

AMTA

SOUNDBOARD



Opus 54 * Number 2
March, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year – we are all preparing students for festivals, auditions, competitions, recitals, etc. As I listen to students, I can't help but ask myself, "What are we really teaching our students?" We try to make sure that our students are "ready" – that their pieces are "learned." We expect the correct notes, rhythms, and dynamics, and we even want them to play with appropriate "style." Often our lessons focus on these particular goals. But does this completely prepare our students for that moment when they walk in the room to be... "judged"? Have we taught them how to greet the judge or audience? How to walk on stage? How to get "settled" with their instrument? How to try the instrument and/or the hall where they are playing? Have we taught them how to combat those pesky "butterflies" that affect almost every-

We know that we give our attention to that brief time when they are

actually playing music. What about when the music is over? Have we talked to our students about bowing? Have we practiced this with them? Or if a bow is not appropriate because there is no audience, do they know to graciously acknowledge or thank the judge? And what happens after they leave the room? Is it over, or is there still more to be learned? Personally, I think there is still much more to learn. Our students must still deal with those "comment" sheets. Just because a judge wrote it, does that mean that it is true – whether good or bad? How do we achieve balance in giving serious consideration to a judge's comments without giving them undue importance?

This musical "world" which we have chosen for ourselves is so complicated... and so like real life! And, just as music auditions are not always "fair," neither is life. This may, in fact, be the most important thing for our students to learn. When we give our students

guidance about walking in a room and preparing to perform, we are teaching them that first impressions do count. When they play music, they have learned that it takes weeks and months of hard, disciplined work to achieve success. And sometimes they learn that even when you work hard and prepare "properly," things can still go wrong. I always tell my students that the best antidote for performance anxiety is good preparation... but it is not an absolute guarantee. We are not machines or computers; we are humans and mistakes can always happen. And after all, even those machines and computers can get seemingly unexplainable "bugs!" When we teach our students theory – to analyze and understand how the music is put together – we are teaching them critical thinking skills. We are showing them that it is important to understand *why* something happened, not just to know that it happened. We teach them

Inside this issue:

President's message	1-2
District & State Auditions	2
Certified Members List	4-5
District News	6-7
Vice-President's article	11
Collegiate Auditions	11
String Auditions	13
Foundation Article	14-15
Camp Opportunities	14
District Aud. and Chairs	17

Coming soon:

- District Auditions in March and April
- Collaborative Conference in Ontario in March
- AMTA Convention May 31-June 2
- Summer Camp opportunities for your students

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
CONTINUED

to be discriminating when we teach them style. They must make value judgments about when one particular sound or touch is appropriate or when another is more stylistically "proper." We try to give them "survival" skills if something goes wrong – how to recover from mistakes. When they have finished performing, we teach them to graciously acknowledge others, regardless of the outcome. And we teach them to discriminate when they consider the judges' comments. We teach them that not everyone listens for the same things, that not everyone agrees on what is "right," that not everyone believes the same things are important. We are teaching our students that everyone has an opinion, but that we must always filter these opinions through our own system of values and beliefs.

We all know the research on the benefits of music study. We know there are measurable differences in how music students perform on standardized tests, how music study improves spatial reasoning. . . I could go on and on, but we already know these things. Have we thought about the more "subtle" lessons of music study? We know that the vast majority of our students are not going to go into music careers. But we are still preparing our students for whatever life choices they make. One of my favorite "sayings" about teaching begins with "Why Do We Teach Music"? Many of you probably know this "poem." I have been aware of it for 20-25 years; it has been reprinted in numerous columns on music study. I am not going to quote it here because I do not know whom to credit – I have never seen original credits with it. But, it begins to answer the ques-

tion with "not so you will major in music" and ends with "so you will enjoy life."

So as you go about your daily tasks in the coming weeks and months, remember that you are doing so much more than preparing your students to be successful in music competitions. You are preparing them to be successful in life.

*Kathryn Fouse, NCTM
AMTA President*



From the State Auditions Chair.....Please read carefully!

As we prepare for this season of auditions and recitals, please help your District Chairs by submitting completed forms in a timely fashion. Don Bowyer has done his usual fabulous job of keeping the website updated with everything we need at hand. Typing the forms on your computer makes for a much easier experience for the District (and State!) Chairs. Please consider doing so! And please remember when filling out forms for State Auditions to fill in your DISTRICT information in the appropriate place and to mark the piece you would choose for your student to play in recital if chosen a winner.

Since the State Department of Education no longer mandates the time for Spring Break, we have some complicated issues in some districts. PLEASE look ahead with your students; if students need to compete in alternate districts, those District Chairs must be informed in time to accommodate them. District Chairs always have the option of refusing any additional entrants if space and judges are limited; their first priority is the students in their own district. So please be considerate, and request space early if needed. Due to known Spring Breaks and Easter weekend, most of the District Auditions are on April 14th; so space will be limited on other dates.

And, finally, please check the theory audition sheets online; we have tried to check them and correct any inconsistencies with the Student Activities Handbook, so they may be slightly different than in years past. Please let me know if you find any other inconsistencies online.....but in such cases the information in the handbook stands. Thanks so much for your cooperation and best wishes for a great spring!

