Blair (Local Associations Chair), thank you for your many years of service on the board. Your kindness and compassion has been a wonderful addition to our board and we will miss having you be the friendly bridge/liaison between the local associations and the board. We wish you the best as you hopefully will have more time to enjoy your family.

Paul Houghtaling (AMTA Auditions), thank you for your many years of service to the board. Your passion of bringing more recognition of the voice and other instruments to the board served as a catalyst to create the ASRA Award Scholarship for each instrument.

Brent Reeves (Concerto Competitions Chair, First Vice President, President, Immediate Past President, & Local Associations Chair), thank you for your many years of service. Your gentle and warm welcoming professionalism will be dearly missed. Thank you for stepping back on the board in a time of crisis. We wish you the best as you hopefully get to spend more time with family.

Kathryn Lamb, (State Strings Auditions Chair), thank you for stepping into this new board position this year and being willing to serve with professionalism in order to grow strings programs in our state. You have had a positive impact on our string community in our state and we look forward to having you continue to coordinate and run state string auditions and grow string numbers in our state in the years to come.

The AMTA Auditions (State Collegiate Piano and Precollege/College Woodwind/Voice/Brass Competitions) Chair position, the Concerto Competitions Chair position, and the Strings Chair position on the AMTA Board have been dissolved and will now fall under the State Auditions Coordinator to make all competitions and auditions flow more effectively and with greater unity. For a long time, AMTA has had a 26 seat state board which is quite large. In order to make the board run more efficiently and affectively, we have decided to thin the board down a little to make it more streamline and to be more practical for daily operation. We are not cutting any programs. Some positions have been combined to make a more balanced board in terms of workload and commitment. All AMTA sponsored state competitions and auditions will now be structured under Kevin Chance as State Auditions Coordinator. He will have a large committee that will work directly with him to coordinate and run the district and state auditions and competitions. District piano chairs, non-piano chairs, and collegiate chairs will all serve on this new committee, and Kevin will be the voice on the board. Over the past several years, the board has worked hard to create greater unity and a more effective process to run competitions that conclude with celebration at your state conference and this is one of the final steps in being able to make the entire annual process more smooth and efficient.

Thanks to Mark Degoti, Steven DiBlasi, Ron Shinn, and Barbara Shinn, AMTA now has a fully up to date membership directory for the first time. This is a great asset to our organization and members as we look forward into the future.

AMTA is also one of the few states that has professional development opportunities in multiple instrumental disciplines at our state conference. We have consistently sponsored strings and voice clinicians and workshops along side piano. AMTA and MTNA are “Music Teachers” organizations and AMTA will continue to pursue development opportunities in all instrument areas. Your AMTA board members have a moral compass that guides them towards continuing to fulfill our mission and have long term vision.

Two years ago the board had 14 open positions that needed to be filled and last year we had 6 open positions. One of the reasons the AMTA Board is so successful is that we are made of a wide variety of committed people. Diversity, inclusion, collegiality, cooperation, and collaboration stand as corner stones of ideal. Wisdom and experience provided by veteran members working side by side with young newer inspired members come together to create harmony and direction. AMTA is great at developing leaders and investing in our future. I experienced this firsthand when I first came to Alabama 9 years ago. Barbara and Ron Shinn invited me to join the AMTA Board and welcomed me with gracious warmth and encouraging hopes. They both have been active advocates for developing former students into professionals and leaders in AMTA along side many other collegiate faculty in our state. AMTA board members have mentored me and helped me grow as a leader and put their faith in me over the past 9 years and for this I am so very grateful. AMTA has inspired me to continue in this tradition to bring in new and passionate board members and to dedicate my tenure as your president to develop people.

I am so grateful and happy to watch the newer board members thrive and grow in their positions and in leadership. Brittney Patterson, Daniel DeKonty, Matthew Wilson, Laura Beth Mitchell-Bissett, Kathryn Lamb, Eun-Hee Park, Monica Baker, Karen Hickok - thank you for answering my call to join the AMTA board and serve during my tenure as President. AMTA and I are grateful for your excitement, contributions, commitment, and willingness to give and serve along side me and the board members who have a few more years under their belts in AMTA. Sarah Tanner, Ron & Barb Shinn, Steven DiBlasi, Jodean Tingle, Frances Schwemmer, Kevin Chance, Wendy Freeland, Brent Reeves, and all others who have served on the board during my tenure - thank you for continuing in your roll or taking on a new position on the board and sharing your wisdom, guidance, and mentorship to all on the board and me. Thank you for your service and for being who you are. Great culture is built together by blending tradition with vision and working together towards a common greater good.

I look forward to the next two years with great hope and excitement as your new elected board of officers takes AMTA to new heights and greatness.

Melody Ng – President
 Laura Beth Mitchell-Bissett – First Vice President/President Elect
 Barbara Shinn – Second Vice President of Membership
 Cindy St.Clair – Treasurer
 Scott Schwab – Secretary
 Eun-Hee Park – MTNA/AMTA Judges Coordinator
 Kevin Chance – State Auditions Coordinator

AMTA, you are in great hands and I look forward to continuing to work side by side with your AMTA board as your Immediate Past President. I want to finally say thank you from the bottom of my heart to AMTA for putting your trust and faith in me and allowing me to serve as your President. It has been a great honor and a humbling privilege to serve you in this capacity the past two years. I will forever cherish all that I have learned and the relationships I have developed in AMTA and in Southern Division as I continue to pursue personal growth. I am so fortunate to have such a wonderful family to be a part of. Thank you.

