

SOUNDBOARD



Alabama Music Teachers Association, affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association

From the President



Wendy Faughn, NCTM

AMTA President

Attending the MTNA Summit Meeting in Cincinnati recently was a most enjoyable and enriching experience. First, I was lucky to share a van ride to the destination hotel, the Netherland Hilton, with five jovial MTNA leaders from the South. Florida's Marc Hebda, Georgia's Martha Thomas and Dawn Harmon McCord, Louisiana's Judy McGehee and Arkansas' Lisa Miller were lively and ready to talk, and this was an appropriate introduction to the environment I would find at the Summit.

On Friday evening our session "Inter Connections," a welcome event, allowed us to meet and prepare for the events of the weekend. Saturday morning opened with a session by MTNA's Executive Director Gary Ingle, a native of Navoo, AL, who discussed the origins and importance of associations. He reminded us that associations are people coming together to solve problems and accomplish goals. The persons in an association are not only members but are the customers and the work force. The job of the association is to improve the old or create the new. I loved how Dr. Ingle shared that only a little over one hundred years ago, in the late 1800's, shoes for the left and right feet were identical. Finally the day came when someone thought of the idea to design shoes to accommodate the unique shapes of the left and right feet. This serves as a wonderful example of how we should examine what we do in order to do it more effectively.

What are some things that we can examine for better effectiveness? We can find ways to make our association more attractive to the generation of teachers emerging from institutions today. This undoubtedly involves using today's means of communication. Secondly, we can explore the benefits MTNA currently offers its members, such as conferences, competitions, certification, foundation grants, educational and publishing opportunities through the American Music Teacher and the MTNA e-journal, and an array of professional support services. The weekend was filled with sessions informing attendants of the advantages of MTNA membership. Explore the opportunities afforded us by perusing the MTNA website, and consider how our association can help you.

A sentiment by Carl Orff to leave you with as you continue through busy days of teaching:

Tell me, I forget.

Show me, I remember.

Involve me, I understand.

Special points of interest:

Grants & Awards

MTNA FOUNDATION FUND Grants help keep America's musical future alive for future generations by supporting comprehensive programs that nurture the creation, performance, study and teaching of music.

MTNA Professional Certification Program—

improving the level of professionalism within the field of applied music teaching while helping the public at large readily identify and connect with skilled music teachers within the community

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AMTA Board of Directors has given \$100.00 to the Da Capo Fund in memory and in honor of Judy Brasher.



Judy Lane Brasher passed away from an extended illness on Sunday, April 22, 2012. Judy is preceded in death by her father, Ernest Lane of Bynum, AL, and survived by her husband of 50 years, William, "Bill" Brasher; 3 daughters, Kimberly Crowe (Michael) of Somerset, KY, Kelly Brasher of Atlanta, GA, Karen Diehl (Erich) of Helena, AL, and granddaughter Carolyn Diehl and grandson Christopher Diehl. Judy is also survived by her mother Gertrude Lane of Bynum, AL.; sister Hilda Butler (Johnny-Deceased) of Anniston, AL, brother Wilford Lane (Amy) of Anniston, AL, Sister in law Phyllis (Ken), brother in law James "Jimmy" (Linda), as well as many beloved nieces and nephews and many, many friends. She played piano and organ for her church most of her life beginning at age 16, most recently at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, AL. Judy established the Helen Boykin Music Study Club in the early 1980's to support her piano students and taught private piano lessons for over 50 years. A memorial was held in her honor at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, April 25, 2012. Those who wish to make a contribution to her church in lieu of flowers may do so to: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2515 Woodley Rd., Montgomery, AL 36111, (334) 281-2241.

from Donna Shugart, Teacher of the Year 2011



Warm Greeting to AMTA friends who are far away, but certainly not forgotten. How very kind of you to send the lovely card! I hope that this will be a banner year for you and your students.