Debbie Gray
205-243-7936
lilygray@bellsouth.net



*Samford University
Preparatory Department
presents*



***Adventures
in
Music 2007***

June 18-22, 2007

July 9-13, 2007

***a summer learning experience
for grades 1-12***

instruction offered in piano and voice

***Division of Music
Preparatory Department
726-4049***

**Samford
University** 

Samford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

CERTIFIED MEMBERS OF AMTA

CITY	MEMBER	INSTRUMENT
Andalusia	Mary Clyde Merrill	Piano
Anniston	Elizabeth A. Hostetter	Piano
Athens	Diana A. Pettit	Piano
Auburn	Julia M. Morgan	Theory
	Sharon M. Odom	Piano, Music Edu.
	Elizabeth Rutland	Piano
	Nancy M. Vinson	Flute
	Roy Wylie	Piano
Birmingham	Susan Berg	Piano
	Betty Lou Bridges	Piano
	Kathryn Burdette	Piano
	Charlotte Clarkson	Piano
	James Cook	Organ, Music History
	Jody Coombs	Piano
	William DeVan	Piano
	Kathryn Lea Fouse	Piano
	Joyce B. Jennings	Piano
	Amy L. McLelland	Piano
	Kathleen M. Murray	Piano
	Anthony P. Pattin	Piano
	Betty Sue Shepherd	Piano
	Alina C. Voicu	Piano
Brownsboro	Cynthia M. Boyd	Piano
Chickasaw	Carol M. Evers	Piano
Columbiana	Connie H. Macon	Piano
Daphne	Ruth B. Skaggs	Piano
Enterprise	Hilda H. Hagins	Piano
Fairhope	Karen P. Hicks	Piano
	Jeanne M. O'Connell	Piano
Fayette	Iva Gardner	Piano
Florence	Martha H. Woodford	Piano
Gadsden	Judith Hicks	Piano
	Gayle Martin	Piano
Guntersville	Marche M. Altom	Piano
	Kay Benefield	Piano
	Melinda Brooks	Piano
Helena	Deborah N. Gray	Piano, Theory
Huntsville	Lisa W. Belk	Piano
	Wendy K. Bramhall	Piano

Huntsville continued	Johanna C. Caruso	Organ, Piano
	Mira Kruja	Piano, Organ
	Nina Xiaolian Li	Violin
	Frances Schwemmer	Piano
	Ingrid S. Weaver	Piano
	Margery McDuffie Whatley	Piano
Jacksonville	Susie Francis Dempsey	Piano
Luverne	Stephanie W. Jones	Piano
Madison	Alice Butler Eaton	Piano
Mobile	Jerry Alan Bush	Piano
	Patricia L. Gragg	Piano
	Joan Carroll Hauser	Piano
	Barbara J. Laurendine	Piano
	Mary J. Scruggs	Piano
	Betty L. Tubb	Piano, Theory
Montevallo	Cynthia L. Jones	Piano
Montgomery	Josephine M. Crenshaw	Organ
	Theresa G. Gordon	Piano
	Valerie Estelle Sawyer	Piano
	Barbara A. Shinn	Piano, Theory
	Ronald R. Shinn	Piano, Theory
	Ann Pilcher Thorington	Piano
Northport	Pamela W. Penick	Piano
Opelika	Debra H. McClain	Piano
Phenix City	Virginia H. Poor	Piano
Prattville	Donna H. Wilson	Piano
Spanish Fort	Margaret Guenther	Piano
	Vincentine P. Williams	Piano
Sylacauga	Cathy E. Taylor	Piano
Talladega	Karen L. Blankenship	Piano
Troy	Lyra N. Crapps	Piano
Tuscaloosa	Tanya Gille	Piano
	Elizabeth Hamner	Piano
	Amanda W. Penick	Piano

JOIN US FOR THE FIRST EVER COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE IN TORONTO, ONTARIO!

March 23-27, 2007

The Collaborative Conference will bring together members of Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations, Music Teachers National Association, and The Royal Conservatory of Music in a five day event to explore the similarities and differences in teaching methods across the two countries. The conference includes master classes presented by Marvin Blickenstaff, Jane Coop and David Wehr, Pedagogy Friday, and evening concerts featuring Yefim Bronfman, and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. For more information, or to register, visit the MTNA website (<http://www.mtna.org>) and click on conference.

DISTRICT NEWS

Northeast Alabama Music Teachers Association

NEAMTA has been busy with exciting workshops this year! On August 18th, we began the year with a program by one of our members, Dr. Elizabeth Hostetter. Dr. Hostetter is shown seated at the piano in the group photo with one of her senior adult students, Viola Daniel. The topic of her presentation was "Teaching the Adult Student." We were impressed by the enthusiasm! (Mrs. Daniel is now studying a Mendelssohn Song Without Words!) Many good teaching and repertory ideas were shared.

In October, Nancy Wingard presented the program "Music Reflected in Art" to NEAMTA and to several local art enthusiasts. We felt very fortunate to have this Birmingham Museum of Art slide presentation and lecture. In addition to being one of our state's outstanding piano teachers, Nancy is very knowledgeable of musical symbolism in art. Throughout her program, she played keyboard music from the historical periods in painting and gave us many useful ideas for enhanced teaching.

In January, NEAMTA members were fortunate to be able to participate in Jacksonville State University's "Foothills Piano Festival." Our guest clinician for this event was Dr. Mark Laughlin. Dr. Laughlin, a former student of Dr. Gail Steward, serves as Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy at Coker College in Hartsville, South Carolina. Dr. Laughlin presented a workshop on using improvisation in the studio with beginning piano students. Dr. Laughlin's research and teaching strategies have been widely successful throughout the United States. He has presented workshops at numerous conferences.

In March, students of NEAMTA teachers will participate in a master class with Amanda Penick from the University of Alabama School of Music. This lady needs no introduction! The master class will be held on March 31st at 2:00 p.m. in the Glenn Maze Music Building on the campus of Snead State Community College.