With Respect and Admiration,
 Joshua K. Pifer - 2018-2020 President/2020-2022 Immediate Past President



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UNIVERSITY of MONTEVALLO

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Events for Middle & High School Students

Festival of Voices — Sept. 29-30

All-State Choir Workshop — Oct. 19

Single Reed Symposium — Nov. 16-17

Men's Festival Chorus — Jan. 10

Middle School Honor Band Festival — Feb. 21-22

High School Honor Band Festival — March 6-8

Scholarship Auditions

Nov. 9, 2019

Feb. 1, 2020

Feb. 29, 2020



The 68th Annual AMTA Conference (Virtual Edition)

2020 AMTA Conference was originally planned to be held at UAH in the end of May. As unusual circumstances took place, AMTA quickly reacted to transform this annual face-to-face event into a virtual format. Thank you all for making the 68th Annual AMTA Conference/2020 AMTA Virtual Conference possible. We continue the tradition to celebrate music teaching, learning, and performance in Alabama through the digital platform. This first virtual conference could not have been made into reality without all your incredible work to continue your music teaching and preparing students for the auditions amid the sudden shifts to all things online. My heartfelt gratitude to all of you for working tirelessly to make the local and state auditions highly successful during the challenging times. Thanks to the dedicated hard work and support of AMTA members and volunteers, the 2020 AMTA Virtual Conference was held through the AMTA website on June 12th-18th, free and open to the general public. The deadline for winners' video submissions was May 29th, 2020 and we received 115 videos. The online submission process went smoothly, and the Virtual Technology Team worked hard to create the virtual recitals. Many thanks to the Virtual Technology Team which consisted of Stephanie Archer, Laura Beth Mitchell-Bisset, Lillian Roberts, Omar Roy, Scott Schwab, Barbara Shinn, and Ron Shinn. Thank you for the work of the Conference Contingency Plan Committee which made this virtual conference planning and implementation possible. The Committee consisted of Steven DiBlasi, Wendy Freeland, Josh Pifer, and Ron Shinn. All the virtual conference webpages were created seamlessly thanks to Ron Shinn, AMTA web editor. Here is the breakdown of the video submissions for your information:

Number of Student Winners' Video Submissions:

MTNA – AL Winners (5)
 State Piano Division I (37)
 State Piano Division II (37)
 State Piano Division II (19)
 Pre-College Concerto (6)
 Pre-College – Woodwinds, Voice and Strings (5)
 Collegiate Piano (4)
 Composition (2)

The fantastic online showcase of the student winners attracted over six thousand views in total. The Virtual Conference included poster presentations by two collegiate members, Kara Hurt (Sophomore - B.A. Piano Pedagogy, UAH) and Mimi Zhang (M.M. Graduate - Piano Performance, UA). Their presentations were titled *Understanding the Artistic Sight of Musicians* and *Preventing Fatigue in the Practice Room* respectively. Four members' presentations were featured at the conference website: *Russian Romantic Piano Dance Miniature: Preparing Little Pianists For Big Romantic Works* by Tatiana Kasman; *"In diversity there is beauty and there is strength" (Maya Angelou) - Achieving Inclusion and Diversity to Enhance Your Studio Growth* by Melody Ng & Diana Dumlavwalla; *Learn Faster, Memorize Better: The Benefits of Interleaved Practice* by Omar Roy; and *One Last Encore: Celebrated Pianists & Their Final Performances* by Jason Terry. Josh Burel, Assistant Professor in Music Theory and Composition at UAH, was selected by a separate committee as the recipient of the 2020 AMTA State Commission Award. His recently recorded work, *Blue Means Water*, was also featured on the webpage. Although we did not have the opportunity to meet in person, it was most wonderful to see the familiar faces from the marvelous greeting videos submitted by AMTA colleagues. Thank you all for sharing your valuable time and work to submit the outstanding performance videos, research posters, presentations, and greeting videos.

The Virtual Conference website included the following segments:

Winners' Recitals

AMTA State Piano Division I Winners' Recital
 AMTA State Piano Division II Winners' Recital
 AMTA State Piano Division III Winners' Recital
 AMTA Winners' Circle Division I Recital
 AMTA Winners' Circle Division II Recital
 AMTA Winners' Circle Division III Recital
 AMTA Pre-College Concerto Winners' Recital
 AMTA Collegiate Piano Winners' Recital
 AMTA Composition Winners' Recital
 AMTA Pre-College Winners' Recital - Strings, Voice, Woodwinds

Collegiate Members' Poster Presentations

Photo Slideshow of 2019 AMTA Conference & AMTA Music Weekend

Members' Presentations
Greeting Videos from Members

AMTA would like to thank the following partners for supporting the 2020 AMTA Virtual Conference: Alfred Music & Dover Publications, Carl Fisher Music & Theodore Presser Company, ComposeCreate.com, Edition Peters, FJH Music Company, Neil A. Kjos Music Company, Piano Pronto Publishing, and Piano Safari. We would also like to thank Jon McClaran from the Alabama Piano Gallery for opening the space for students to record videos.

Congratulations to everyone who had students perform at this inaugural AMTA Virtual State Conference. Congratulations to all who presented at your conference. Congratulations to everyone who attended and contributed to this online conference. My most sincere thanks to the AMTA board for all the tremendous work, especially in these trying times. Special thanks to the AMTA President, Josh Pifer, for his exceptional work and great leadership to navigate AMTA in the ever-changing landscape. It is truly an honor to serve with all of you who are such amazing colleagues for this wonderful AMTA organization. Thank you for all of your work this year to make the impossible possible! Stay well and stay safe!