I remember my first convention in the seventies. We had recently returned to the city after 25 years of playing the "corporation game." My daughters were studying with Henry Barrett, and he asked me to play the accompaniments for Anne. She was the High School Strings Winner.

We rode with childhood friends, Vivian von Hermann and Edna Horn Knox just for the day. We arrived in Tuscaloosa in time to attend a piano master class taught by a tall, dark-haired, very smart lady. Vivian said her name was Nelita True. I decided right then that I wanted to be a part of such an inspiring group.

You are, you know!!

With love,

Donna Shugart

New address:
1636 S. Hiawassee Rd.
Apt 2
Orlando, FL 32835



Metro adds “Birmingham” to its name

Metro Music Forum, the Birmingham area AMTA affiliate, has changed its name to *Birmingham Metro Music Forum*; so we are now “BMMF.”

Numerous events are coming as the fall season begins:

Monthly student recitals began with a full roster on Saturday, Oct. 6, at the new Alabama Piano Gallery.

The fall BMMF meeting will feature Dr. Josh Pifer of Auburn University with his lecture/performance of the music of Alexander Tcherepnin.

The annual New Music Festival is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 27. Students perform music written within the last 50 years and receive a t-shirt commemorating the event.

The annual music theory exams and master class will be at Samford University on January 19. These tests, based on the Keith Snell Piano Theory books, are written and produced by Kathryn Fouse and Moya Nordlund.

Duets and John Cage will round out the 2012-13 season.

ASO Lois Pickard Scholarship Competition



The Alabama Symphony Orchestra's volunteer council announces its annual Lois Pickard Scholarship Competition for Saturday, January 19, 2013 to be held at Birmingham Southern College. The competition is open to all serious young musicians ages 12 - senior high in the areas of piano, strings, woodwinds/brasses/percussion. The required performance piece is any movement from a concerto written for the entrant's instrument. First place winner from each division is awarded \$1000.00 and each second place winner is awarded \$500.00. In addition, a grand prize winner is selected from the first place winners to perform on a concert with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra. More information and application from may be found on the website "Lois Pickard scholarship competition" or by e-mailing rozrust@bellsouth.net.

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UPCOMING PIANO EVENTS

- Dr. Lynn Rice-See Guest Artist Recital
January 15, 7:30 p.m.
- Dr. Noel Engebretson Faculty Recital
February 14, 7:30 p.m.
- Dr. Kevin Chance Faculty Recital
February 26, 7:30 p.m.
- John Bloomfield Residency
February 28-March 2



AUDITION DATES

- Spring 2013 Piano Audition Dates
- Saturday, January 12 (Graduate Students Only)
- Monday, February 18
- Saturday, March 2

Numerous scholarship and assistantship awards available for the 2013-2014 school year. Interested students should audition by March 2 for priority consideration. Contact Kevin Chance at ktchance@music.ua.edu for more information.

COMPETITION

Announcing the First Annual UA Piano Competition — January 24, 2013! No age restrictions with scholarship awards up to \$8,000 with the possibility of a full out-of-state scholarship for qualified winners! Deadline to apply is November 12, 2012. Details can be found at music.ua.edu/piano.

PIANO AREA FACULTY LISTING

- Dr. Kevin T. Chance, Assistant Keyboard Area Coordinator
- Dr. Noel J. Engebretson, Professor of Piano
- Dr. Faythe Freese, Organ, Keyboard Area Coordinator
- Dr. Tanya Gille, Professor of Piano
- Prof. Pamela Gordon, Instructor of Class Piano
- Prof. Amanda Penick, Professor of Piano
- Dr. Pamela Penick, Instructor of Class Piano

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News from Huntsville

The Huntsville Music Teachers Association began the 2011-12 year with two wonderful and insightful programs.