District III- Montgomery News

Montgomery Music Teacher's Forum is continually improving and staying busy. Several new members have joined the forum, bringing our member number up to 33! Several of these teachers are NCTM. In fact, one of our presentations in 2006 was our very own Donna Wilson talking about how she recently became certified. Our largest annual event is quickly approaching, Boykin Festival. This event usually brings in 300-350 students every year! Boykin Festival is always held in early spring at Huntingdon College. Another annual event is McGowin Recital held in the fall. Every teacher in the forum is able to include two students in the recital. This is held in memory of the Montgomery teacher, Mark McGowin. Both events provide scholarships for each level. MMTF has also provided scholarships to Huntingdon College's summer piano camps. In June, there is a Jr. Piano camp 8-12 yr old and Sr. Piano camp 13-18 yr. old.

Our 33 Forum teachers include: Leslye Ames, Corine Free, Eunhee Ashley, Thomas Austin, Evaughn Balkcom, Susan Bishop, Judy Brasher, Brenda Carter, Sarah Cheatham, Jacqueline Copeland, Josephine Crenshaw, Mary Edwards, Kathryn Elder, Dorothy Fuller, Betty Gallops, Theresa Gordon, Ruth Graham, Diana Williams, Sally Hester, Stephanie Jones, Charlotte Lee, Sarah Morelock, Anne Nickles, Minnie Scott, Beverly Shaffer, Barbara Shinn, Ronald Shinn, Sybil Starker, Ann Thorington, Patricia Vines, Elaine Wanous, Summer Whatley, and Donna Wilson. New member: Karen Gosselin. We also have 5 honorary retired members: June Dillard, Katylyne Kendal, Sara Ellen McGowin, Janis McCulley, and Kathryn McCullough.

HMTA News

Frances Schwemmer, NCTM President

HMTA began 2007 with a delightful program presented by our own Wendy Bramhall, adjunct faculty member at Oakwood College, and private piano teacher. Her topic was: "**Applied Theory - a Toolbox for Creativity.**" She has a B.M. degree in saxophone performance and a M.M. degree in piano pedagogy. She uses these skills in integrating improvisation with her teaching, along with presenting creative ideas for teaching keyboard theory.

On Saturday, March 3, 10:00 a.m. HMTA and Huntsville's chapter of the AGO will present a hands on workshop for students and teachers titled, "**Pizza, Pipes, and Pedals**" at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Huntsville, 10:00 a.m..

On Sunday, April 15, the **HMTA Honors Recital** will be held featuring a variety of students who performed at the AMTA District piano and AMTA State string auditions. There will be special recognition for our graduating high school seniors, Class of 2007! This program will be at UAH Robert's Recital Hall at 2:00 and at 3:30 p.m.

We welcome any area music teachers to join us!

Sarah Cheatham, Publicity

Shoals Area Piano Teachers Forum News

This past Fall Shoals Area PTF applied for and received a Local Affiliate Grant from State to assist with our **Pipes, Pedals & Pizza** event held on December 2, 2006 at Grace Episcopal Church, Sheffield. Mr. David Jernigan, a fifth year student at East Carolina University and candidate for the Certificate in Advanced Performance Studies in organ, presented the workshop. Mr. Jernigan has won national and international prizes so students, parents and teachers all benefited from his knowledge and expertise. He spoke in general terms about the pipe organ's history of being the instrument of choice, it's "fall from favor," it's more recent revival, and how it is currently manufactured and

(Continued from page 6)

built. He discussed more specifically how it functions, the types of pipes used and how specific pipe lengths produce specific pitches demonstrating this fact by showing a four foot wooden pipe and blowing into it to produce the pitch C one octave above Middle C and stating that a pipe producing Middle C would be double this length at 8ft. and so on. In addition, he brought everyone around the organ in groups to discuss, demonstrate and even let a few students try out the keyboards and pedals. Various posters and pictures of organs were shown and passed around as well.

On January 20, 2007, Amy McLelland, McLelland Piano Studio, Birmingham, presented an informative and enlightening teacher clinic and student master class regarding the Taubman Technic. She titled it **Pianist in Motion** and demonstrated through pictures, video, music examples and student participation how "...body alignment, natural hand position and the coordinate motion of finger, hand and arm..." can allow instrumentalists to become freer, healthier, more expressive musicians helping to prevent and even recover from prohibitive injuries, tension and fatigue not only associated with practicing, but in daily activities. Students and teachers responded positively to this nontraditional yet common sense approach.

Lastly, we are looking forward to our 4th annual **Music Olympics** event on February 24, 2007. This event has proven to be a hit with everyone involved. It is a tremendous undertaking for our small group with 6 different activities open for student participation: performance, keyboard theory, written theory, composers, musical styles and listening; and will conclude with an awards ceremony and honors recital at 2:00 PM. Therefore, I want to commend every student, parent and teacher who will be volunteering their time and energy to help make this year's event more successful than the last, especially coordinators Gail Spires and J.J. Davenport. Early numbers indicate

around 100 to 106 students will be registering to participate, a 20% increase over last year's numbers.

The AMTA District Auditions for our district will be held on March 31, 2007 at First Presbyterian Church, Florence. All registrations should be sent to District Chair, Carol Lynn by March 16, 2007.