Melody Ng— 2018-2020 First Vice President/2020-2022 President

AMTA COLLEGIATE MEMBERS

Bravo to our collegiate members for excellent research in 2020! Two poster presentations were featured in this year's **Virtual State Conference**. Mimi Zhang's poster presentation *Preventing Fatigue in the Practice Room*, and Kara Hurt's poster presentation *Understanding the Artistic Sight of Musicians* were illuminating. Ms. Zhang is pursuing a Master of Music degree in Performance at the University of Alabama, and Ms. Hurt is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Pedagogy of the University of Alabama-Huntsville.

Currently there are four collegiate chapters in Alabama: University of Montevallo, Samford University, University of Alabama/Huntsville and University of Alabama.

Wendy Freeland—Collegiate Chapter Chair



Baldwin County News

How could this pandemic be happening in what most everyone thought our scientific research and technology could come up with a “quick fix.” Of course, all of us are probably accessing our teaching procedures over the last four months. What we assumed would pass in a few weeks turned into a new norm. Can we continue to guide our students to make artistically and technically perfected performances over a small screen on our iPads or laptops? This has been, at least, for me a most trying time. Hopefully, my students have been able to maintain what skills and musicianship they had gained before mid-March when normal teachings styles came to an abrupt halt. Luckily, they had reached performance-ready on their pieces and theory for the District Auditions in early March. Several teachers in Baldwin County proceeded with video auditions as recommended by AMTA. District One had an amazing number of participants in spite of the rigors of making YouTube submissions by parents. We need to commend our parents for all the efforts they make to help their children succeed.

The Boys Recital was held on February 8 at the Summerdale Civic Center. This is exclusively an ALL BOYS event. They prepare a memorized selection to share with others. This event seems to be a big hit with the boys who dress in suits and ties without having to share the stage with lace and frills and bows and sparkles.



Unfortunately, our Adult Musicale, scheduled for late March, was cancelled. This is held each year for the benefit of our adult students in an environment that is very relaxed and nurturing. Participants share a selection they are working on and are given great encouragement from fellow adults who are pursuing the same skills on their instrument. I surely hope next year we can make this happen.

National Piano Guild was a success in spite of the Corona Virus. This was held at the United Methodist Church in Daphne, AL. Karen Hicks organized the event with rigorous cleaning between each participant. Our Guild was scheduled for the first week that the schools in Baldwin County were shut down, as a result some of the students scheduled to participate decided not to. Thus, our numbers were impacted. Those that did participate went home feeling a great accomplishment.

The Senior Recital was also cancelled. This was scheduled for early May for all seniors still studying privately on an instrument. Sadly, this very formal event did not happen for our dedicated seniors. They sacrificed much this spring in the wake of the pandemic. We surely wish them well in all their future endeavors.

Many of our spring recitals were also postponed or cancelled. Though we sacrificed much during this time, we have surely learned much about adapting our teaching to a new platform. May this be only a temporary chapter in all of our teaching experience. It surely will be a memorable one.

Jeanne O’Connell, NCTM—BCMTA Member



Online Programs:
Bachelor of Arts in Music

On-Campus Programs:
Bachelor of Arts in Music &
Bachelor of Science in Music Education

Preview Day for Prospective Students
May 16, 2020

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Music Therapy

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Music Education

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General Music
Music Administration

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Performance, Conducting,
Composition, Theory, Arranging,
Musicology

Master of Arts
Music Education

Doctor of Musical Arts
Performance, Composition,
Conducting

PhD Music Education
EdD Music Education
Education Specialist

PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

The Huxford Symphony Orchestra
Alabama Wind Ensemble
Symphonic Band
Concert Band
The Million Dollar Band
University Singers
University Chorus

Women's Chorus
University of Alabama Opera Theatre
Contemporary Music Ensemble
Jazz Ensemble
Jazz Band and Jazz Combo
Chamber Music
Early Music Ensembles

AMTA FACULTY MEMBERS SHARE THE MUSIC

AMTA members teaching at institutions of higher education plan to continue spreading music across the south by participating in the Faculty Recital Exchange. This year, the Faculty Recital Exchange will include performers from Tennessee and Florida, in addition to Alabama and Georgia. Organized by Faculty Forum Chair Dr. Wendy Freeland and Georgia's College Faculty Chair Dr. Qiao-Shuang (Tracy) Xian, ten performers will participate during the 2020-2021 academic year, including our own Joshua Pifer, Kevin Chance, Robert Holm and Deborah Loach. We are proud of our talented colleagues!

Wendy Freeland—Collegiate Chapter Chair

Certification News

Because we were unable to have our annual conference banquet this year where we introduce and present the certification pin to newly certified members, we want to spotlight Olivia Jones in the Soundboard. She is a graduate of Samford University in Piano and Piano Pedagogy (2019) and studied with Ron Shinn and Connie Schweigert before that. With her interest in establishing a private independent piano studio, she has built up a studio of 40 students and is the Theory Exam chair for Metro Music Forum. Congratulations, Olivia!

Other members with certification “work in progress” are Matthew Wilson (Birmingham, moving to Minneapolis), Nicholas Robertson (Birmingham) and Heather Weber (Montgomery). We look forward to presenting all of you as newly certified AMTA members!