On August 16, 2012, Ellen Hamm, MT-BC, NICU MT, presented an informative and insightful presentation on music therapy, which is being used to achieve significant results with people who have Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, those struggling with substance abuse, and with premature NICU babies. Ms. Hamm shared her experiences, her musical talent, and her insight into a profession that is growing in influence and importance.

On Friday, September 28, Dr. Kevin Chance, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, shared his knowledge and expertise on the topic of teaching reading, stressing the importance of *intervallic reading* and *sound before sight*. Dr. Chance also demonstrated practical methods for helping students comprehend notated rhythms and he distributed a list of resources that he has found particularly valuable in his own teaching.

Two upcoming programs will be presented in October and November. On October 26, Debbie Gray, AMTA Clinician, will present a program designed to help teachers prepare their students for AMTA auditions. Ms. Gray will also provide important information for teachers who would like to judge AMTA auditions. On November 30, Professor Bill DeVan will share ideas on improving the efficacy of students' practice in a program entitled, "What to Do for Practice—the Other Six Days between Lessons."



Please visit HMTA on the web at www.hsvmta.org.

Diana A. Pettit, NCTM
President, Huntsville Music Teachers Association

Our Current Membership Includes:

The Montgomery Music Teachers Forum

Leslye Ames
Annie Ashley
Evaughn Balkcom
Sharla Bender
Susan Bishop
Judy Brasher
Carrie Edwards Carboni
Sarah Cater
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Sarah Cheatham
Eun Yi Shin Chung
Josephine Crenshaw, NCTM
June Dillard
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Dorothy Fuller
Betty Gallops
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Ann Thorington, NCTM
Patricia Vines
Elaine Wanous
Summer Whatley
Cathy Whigham
Donna Wilson, NCTM
Hui-Ting Yang
Sallye York

MMTF sponsors the annual Mark McGowin Recital in the Fall, the Helen Boykin Festival and Honors Recital each spring, the Montgomery District III AMTA Auditions, and the Helen Boykin Scholarships, several annual awards to outstanding music students who have a high level of musical achievement.

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Dr. Yakov Kasman, Professor/Artist-in-Residence

World-renowned pianist and teacher and top prize winner of major international piano competitions; recordings on the French record label *Calliope*; frequent recitals, chamber music, orchestral performances and master-classes around the world; adjudication at state and international piano competitions. Visit www.yakovkasman.com.

UAB Piano in the News

- UAB freshman Edward Forstman earned first place in the piano category at the Birmingham Music Club Scholarship auditions.
- UAB graduate Kseniia Polstiankina accepted full scholarship to the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music to study for her Master's degree.
- UAB alumnus Cahill Smith participated in the Dublin International Piano Competition.
- Yakov and Aleksandra Kasman are invited to be guest artists at SKI/Colorado and International Odysiad & festival: <http://uca.colostate.edu/summer-keyboard-institute-skicolorado/>.

For more information visit www.music.uab.edu



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- Bachelor of Science in Music
- Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre
- Music Minor
- Minor in Worship Leadership

Scholarship Auditions and Interviews

- Nov. 9–10, 2012
- Feb. 1–2, 2013
- Feb. 22–23, 2013

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Assessing music teacher preparation – what do the best music educators look like?

The Professional Literature Project of MENC's Society for Music Teacher Education covers over 50 years of research in our profession, including 73 dissertations. My initial question is what else is left to investigate? But my very next question is whether we can be satisfied with what is already known. The problem with Music Teacher Education is that it is and will always be dynamic; it should be a reflection of the kinds of learners we want for ourselves and our students.

If indeed a 21st century music educator must possess certain qualities and competencies unbeknownst to the most successful of our 19th century forebears, what might these be? The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) evaluates four areas of competencies for teacher preparation programs: process, content, pedagogy, and field based experience. No doubt that the advent of technology necessitated new instructional strategies. But has the content of music and the processes in learning music really changed? Since the 1980's, research has clarified the distinction between musical novices and expert learners and why musical experiences are required for concept formation (Bamberger, 1980). The question remains if today's students learn differently. If there is a biological/physiological basis for the shorter attention spans and their difficulty, in general, in persevering towards long term goals, what could this be?