Anita Scott

President, SPTF

Wiregrass Music Teachers'

Forum

Wiregrass Music Teachers' Forum has now grown to 21 members and we are happy to welcome our newest members: Tinker Danford, Rhenella Smith, and Anna Tanner. Our 13th annual Sonata/Sonata Festival was held recently and we had 167 students registered to participate. Judges were Dr. Ron Shinn, and our own Mrs. Lauren W. Thompson, who is one of the "alums" of our forum. Sixty students were awarded trophies and invited to participate in recital the following afternoon. We want to give special recognition to Lindsey Gay, a graduating senior, who has been a trophy winner each year for 10 years! Lindsay's teacher is Janet Blair. Members of the Hobson family, Patricia, Mary, Grace Ann and Lilly, (taught by Janet Blair and Jeanne Focht), have participated in every festival for 13 years, as has student Erin Hornsby (daughter of member Lea Hornsby, and student of Janet Blair). These students and their families will be among those recognized at our Honors Recital on May 6. At the Honors' Recital we will also present scholarships to students who will attend summer Piano Camp and those who are entering college as music majors. We are very proud of these students, and appreciate their good work!

Hilda Hagins, President

Birmingham-Southern College
Conservatory of Fine and Performing Arts

226-4960

**Theatre Arts
Camps**

June 11-15
(ages 8-11)

and June 18-29
(ages 12-17)

**Music Alive!
Camp**

July 9-13
(ages 6-13)

BSC

Nominations for Teacher of the Year

The award committee is looking for recommendations for our 2007 Teacher of the Year. Nominations can come from individual AMTA members or from local associations. Our award recipient in 2006 was Barbara Shinn. This annual award is given to an AMTA member whose successful teaching, leadership, and exemplary service to AMTA deserve to be honored. If you wish to submit a nomination, please contact me for the guidelines.

Nancy Vinson, NCTM
Immediate Past President

Deadline for the next SoundBoard is June 3rd. Please send your information in a Word document, or pictures in jpeg format to jtingle@bsc.edu. Thanks. Jodean Tingle, SoundBoard Editor

“Thanks for having gone above and beyond the call of duty. I highly value your history of customer service and wanted to make sure you know how awesome we music teachers think you are!”

—Alicia Lewis, *Piano Teacher*
Detroit, MI

A black and white photograph of a hand playing piano keys. The hand is in the foreground, with fingers positioned over the keys. The keys are illuminated, creating a strong contrast with the dark background. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the individual keys.

FREE SHIPPING!

Place your order online
and the shipping is free!
PianoAtPepper.com

Experience the extensive repertoire of services thousands of pianists already enjoy...by making PianoAtPepper.com “the music store in your home.”

Piano at Pepper
A small, stylized icon of a grand piano, positioned between the words "Piano" and "at".
A Service of J.W. Pepper®

America's Sheet Music Supplier since 1876. Call 1-800-345-6296 • PianoAtPepper.com

**PIANO TEXAS INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY & FESTIVAL**

As one of the most prestigious and revered piano festivals in the world, PianoTexas International Academy & Festival, formerly known as the TCU/Cliburn Piano Institute, has established itself as an international classical music event of considerable magnitude and influence. With a diversity of offerings, it creates a wealth of opportunities for aspiring young concert artists, dedicated teachers, and enthusiastic non-professional adult pianists.

The innovative and imaginative programming of the Teachers Program attracts piano teachers of all levels with different missions. The richness of its content is designed to enliven and infuse the love of teaching with multifarious presentations covering popular and illuminative topics, all meant to challenge and inspire. Teaching-demonstration sessions consist of promoting ideas and discussions among teachers concerning the practical aspects of teaching young students, which often results in the exploration of the most intriguing and fascinating areas in the art of teaching.

The year 2007 marks an unprecedented event of its kind in the world where teachers are offered the possibility of performing concertos with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra – an extraordinary opportunity not to be missed. This opportunity invigorates those who still desire to be active in maintaining their skills and performing. For this specific group of teachers their schedule will be focused on master classes, private lessons, recitals, and of course the appearance with an orchestra as the highlight of their participation.

PianoTexas prides itself in inviting various internationally renowned artists/teachers as a testimony of the high standard of the Teachers Program. Among this year's guest artists are Yoheved Kaplinsky, Paul Badura-Skoda, Nelita True and Phillipe Bianconi. The 2007 PianoTexas International Academy & Festival promises an exceptional and unforgettable experience for all who attend.

For further information please visit the PianoTexas website at:
www.pianotexas.org or call
817.257.7456

SNEAD STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*Home of the
Gerhart Chamber Music Series*



Hosted by the Department of Music

June 7-10, 2007

For more information,
call (256) 840-4145



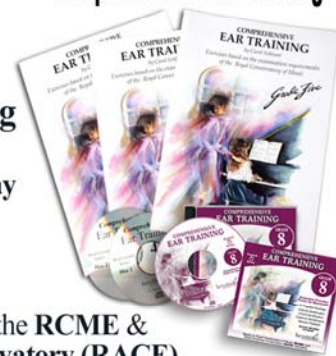
RACE Students.....it's not MAGIC



Practice tools that get results!