Barbara Shinn—AMTA Certification Chair



Huntsville News

HMTA successfully transitioned from Frances Schwemmer to Susan Hoop as District Chair for the April 2020 AMTA District VIII Piano Auditions in Huntsville, Alabama. Susan Hoop did a great job transitioning to a virtual audition process for the District VIII Piano Auditions, resulting in renewed energy in HMTA membership.

HMTA also set up the first ever Covid-19 HMTA Scholarships this past spring. The scholarships were \$100 per scholarship, and were to be used for payment of private music lessons of a student of a current HMTA member. 4 scholarships of \$100 each were given out. The scholarships had to be used by May 31st, 2020. The idea behind the Covid-19 HMTA Scholarships was to be supportive of HMTA members by providing a way for talented music students to continue studying music privately with HMTA members during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Deborah Loach—HMTA President



Thank You

I want to thank the many AMTA Members from all over the state who reached out to me expressing their sympathy upon the death of my husband, Ed, in late February. It was uplifting to read the cards, letters, and Facebook messages of condolence for about a month or so. Many colleagues called for a visit during the shutdown and that was appreciated also. The evenings were especially lonely after teaching and I would get my mail and presto -- some notes from my AMTA colleagues which would lift my spirits!

Thank you,
Frances Schwemmer

West Alabama Music Teachers Association



- Manley Blackwell
- Kevin Chance, NCTM
- Syble Coats
- Marsha Ford Harrow
- Paul Houghtaling
- Tanya Gille
- Hyesook Jung
- Paul Lee
- Ashley Lewis
- Jennifer Louis
- Jonathan Nofflinger
- Lillian Roberts, NCTM
- Ben Rosairo
- Edisher Savitski
- Misti Short, NCTM
- Cindy St. Clair, NCTM
- Susan Williams
- Kevin Woosley

Foundation Fund

During the 1990's AMTA members, who were active at the national level, worked with the MTNA Foundation, the Gloria Narramore Moody Foundation, and the AMTA Executive Board. Because of their vision the **Amanda Ward Penick Endowment Fund** was established as part of the MTNA Foundation. This fund "supports teacher enrichment grants benefiting Alabama and Southern Division Teachers." Professor Penick was on the piano faculty at the University of Alabama from 1953-2014. She was awarded the AMTA Teacher of the Year in 1996 and MTNA Teacher of the Year in

2008. From her studio came state, regional, national, and international competition winners. Her students teach throughout the state, region, and nation. Ms. Penick passed away in 2016. The Amanda Ward Penick Endowment is still in place. Any who give to the MTNA Foundation have the option of designating a gift to this fund.

Manley Blackwell—President WAMTA

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER....

You may be aware that MTNA has extended the due date for membership dues from July 1 to September 1 this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. AMTA allows a "grace period" until October 1, but if dues are paid after that date, those teachers will be required to pay the non-member fee to enter students in AMTA events.

Barbara Shinn—2nd Vice President of Membership

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, scholarships for music camps and the annual theory exams in January.

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

Jodean Tingle
Lucy DeSa
Brent Reeves
Matthew Wilson
Kathy Burdette
Tatiana Kasman
Karen Krekelberg
Olivia Jones
Ronald Shinn



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2020 AUDITION DATES

FEB. 8 & 11,
MAR. 7 & 10


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Syble Coats Tribute

I was deeply saddened when I learned that one of West Alabama Music Teachers Association's most exemplary members, **Syble Morrow Coats**, passed away on June 24, 2020. She is survived by her husband, Gordon Coats; her daughter, Brittley Coats Graviet and her husband, Kristopher Graviet; her grandchild, Hayden Graviet; and by other family members and friends.

I first met Syble in the mid-1990's, when I was a new faculty member at the University of West Alabama. I was at Southeastern Music Gallery in Tuscaloosa shopping for music. I do not know how Syble knew me, but she called me by name and introduced herself. She told me she had scheduled a guest presenter to work with her students at Shelton State Community College and invited me to attend. Little did I know that would be the theme of many conversations for years to come. Syble had performances or projects in progress, she wanted as many people as possible to benefit from her activities, and she would extend an invitation.



Syble was an excellent musician and a highly accomplished pianist. She was very proud of her education, which included Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from the University of Alabama. She was especially grateful for her studies with Professor Amanda Penick. While working at Shelton State, she was given the opportunity to play at Carnegie Hall twice. I was fortunate to hear two of her local performances. The more recent occasion was on October 9, 2019, when she and Lillian Roberts performed a program of piano duet music for the Demopolis Music Study Club. To say that Syble performed "as long as her health permitted" is a bit of an understatement. Syble performed that afternoon with the assistance of an oxygen tank and an oxygen tube. She also needed a walker to make it from the car to the piano. The music was beautifully played, and the recital is a memory I will always cherish. Our music club is so grateful to Syble and Lillian for making this effort.

Syble was a passionate and dedicated teacher. She was a faculty member at Shelton State for 38 years until her retirement in 2014. From 1979-2005 she was the Department Chair. She organized the weekly "Terrific Tuesdays" recital series. In 2005 she was awarded the Dr. and Mrs. John W. Todd Award for Excellence in Teaching from Shelton State. During that same year she was awarded the Druid Arts Award for Music Educator of the Year by the Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa. In 2010 she received the Alabama Music Teachers Association Teacher of the Year Award. Her AMTA Award is the topic of an (unsigned) article from the July 2010 Issue of the *Soundboard*. In the article Syble said of her own teaching, "If a student has the desire and ambition to learn, then as a music educator, my job is to provide the tools for the student to be successful."