Comprehensive Ear Training

**Ear Training
in less than
3 minutes a day**



Based on standards of the RCME &
Royal American Conservatory (RACE)

More than 100 Ear Training tips at www.keystrokepublishing.com

**At J.W. Pepper (online) & A.B. Stevens Music (Huntsville)
or call us at 1-866-KEY2EAR**

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

CHARLES G. SNEAD, DIRECTOR

DEGREES OFFERED

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

PERFORMANCE
(in organ, piano, and all orchestral instruments)
JAZZ STUDIES
COMPOSITION
THEORY
MUSIC THERAPY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

MUSIC EDUCATION
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
VOCAL/CHORAL MUSIC

BACHELOR OF ARTS

GENERAL MUSIC
MUSIC ADMINISTRATION

MASTER OF ARTS

MUSIC EDUCATION

MASTER OF MUSIC

PERFORMANCE
(in organ, piano, and all orchestral instruments)
WIND CONDUCTING
CHORAL CONDUCTING
CHURCH MUSIC
COMPOSITION
THEORY
ARRANGING
MUSIC HISTORY

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

COMPOSITION
PERFORMANCE
(in organ, piano, all orchestral instruments,
wind conducting, and choral conducting)

Festivals and Outreach Events

2006-2007

Edward White Vocal Competition October 29	Alabama Honor Band Festival February 1-4	Alabama State Band Festival March 12-14
University of Alabama Honor Choir October 30	Alabama All-State Orchestra February 8-11	Crimson Music Camp (Jazz) June 7-10
Alabama Music Educator's Association Conference January 18-20	Jazz Cavaliers Reunion March 2-3	Crimson Music Camp (Band, Choir, Opera, Organ, and Piano) June 10-16
The University of Alabama Church Music Conference January 26-27	Mid-South Flute Festival March 23-24	Conducting Symposium June 21-23

School of Music Auditions

Saturday, February 10, 2007
Monday, February 19, 2007
Saturday, March 3, 2007

www.music.ua.edu

Box 870366 Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0366 205.348.7110

From Your Vice-President

Kevin T. Chance

Plans for the 2007 AMTA Conference at Samford University are nearing completion! Look for your brochures in April with details about lodging and registration. However, I am pleased to give you a snapshot of the exciting presentations and recitals that will take place during the conference.

Our conference will open Thursday morning with a recital featuring our collegiate MTNA winners as well as performances by several Samford faculty members in Samford's new Jane Hollock Brock Recital Hall. Following the recital, Jean Barr, Professor of Accompanying and Chamber Music at the Eastman School of Music, will present the lecture "Preparing Your Student to be an Ensemble Pianist," which will be followed by a masterclass featuring our pre-college chamber music winners. Additionally, guest clinician Shearon Horton will present her first lecture for the conference, "Practicing with Style." This lecture will serve as the springboard for an afternoon filled with interaction by our own members. Lauren Walworth, the AMTA Local Associations Chair, is organizing a number of break-out sessions. These break-out sessions will be lead by AMTA members from throughout the state, and each group will brainstorm about encouraging effective practicing and related topics. Following the small group discussions, Lauren will facilitate a panel discussion with the group leaders so that the ideas generated in the small groups can be shared with everyone attending the conference. Thursday evening will conclude with a recital presented by selected AMTA members. Ed Robertson from the University of Montevallo will have his commissioned work presented, and Wendy Faughn from the Jacksonville State University will perform. The second half of the recital will be devoted to a farewell performance by Roy Wylie. After many years of serving MTNA, AMTA, and Auburn University, Roy is retiring to Houston, TX, and he will be deeply missed. Don't miss this opportunity to hear his beautiful artistry!

On Friday, we will hear two member presentations. Barbara Laurendine, an AMTA favorite, will present "Personality - getting beyond correct notes and correct rhythm," and Don Bowyer, our technology guru, will present a topic related to technology in the studio. We also have two wonderful presentations from our guest clinicians. Shearon Horton will be presenting "A Sequence of Romantic Teaching Repertoire," and Scott McBride Smith will present a pre-college masterclass. Friday evening will feature the glorious pianism of Anne Koscielny. Koscielny has taught at the Hartt School of Music, the University of Maryland, and most recently, the Eastman School of Music. She is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, where she was a student of the famed Cecile Genhardt. Her awards and accolades are too numerous to list, and we look forward to welcoming her to Alabama!

Saturday will feature a final presentation, "Gems from the Piano Teacher's Vault: Forgotten Pieces Overdue for Rediscovery," by Scott McBride Smith. Also, on both Friday and Saturday, we will hear many fine performances by the talented pre-college AMTA state winners, and Saturday will also feature our collegiate piano winners in a masterclass with Anne Koscielny.

Please spread the word! Invite your friends! Help us fill the halls of Samford University's new building, and help us make the 2007 AMTA Conference a rousing success!

AMTA Collegiate Auditions Pre-College Non-Strings, Non-Piano Auditions

DATE: **April 20-21, 2007** (April 20 is for pianists only)

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: **March 23, 2007**

REGISTRATION FEE: **\$20, payable to AMTA**

PLACE: **Samford University, Jane Hollock Brock Hall**

CATEGORIES:

Collegiate – All instruments, voice, and piano

Pre-College – Voice, and all instruments except strings

REGISTRATION FORM: **ALMTA.org**

CONTACT: **Moya Nordlund mlordlu@samford.edu 205-726-2651**



THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

Department of Music Presents

Dr. Yakov Kasman

Piano Studio Recital

Program includes Concertos by Chopin, Shumann, Rachmaninov
as well as other works by composers of classical and romantic era.

March 29, 2007 - 7:00 p. m.

Hulsey Recital Hall
950 13th Street South, Room 108
Birmingham AL 35294

Free Admission



Dr. Jeff W. Reynolds, Chairman
231 Hulsey Center
950 13th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35294-1250
reynolds@uab.edu • www.music.uab.edu

AMTA State String Audition Information

Frances Schwemmer, auditions chair

Place: First Baptist Church, Huntsville, AL

600 Governors Drive, Hsv. 35801

Enter on the EAST side of the church – look for signs.

Bring your music – no Xeroxed copies allowed!

Audition Date: April 14, 2007 – DEADLINE: March 17, 2007

Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry Make check payable to: Christiana Gachupin

Registration Procedure: Go to www.almta.org Click on: **Auditions**

Read the **Teacher Information Letter 2007** Click on **Student Registration Packet 2007**

FYI – SAOT = String Audition Organization Team; On Page 4 of the String Student Registration Packet 2007 there is a map of the audition Site – First Baptist Church, Huntsville.

Click on: **Audition Schedules** – please read; Click on: **Audition Forms**

Click on: **Teacher Application Form 2007** – you need 2; Click on: **Student Solo Audition Form 2007** – you need 1 copy per student; Click on: **Student Concerto Audition Form 2007** – you need 1 copy per student.

Click on: **Theory Evaluation Sheets – Piano & Strings**

You may print a whole set or print these individually by age. Age is determined by the student's age on Sept. 1, 2006. Staple a correct theory sheet to each student's form.

The string registration packet is to be mailed to

Christiana Gachupin

308 Honor Way

Madison, AL 35758

Questions: Frances Schwemmer, eddosch@aol.com

CERTIFICATION IS GOOD FOR YOU

The beginning of a new year is always a time to renew our efforts to do things that are beneficial. Certification is certainly good for the individual member and for MTNA.

The preparation, whether for the examination or the portfolio, will help you to review teaching materials, methods, goals, objectives, and general musical knowledge. If a recital is required you will improve your own technique, which is related to your work as a teacher. Having NCTM after your name will improve your self esteem, especially if you, like me, have put this off for a long time. Finally putting out the effort to reach this goal really made me feel terrific.

If you have an academic degree or serve on a music faculty, being certified by MTNA supports our organization and its efforts to improve music education at all levels. As more of our members become certified, we embody, more and more, our standards as music professionals.

We will be offering certification examinations at the convention on Saturday, June 2, at 8:00 a.m. Please contact me if you are interested. If you wish to prepare a portfolio for certification, I would be happy to discuss that, too.

Kathy Burdette, NCTM, State Certification Chairman

Tanya Gille and Ensemble Perform at MTNA and UA

Tanya Gille, Prof. of Piano at The University of Alabama, and her chamber ensemble will perform at the MTNA conference in Toronto on March 27 and at UA on March 19 at 7:30 pm in a free program open to the public. Other members of the ensemble include pianist Vergie Amendola (University of Northern Colorado) and percussionists Amy Lynn Barber (DePauw University) and Christopher Martin (Indiana University.) Their MTNA program is entitled: "Beyond Bartok: Exploring Other Works for Two Pianos and Percussion." The group has presented many concerts in the U.S. and Europe featuring the music of George Crumb and other contemporary composers. They will also play for a new music series at DePauw University this season with works by Lutoslawski/Ptaszynska, David Crumb, and Kim Helweg.

CAMP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SUMMER

Many of us are looking for the "right" place to send our students for further study during the summer. Here is a listing of several opportunities that have been sent to the editor. For more information, a contact number or website is given.

June 10-16, 2007

Huntingdon College Summer Camp

(Piano/Organ) Montgomery
rshinn@huntingdon.edu
or 334-833-4477

Piano Discoveries Camp

University of Mississippi
www.outreach.oldmiss.edu/youth/
piano

June 11-15, and June 18-29, 2007

Theatre Arts Camp

Birmingham-Southern College
(1st camp, age 8-11, 2nd camp age 12-17, musical theater)
205-226-4960

June 18-22 and July 9-13, 2007

Adventures in Music

Samford University Prep Department
(grades 1-12, Piano/Voice)
205-726-4049

June 22-29, 2007

Young Musicians Camp

University of Montevallo
(Age 13-18, Choral/Band/ Piano)
205-665-6675 or
packwoodgd@montevallo.edu

July 9-13, 2007

Music Alive!

Birmingham-Southern College
(age 6-13, piano, violin, handbells)
205-226-4960

Most of the summer, 2007

Piano Texas International

Academy and Festival

Wwww.pianotexas.org or
call 817-257-7456

2007 is Here!!! Another Year, Another Dollar...

By now, I'm sure that each of us has made (and, possibly broken) New Year's resolutions for 2007. I hope that making a generous contribution to MTNA Foundation was at the top of everyone's list. It is, of course, NEVER too late to make this a top priority on your "to do" list.

Money can be a very touchy subject to discuss with most people. However, it is a VERY major part of our lives and has to be confronted on a daily basis. Most of us can be placed in one of three categories to describe our spending habits: **Spender, Selector, or Saver**. The **Spender** spends money easily on almost anything. Money for this person is here to be enjoyed and used. It is a means to enjoy life and its many pleasurable offerings. The **Selector** enjoys spending money, but is much more discerning than the Spender when parting with it. A Selector shops for the best price and value before justifying expenditures. The **Saver** HATES to spend money. This person holds onto money with an iron fist. Money for this person should be saved for a rainy day and spent, only, for necessities. It is a necessary evil in life for survival, but MUST be used practically.

Everyone falls into one of the categories, either Spender, Selector, or Saver. While reading these descriptions, each of us should find his or her own spending habits. Although this may seem like an odd way to approach asking for MTNA Foundation contributions; it really is not. Our foundation is one of the best ways possible for us, as professional musicians, to spend money. Through the programs offered and supported from contributions, money can be dispersed much more efficiently to further our cause than any way we could do it individually. Scholarships, grants for teachers further education, local association grants, and travel expenses for students going to out of town auditions are only a few of the ways our money is used through the foundation.