Syble truly understood the importance of volunteerism and service. Her contributions to the West Alabama Music Teachers Association are numerous. She was President from 1998-2005. Later she became the Public Relations Officer and organized student recitals. I was always pleased when my students played for the AMTA District Auditions and Syble was the adjudicator. She also served on the AMTA Executive Board as 2nd Vice President, Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair, and as Treasurer. I always admired the enthusiasm and energy Syble brought to any activity she organized. Her commitment was the same, whether her own students were participating or not. When my students performed for WAMTA recitals, Syble always took the time to congratulate them and to thank the parents for making it possible for the students to come.

Syble was a member of the Tuscaloosa Music Club and the Alabama Federation of Music Clubs. For many years she was the organist at Forest Lake United Methodist Church. According to Syble's Obituary, she was involved in many community activities and college committees. Her volunteerism was not limited to music.

Well Syble, your performances have been played, your students have been taught, your Department Chair duties have been completed, and your volunteer activities are now finished. Everything you did for us, you did well. It is now our turn to follow your example. We thank you, and we miss you. We admire you, and we honor you. We are grateful for your presence in our lives, and we treasure your memory.

Manley Blackwell—WAMTA President

MTNA Competitions

The Alabama MTNA performance auditions will be held online this year. Please register on the national website by Wednesday, September 16, 2020. The composition category is separate, and Brittany Patterson is the chairperson. Performance guidelines and categories are here, and on the competition page at www.mtna.org.

Junior

- Age 11–14 as of January 1, 2021
- Competitions: Piano, String and Woodwind
- Performance Entry Fee: \$80

Division Video Submission Fee: \$20 paid directly to Acceptd.

Senior

- Age: 15–18 as of January 1, 2021
- Piano Duet (one piano/four hands) Age: 11–18 as of January 1, 2021, with at least one student age 15–18.
- Competitions: Brass, Piano, Piano Duet, String, Voice and Woodwind
- Performance Entry Fee: \$110

Division Video Submission Fee: \$20 paid directly to Acceptd.

Young Artist

- Age: 19–26 as of January 1, 2021
- Competitions: Brass, Piano, String, Voice and Woodwind
- Performance Entry Fee: \$120

Division Video Submission Fee: \$20 paid directly to Acceptd

Chamber Music (3–6 performers)

- Age: Ensemble members must be 18–29 as of January 1, 2021
- Competitions: String and Wind
- Entry Fee: \$120 for each ensemble

Video Submission Fee: \$20 paid directly to Acceptd

The National Finals of the competitions are **March 13–14, 2021, in Atlanta, Georgia.**

Entrant Requirements

The following requirements must be met by the application deadline; otherwise, the entrant is not eligible to enter the competitions.

Each entrant must:

- Study with a teacher who is (1) a member of MTNA or (2) pay the Nonmember Teacher Fee of \$150.
- Be a U.S. Citizen or must hold a U.S. visa or permanent residence (green card), which is valid throughout the competition year.
- Reside in the U.S. during the competition year.

Meet age requirements as specified for each competition.

Entrants may enter any MTNA competitions for which they are eligible. Entrants may enter each individual competition in only one state according to the following:

Solo and Composition Competitions:

Enter either (1) in the state where the entrant has permanent residence or (2) in the state where the instruction takes place. For distance learning, the state where the instruction takes place is defined as where the entrant is located during *Skype*, *FaceTime* lessons or similar means of instruction.

Piano Duet Competitions:

Enter either (1) in the state where at least one member of the duet team has permanent residence or (2) in the state where the instruction takes place. For distance learning, the state where the instruction takes place is defined as where the duet team is located during *Skype*, *FaceTime* lessons or similar means of instruction. If the permanent residence of the team involves two different states, the teacher(s) determines the state of entry.

Teacher Requirements

- Teachers must be aware of the entrant requirements.
- The teacher listed on the application is the teacher of record and shall remain so during the competition year. In the event the entrant changes teachers during the competition year, both teachers, past and present, will be listed as the teachers of record. Any exception is at the sole discretion of the MTNA Director of Competitions in consultation with the Competitions Committee, but in no event will the entrant be disqualified as a result of a teacher change.
- The teacher and the entrant may not be the same individual.
Teachers must reside in the U.S. during the competition year.

MTNA Member Teachers

- Current active membership dues for MTNA must be paid prior to accessing the competition application. MTNA members are not required to be members in the state of entry.
An MTNA collegiate member must pay active membership dues to enter students.

Nonmember Teachers

Nonmembers teachers entering students are encouraged to pay current active membership dues for MTNA or entrants will be assessed the \$150 Nonmember Teacher fee at the time of application.

Jodean Tingle, NCTM—MTNA Competitions Chair

AMTA Audition Results

Pre-College Piano Solo Winners

***Denotes Winner's Circle
Division III**

Shannon Boutwell, Birmingham.....	Ronald Shinn
*Carson Campbell, Decatur.....	Margery Whatley
Elizabeth Chojnacki, Huntsville.....	Ingrid von Spakovsky Weaver
Gabriel Feng, Tuscaloosa.....	Kevin Chance
Shelby Hill, Waverly.....	Amy Jensen
*Savannah Howard, Birmingham.....	Ronald Shinn
Harrison Jones, Birmingham.....	Ronald Shinn
Eleanor Lee, Tuscaloosa.....	Hyesook Jung
Railey McCord, Killen.....	Gail Spires
Sherilynn Peng, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
*Janna Ren, Hoover.....	Tatiana Kasman
*Macy Steele, Pelham.....	Joyce Terry
*Mary Elisa Wagner, Birmingham.....	Tatiana Kasman
Victoria Wang, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky
Kendall Whatley, Mountain Brook.....	Margery Whatley
*Lindsay Whatley, Mountain Brook.....	Margery Whatley
*Charlie Yaeger, Birmingham.....	Susan Berg
Simon Yang, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer

Dakyeong “Emily” Med Yoo, Montgomery.....Corine Free
 Lillian Zhu, Madison.....Susan Hoop

Division II

Hyoju An, Montgomery.....Aeri Moon
 *Jane Bae, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman
 Hendrix Bailey, Gordo.....Kevin Chance
 Mary Bayley, Madison.....Susan Hoop
 Grace Bracker, Oneonta.....Deborah Sarcinelli
 *David Caycedo, Vestavia Hills.....Tatiana Kasman
 *Reena Chen, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
 *Stana Choi, Columbus.....Jeremy Samolesky
 *Carrigan Crowe, Chelsea.....Cathy Taylor
 Dima Reem Gambino, Vestavia Hills.....Dina Kasman
 Kailyn Grant, Madison.....Alice Eaton
 Nathaniel Handler, Birmingham.....Brent Reeves
 Catherine Hinson, Birmingham.....Stephanie Archer
 Helen Hotten, Vestavia Hills.....Jessica Scott
 *Raymond Hou, Montgomery.....Ronald Shinn
 Sophia Johnson, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer
 Izabella Kulczycka, Birmingham.....Susan Berg
 *Emily Lee, Madison.....Giejung Lee
 Hannah Lee, Montgomery.....Aeri Moon
 Carol Li, Birmingham.....Alina Voicu
 Chloe Nacilla, Cullman.....Tatiana Kasman
 *Patrick Pan, Tuscaloosa.....Kevin Chance
 Steven Pan, Madison.....Susan Hoop
 Sumin Park, Montgomery.....Haein Kim
 Lilian Qu, Madison.....Susan Hoop
 *Rhea Rastogi, Montgomery.....Adonis Gonzalez
 Rosa Schwebel, Birmingham.....Tatiana Kasman
 Ian Shen, Tuscaloosa.....Kevin Chance
 Laura Joy Simpson, Mountain Brook.....Stephanie Archer
 *Benjamin Tzou, Auburn.....Jeremy Samolesky
 Maxwell Wainwright, Hoover.....Kathryn Burdette
 Jessica Wang, Madison.....Susan Hoop
 *Yiwen Wang, Tuscaloosa.....Kevin Chance
 Claudia Williams, Birmingham.....Jessica Scott
 Hunter Wittenborn, Daphne.....Robert Holm
 Austin Zhan, Auburn.....Jeremy Samolesky
 *Daniel Zhao, Birmingham.....Alina Voicu
 *Timothy Zhu, Madison.....Frances Schwemmer

Division I

Daniel Bae, Montgomery.....Aeri Moon
 Hollis Bailey, Gordo.....Kevin Chance
 Jacob Baker, Birmingham.....Susan Berg
 Peter Bogdan, Hoover.....Nadezhda Bogdan
 Laura Bukelis, Birmingham.....Patty Kirkley
 Evie Cagle, Hoover.....Olivia Jones
 Aiden Cai, Decatur.....Debbie Bailie
 Eva Caponetto, Auburn.....Joy Xu
 Claire Chen, Trussville.....Liudmila Hoskin

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Michael Ding, Vestavia Hills.....	Tatiana Kasman
Angelina Xu Dong, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky
Jeffrey Duan, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Joseph Elson, Sterrett.....	Susan Berg
Taekyeon Eum, Montgomery.....	Hae Na Ji
Bobby Gear, Huntsville.....	Tamar Saliashvili
*Mina Hu, Vestavia Hills.....	Heather Byars
Yujin Jung, Montgomery.....	Kyunghee Jeon
Daniel Kim, Montgomery.....	Eunhee Ashley
Eleanor Kim, Auburn.....	Sunny Hahn
Annie Li, Birmingham.....	Adam Bowles
Timothy Li, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Oliver Pang, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Stephen Pernell, Tuscaloosa.....	Kevin Chance
Michael Qu, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Hendley Reid, Trussville.....	Liudmila Hoskin
Brandon Shin, Birmingham.....	Tatiana Kasman
Rhett Spivey, Decatur.....	Rebekah McLaughlin
Vassili Trenin, Vestavia Hills.....	Tatiana Kasman
Andrew Wales, Deatsville.....	Donna Wilson
Iris Wu, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Eddie Xiao, Madison.....	Wendy McGee
Edison Yang, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Annie Yi, Montgomery.....	Heather Weber
*Bethany Yin, Mountain Brook.....	Elena Osadchaya-Endo
Lynn Yoon, Montgomery.....	Heather Weber
Daniel Yuan, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Andrew Zhang, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky

Pre-College Piano Solo Honorable Mentions

Division III

Andrew Burlison, Satsuma.....	Carol Evers
Claiborne Davis, III, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Chaeun Kim, Montgomery.....	Aeri Moon
Shannon Kim, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Natalie Ledford, Sheffield.....	Carol Lynn
Michael Luster, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Hampton Neugent, Montevallo.....	Laurie Middaugh
Ruthie Nguyen, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Felicia Onawola, Madison.....	Tatsiana Fedoseyev
Josiah Parker, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Ally Parvin, Gardendale.....	Becky Thornton
Christina Rollins, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Nakya Scarver, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Steele Segrest, Tallassee.....	Leslye Ames
Simon Shelley, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky
Adela Sheng, Montgomery.....	Evaughn Balkcom
Theo Simonton, Mountain Brook.....	Heather Byars

Joey Smith, Gurley.....	Frances Schwemmer
Nydia Thomas, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Jenny Wang, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer
Ana Wright, Florence.....	W. Tim O’Steen
Sarah Yi, Hoover.....	Tatiana Kasman
Mike Zhang, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer

Division II

Mary Ellis Alley, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Elaine Bao, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Susan BaskerRaj, Vestavia Hills.....	Connie Macon
Isabella Beaty, Dothan.....	Rebecca McManus
Luke Blackstone, Birmingham.....	Susan Berg
John Brinkley, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer
Kyra Brown, Decatur.....	Janet Varner
Jamie Casey, Vestavia Hills.....	Nadezhda Bogdan
Carlin Chacko, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Samantha Chan, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Katherine Chin, Montgomery.....	Betty Gallops & Sarah Tanner
Dabeen Choi Montgomery.....	Aeri Moon
Noah Clark, Mobile.....	Barbara Laurendine
Annabelle Coan, Homewood.....	Connie Macon
Julia Culpepper, Cleveland.....	Deborah Beason
Saisha Dangle, Vestavia Hills.....	Betty Bridges
Marcus Daniel, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Hannah Evans, Madison.....	Giejung Lee
Katerina Fedoseyev, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer
Peter Ferguson, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Elizabeth Grigsby, Prattville.....	Donna Wilson
Stephen Grigsby, Trussville.....	Margery Whatley
Claudia Grosckiewicz, Huntsville.....	Gwyn Williams
Abraham Ha, Huntsville.....	Ka Man Ng
Ella Habig, Birmingham.....	Gail Garratt
Derek Handy Jr., Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Brinson Harris, Opelika.....	Karen Hickok
Mona Hong, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Ayden Jackson, Grand Bay.....	Robert Holm
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Joey McLaughlin, Decatur.....	Rebekah McLaughlin
Abbie McLemore, Moulton.....	Rebekah McLaughlin
Matthew Meadows, Prattville.....	Donna Wilson
Mazzy Mitchell, Huntsville.....	Kimberly Wright
Amy Nance, Madison.....	Wendy McGee
Danielle Nguyen, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Anastasia Niewiarowski, Montgomery.....	Corine Free
Cindy Niu, Auburn.....	Mary Slaton
Hubert Pan, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Luke Pappalardo, Birmingham.....	Karen Krekelberg
Minsoo Park, Montgomery.....	Aeri Moon
Jackson Parvin, Gardendale.....	Becky Thornton

Allie Patrick, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Kristian Prettyman, Elba.....	Carol Windham
Savitri Sasse, Birmingham.....	Karen Krekelberg
Aliza Scott, Trussville.....	Liudmila Hoskin
Leo Shen, Auburn.....	Mary Slaton
Ian Shin, Montgomery.....	Aeri Moon
Quinn Spivey, Decatur.....	Rebekah McLaughlin
Emily Tran, Auburn.....	Sunny Han
Matthew Vo, Hoover.....	Connie Macon
Veronica Walker, Birmingham.....	Jessica Scott
Nathan Wallace, Mobile.....	Barbara Laurendine
Sally Wang, Madison.....	Ingrid Weaver
Noah Weber, Trussville.....	Liudmila Hoskin
Annie Yang, Auburn.....	Christine Adolf
Michael Zahumensky, Alabaster.....	Betty Bridges
Ning Zhang, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky

Piano Solo, Division I

Colten Abney, Athens.....	Diana Pettit
Austill Baker, Huntsville.....	Frances Schwemmer
Sam BaskarRaj, Vestavia Hills.....	Connie Macon
Peter Bayley, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Hosanna Bearden, Harvest.....	Alice Eaton
William Bellot, Mountain Brook.....	Jessica Scott
Brandon Bong, Montgomery.....	Aeri Moon
Penelope Bosma, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Abigail Chan, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Caroline Chen, Hoover.....	Stephanie Archer
Hannah Chen, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Isaac Coon, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Branon Cui, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Amelia Culpepper, Cleveland.....	Deborah Beason
Shambeau Das, Vestavia Hills.....	Heather Byars
Taylor Davenport, Huntsville.....	Daphne Reed
Maggie Deason, Northport.....	Lillian Roberts
Sophia Dooley, Meridianville.....	Tatsiana Fedoseyev
Evie Estess, Birmingham.....	Jody Coombs
Emma Feng, Auburn.....	Joy Xu
Savannah Feng, Vestavia Hills.....	Connie Macon
William Goldmon, Huntsville.....	Lisa Belk
Sophia Guo, Tuscaloosa.....	Lillian Roberts
Jason Han, Montgomery.....	Heejeong Chae
Zachary Horn, Oneonta.....	Deborah Beason
Hudson Horton, Oneonta.....	Deborah Beason
Hannah Hwangpo, Birmingham.....	Susan Berg
Katie Grace Jackson, Cleveland.....	Deborah Beason
Katherine Jing, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Lila Johnson, Vestavia Hills.....	Stephanie Archer
Anna Kelley, Deatsville.....	Donna Wilson
Sophia Kong, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu
Elizabeth Lee, Madison.....	Giejung Lee
Seoyeon Lee, Madison.....	Lois Lee
Charlie Liebner, Arab.....	Lori Bailey
Joshua Litwiniec, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Alina Negrin, Birmingham.....	Alina Voicu