Last year Alabama contributed \$1611.00. This total represents only twenty four (24) of our membership. To them I would like to send heartfelt thanks:

Ginger Beazley	Jeanne O'Connell	Alice Eaton	Connie Teague
Manley Blackwell	Brent Reeves	Carol Evers	Kathy Thompson
Kathryn Burdette	Elizabeth Rutland	Gail Giambrone	Jodean Tingle
Lara Crapps	Frances Schwemmer	Lin-Ya Hsu	Nancy Vinson
Josephine Crenshaw	Mary Jane Scuggs	Marian Johnson	Vincentine Williams
Ruth Dunbar	Barbara Shinn	Amy McLelland	Anonymous

Thank you, again, to all of you for your generosity!!! Also, thanks to those of you who participated in our raffle at state conference last summer. That money was sent to national to represent AMTA. All of you are, obviously, Selectors in your spending style. Thank you so much for selecting wisely when using your money!

This year, I would ask that EVERY member of AMTA make a decision to be a Selector. Spending money frivolously is surely no way to handle finances. By the same token, hoarding it away and not using it wisely is not the best way to handle money. As the old adage says, "Money makes the world go around."

We are the foundation of MTNA Foundation. AMTA has at least 300 members. It is each member's responsibility to share in the support of our foundation. We, as members keep the foundation strong. If your name is NOT on the list above; it your responsibly to see that it gets there in our next Soundboard! If only half of our membership contributed, we would very easily go over \$2,000.00 for 2007. Supporting our foundation is a vital necessity to keep it functioning properly. I ask every member to make a commitment to send a contribution this year to our foundation. Giving is very simple. You may send a check to

MTNA Foundation
 The Carew Tower
 441 Vine Street, Suite 505
 Cincinnati, OH 45202-2814

Donations are accepted year round. It is even easier to include your contribution with your dues when you receive a statement this spring. Just, be sure to note on your check that the amount is designated for the foundation. (Very prudent, indeed! One less check to write and one less stamp to buy!) Or, for the electronically savvy, donations can be made on line.

However you decide to handle your money, please make MTNA Foundation a top priority on your expenditure list! Select wisely and use your money wisely. Become a Selector and use your money in the best way possible to keep our foundation strong! Be SURE that your name is on the list of contributors for 2007!

And, remember... "Money makes MTNA Foundation go around!"

Connie Teague MTNA Foundation, Chair

**AMTA District VIII
 (Huntsville) News**

Frances Schwemmer, NCTM district chair

AMTA district piano audition will be April 14 at the First Baptist Church, Huntsville, The deadline for receiving the forms is March 17. I had 2 meetings about the AMTA Auditions in January for about 10 teachers. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me. Emails are the preferred way of communicating if possible.

Go to: hsvmta.org Click on: **Auditions**, then Click on **Piano Auditions**, then **District Piano Audition Information Letter**. Please print a hard copy for your files.

Go to: almta.org Click on **Calendar** if you need to check dates, chairs, locations of the auditions. Click on **Auditions** then **Audition Schedules** then **Audition Forms**. You will need 2 copies of the **Teacher Application Form 2007**. Next click on **Student Solo Audition Form 2007** – you will need 1 completed copy of this sheet for each entrant. **Staple a Theory Sheet to this Audition Form**. The Theory Evaluation Sheets are found under **Piano & Strings**. You may print these individually by age or print a whole set. These forms may be

filled out on the computer and printed. They are not saved after you leave the page.

The entry fee is \$20.00 per entrant. **Include a SASE** – self addressed stamped business size envelope in your packet along with the forms and **ONE check** for the entry fee made payable to

me, Frances Schwemmer, not AMTA. Please no Xeroxed music – students may not audition without his/her music – original copies – use the 2007 forms. Forms may be dropped off at my house on March 16 and 17 – a box on the front porch. Forms may be picked up on April 15 – 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Forms not picked up will be mailed.

Northeast Alabama Music Teachers



Take it to the next stage: the music program at Birmingham-Southern College.



BACHELOR OF MUSIC

church music
composition*
guitar
organ*
piano*
voice*
wind, string, brass, and percussion instruments*
music history

BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

MASTER OF MUSIC

composition
organ
piano
voice

Birmingham-Southern College is pleased to announce it has received a \$75,000 grant to establish the Elebash Electroacoustic Music Studio, opening spring 2008.

It starts at Birmingham-Southern. Where it ends, only you can know.

*Scholarships available

Birmingham-Southern College
900 Arkadelphia Road
Birmingham, AL 35254

www.bsc.edu/futurestudents
1-800-523-5793 ext. 4696

BSC
Birmingham-Southern College

2007 AMTA DISTRICT AUDITIONS CHAIRMEN AND DATES

- I **Mobile** **Connie Sullivan** **Elizabeth Petro** **Vincentine Williams**
 5766 Duchess Court 253 West Street 14 Cannonade Drive
 Mobile, AL 36609 Mobile, AL 36604 Spanish Fort, AL 36527
 251-344-4289 251-478-6021 251-626-2712
 District Date: March 31, 2007 Deadline: March 9, 2007, 10 pm
- II **Enterprise** **Carol Windham**
 P.O. Box 157
 New Brockton, AL 36351
 334-894-2141 Windham4@alaweb.com
 District Date: March 31, 2007 Deadline: TBA
- III **Auburn** **Sharon Odom**
 425 Blake Street
 Auburn, AL 36830
 334-821-5417 samodom@mindspring.com
 District Date: April 14, 2007 at Auburn 1st Baptist Church Deadline: TBA
- Montgomery** **Barbara Shinn**
 2609 Fairmont Road
 Montgomery, AL 36111
 334-281-5337 bshinn@huntingdon.edu
 District Date: April 14, 2007 Deadline: RECEIVED by March 23, 2007
- IV **Tuscaloosa** Inactive
- V **Boaz** **Marche Altom**
 3249 Lakeland Drive
 Guntersville, AL 35976
 256-582-3365 mmaltom@yahoo.com
 District Date: April 7, 2007 Deadline: POSTMARKED by March 24, 2007
- VI **Florence** **Carol Lynn**
 335 County Rd 12
 Florence, AL 35633
 256-766-6393 clynn356@bellsouth.net
 District Date: March 31, 2007 Deadline: March 16, 2007
- VII **Birmingham** **Alice Butler**
 606 1st Street SE
 Cullman, AL 35055
 205-585-3554 alicebutler@pianopathways.com (checks payable to Juliann Haley)
 District Date: April 14, 2007 Deadline: March 16, 2007
- VIII **Huntsville** **Frances Schwemmer (State Strings Audition, also)**
 126 Robin Lane
 Huntsville, AL 35802
 256-881-6879 eddosch@aol.com
 District Date: April 14, 2007 Deadline: March 17, 2007