Payton Norris, Vestavia Hills.....	Stephanie Archer
Regina Sanchez-Galvez, Huntsville.....	Karen Anderson
Shreya Singh, Madison.....	Maria Okoye
Mary Coulbourne Smith, Birmingham.....	Barbara Shinn
Shreya Tandon, Vestavia Hills.....	Tatiana Kasman
Maria Tischchenko, Madison.....	Tatsiana Fedoseyev
Hailey Tran, Auburn.....	Sunny Han
Atharv Uddi, Tuscaloosa.....	Ashley Lewis
Christine Wang, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Jason Wang, Auburn.....	Jeremy Samolesky
Sage Wang, Auburn.....	Joy Xu
Jazlyn Wilson, Axis.....	Kelley Burleson
Grace Xiang, Auburn.....	Stephen Hickok
Xiyu Sherry Xiao, Tuscaloosa.....	Mimi Zhang
Claire Zhang, Madison.....	Susan Hoop
Athena Zou, Vestavia Hills.....	Tatiana Kasman

Pre-College String Auditions

Winners

Division III

Solo: Ethan Wan.....	Jeffrey Dortch
Concerto: Felicia Oawola.....	Veronika Johnson

Division II

Solo: Iris Lee.....	Jeffrey Dortch
Concerto: Timothy Dinh.....	Yuriko Yasuda

Division I

Solo and Concerto: Bijou Brown.....	Barbara Poularikas
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Honorable Mentions

Division III

Solo: John Yoo.....	Jeffrey Dortch
Solo: Kaitlyn McLaughlin.....	Lisa Wiggins
Solo: Joy Onawola.....	Veronika Johnson
Concerto: Nathan Han.....	Ariana Arcu

Division II

Concerto: Philip Mitchell.....	Ai-Yi Bao
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Division I

Concerto: Linh Nguyen.....	Yuriko Yasuda
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Pre-college Woodwind Auditions

Division II

Stacey Yoo, Pike Road.....	Aeri Moon
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Pre-College Voice Auditions

Division I Winner

Jason Wang, Gretna, LAJoy Xu

Division II Winner

Ella Grace Tipping, AuburnJoy Xu

Division III ASRA Award Winner

Sarah Wallace, DoraHeather Batey

Division II Honorable Mention

Bella Brooks, Pelham.....Heather Batey

Division III Honorable Mention

Alyce Voisin, Birmingham.....Heather Batey

Concerto Auditions

Winners

Collegiate

Mira Walker.....Yakov Kasman

Division III

Daniel Ji.....Tatiana Kasman
Carson Campbell.....Margery Whatley

Division II

Chloe Nacilla.....Tatiana Kasman
Luke Blackstone.....Susan Berg
Raymond Hou.....Ron Shinn
Hendrix Bailey.....Kevin Chance
Reena Chen.....Ron Shinn

Division I

Oliver Pang.....Barbara Shinn

Honorable Mentions

Collegiate

Dina Kasman.....Yakov Kasman
Zac Wang.....Ron Shinn

Division III

Charlie Yaeger.....Susan Berg
Shane Mackey.....Tatiana Kasman
Shannon Boutwell.....Ron Shinn

Division II

Jessica Ma.....Tatiana Kasman
Jane Bae.....Tatiana Kasman

Division I

Richard Chen.....Ron Shinn
Brandon Shin.....Tatiana Kasman

Collegiate Piano Auditions

Winners

Lower Division

Timothy Berry, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance
Dina Kasman, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Upper Division

Mira Walker, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Graduate Division

Zhong Xin Chan, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance
Mimi Zhang, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

ASRA Award Winner for Best Overall Audition

Mimi Zhang, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

Honorable Mentions

Lower Division

Aidan Miles-Jamison, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance

Upper Division

Jeffrey Bell, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance
Jacob Skiles, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman
Fred Song, University of Alabama at Birmingham.....Yakov Kasman

Graduate Division

Yangmingting Fang, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance
Chuqiao Guo, University of Alabama.....Kevin Chance
Zac Wang, Samford University.....Ron Shinn

Composition Competition

Winners

Senior

James DeBlock.....Laurie Middaugh

Junior

Nicole Ropog.....Laura Beth Mitchell-Bissett

Elementary

Aoife Martin.....Laura Beth Mitchell-Bissett



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AUDITION DATES

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Saturday, February 22, 2020

Saturday, February 29, 2020



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APRIL 19	UAB Piano Studio and Piano Ensembles recital
APRIL 21	Pianists MIRA WALKER and DINA KASMAN- winners of the UAB CONCERTO/ARIA COMPETITION- perform as soloists with the Alabama Symphony
APRIL 23	YPAP senior student recital: MIRA WALKER, piano
MAY 16	SEVENTH UAB PIANO DAY for pre-college students

UAB Piano in the News

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2019 – 2020

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Have something you want to share with the AMTA membership?

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