AMTA STATE PIANO AUDITION: MAY 11-12, 2007

UNIVERSITY OF MONTEVALLO

Debbie Gray 1417 Secretariat Drive Helena, AL 35080 205-243-7936 lilygray@bellsouth.net

Deadline: 1 week after District Auditions

Final Deadline: Solo, (received by) April 23, 2007

Concerto, (received by) April 18, 2007

AMTA Board

State President

Kathryn Fouse, NCTM
3168 Bradford Place
Birmingham, AL 35242
205-726-2489
klfouse@samford.edu

Secretary

Melodie King
2116 Montreat Ln. #A
Birmingham, AL 35216
205-823-9453
mmking@samford.edu

Collegiate Chapters/ College Faculty Forum

Melinda Brooks, NCTM
2701 Wyeth Dr.
Guntersville, AL 35976
256-582-7655
mbrooks@snead.edu

Local Associations Chair

Lauren Walworth
208 Patton Chapel Way
Birmingham, AL 35226
334-618-1620
lwalworth@ou.edu

State Foundation

Constance H. Teague
15120 Teague Ln. #A
Foley, AL 36535-3065
251-979-7130
ctnotes@gulftel.com

Immediate Past President

Nancy Vinson, NCTM
720 Highland Rd.
Auburn, AL 36830
334-821-2038
vinson23@charter.net

Web Contact/Educational Technology

Don Bowyer
224 Spring Valley Ct.
Huntsville, AL 35802

256-658-2537
256-824-6411 (FAX)
bowyerd@email.uah.edu

State Certification

Kathryn Burdette, NCTM
2312 Derby Drive
Birmingham, AL 35216
205-979-6862
oubruce@bellsouth.net

MNTA Competitions Chair (Young Artist, Senior, Junior, and Chamber Music)

Laura Doss
1800 8th Ave. N
Birmingham, AL 35203
205-252-9241
ldoss@asfa.k12.al.us

Awareness and Advocacy

Kathryn Fouse, NCTM
3168 Bradford Place
Birmingham, AL 35242
205-726-2489
klfouse@samford.edu

1st Vice-President (President Elect)

Kevin Chance
2623B Lane Park Road
Mountain Brook, AL 35223
205-870-9156 h
205-252-9241 w
kchance@asfa.k12.al.us

2nd Vice-President (Membership)

Alice Buchanan Butler
606 1st St. SE
Cullman, AL 35055-3708
205-585-3554
alicebutler@pianopathways.com

Treasurer

Susan Berg, NCTM
3205 Monte D'Este Way
Birmingham, AL 35216
205-978-9055
kenandsusanberg@charter.net

Independent Music Teachers Forum

Frances Schwemmer, NCTM
126 Robin Ln. SE
Huntsville, AL 35802-1002
256-881-6879
eddosch@aol.com

Composition Competition/ Commissioning

Charles Mason
900 Arkadelphia Rd.
Box 549033
Birmingham, AL 35254
205-226-4950
cmason@bsc.edu

Newsletter Editor

Jodean Tingle
1411 Mitchell Rd. NW
Cullman, AL 35055
205-226-4991
jtingle@bsc.edu

MTNA/AMTA Judges Coordi- nator

Theresa Gordon, NCTM
3970 Croydon Dr.
Montgomery, AL 36109
334-279-8073
hailcaledonia@yahoo.com

Awards Chair

Brett Dollar
6490 Cambridge Rd.
Pinson, AL 35126
205-680-3020
santalane@hotmail.com

Clinician

Barbara Shinn, NCTM
2609 Fairmont Rd.
Montgomery, AL 36111
334-281-5337 (home)
334-833-4506 (work)
bshinn@huntingdon.edu

Public Relations

Susan Bishop
751 County Road 9
Louisville, AL 36048
334-266-5540
pecans@mindspring.com

State Auditions Coordinator

Debbie Gray, NCTM
1417 Secretariat Dr.
Helena, AL 35080
205-664-3179
lilygray@bellsouth.net

Historian

Sarah Cheatham
744 Marquette Dr.
Montgomery, AL 36109
334-462-1741
scheatham@huntingdon.edu

Grant Writer

Pam Penick, NCTM
13471 Country Club Dr.
Northport, AL 35475
205-333-7661
director@tuscart.org

AMTA Collegiate/Non-Piano, Non-Strings Auditions Coordi- nator

Moya Nordlund
5228 Meadow Garden Ln.
Birmingham, AL 35242
205-980-8170
mlnordlu@samford.edu

Advertising Chair

Connie Macon, NCTM
341 Red Maple Dr.
Columbiana, AL 35051-3753
205-726-2810
chmacon@samford.edu