The teacher education program with which I am associated is highly regarded in the United States and is currently headed up a former National Teacher-of-the-Year. We employ numerous checklists and rubrics to assess every aspect of our program from all angles (teacher candidates, cooperating teachers, university supervisors, and focus groups consisting primarily of school administrators). The result is that we consistently produce competent teachers who will most likely become "experienced non-experts" (Snow & Apfelstadt, 2002) in their respective disciplines. I believe we must inculcate music teacher candidates to acquire the "expert-like mind-set" and the "willingness to experiment and improvise, even risking failure ... to further knowledge and understanding." The experienced non-expert tends to follow prescribed procedures and respond to challenges with predictable actions each and every time (p. 201). After all, that is the intention of all NCLB standards-driven assessment models.

Common traits identified in literature on effective teachers include positive attitudes or optimism, authenticity or personal touch, patience and perseverance, creativity, and sense of humor (Colker, 2008, Ghiora, 2010, Phillips, 2004). Not surprisingly there are many overlaps between teacher and leader qualifications, which include having a vision or being goal-oriented, taking initiative and willingness to take risk or admit mistakes, having high expectations and integrity, and being flexible or pragmatic (Ostrow, 2008). It appears that the rigid nature of requisite teacher competencies (at least the ones that count towards certification) is on a tangent with the qualifications of a teacher-leader, especially in the notion of risk taking.

Back when I was first certified as a music teacher 35 years ago I made my share of mistakes and learned from them. I have tried to help my students to learn vicariously through my mistakes but such a strategy rarely works. Without a contextual framework, anecdotes are mere stories. The light bulb does not go off until a teacher candidate steps into the same pitfalls. Unfortunately, the consequences of a first year teacher failing to meet high expectations are dire – they either quit or are fired, and the institution from which they are trained can be put on probation. This made me re-think and re-evaluate our own current practices in training music educators. I still think reflection is important and effective, but it must be coupled with a video recording of the actual practice. To become aware of the discrepancies that exist between reality as it happens and one's own perception of how a lesson is progressing is an eye-opening experience. Painful as it might be, it is singularly the most effective way of giving feed back to teacher candidates.

What does the exercise of frequent video-recording do? It shows us, in the most honest way, our strengths and weaknesses. Some of the most frequently cited failures of inexperienced music teachers are error detection, pacing, classroom management, and giving clear and succinct instructions. However, after years of observing all kinds of music classrooms, I have come to the conclusion that the cause for all the above failures is not a lack of pedagogy, but a lack of music competencies and lesson preparation. Pedagogy is the product of understanding the learner and the processes of learning; it can be derived inductively by most reflective practitioners. Just like learning any new concept, one must construct it from many varied experiences.

So after a decade of pushing for best practices in the music classroom and emphasizing the latest strategies in teaching, I have made an about turn to push for better musicality in all my music teacher candidates. In addition, we must train these pre-service teachers to think. I must admit that while I was aware of Bloom's taxonomy as a young teacher, I did not see its relationship to music learning. Yet, today I couch all

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Dave Coverly

"I don't understand that 'C' in music. I sing louder than anyone else."

search ID: dcr0022

(cont. from p.10) Bloom's Taxonomy as a young teacher, I did not see its relationships to music learning. Yet, today I couch all discussions in and decisions about music in the Bloom's hierarchy of learning. I have observed that the many successes of our music education graduates are due in large part to the rigorous admission requirements placed upon entering teacher candidates, which automatically eliminated the weakest candidates. Nevertheless, teacher candidates succeed as exemplary music teachers because they are good musicians who are good thinkers, the two requisite elements for becoming expert teachers. Being an experienced non-expert is just not good enough.

Editor's note: This is an article I wrote a year ago in anticipation of preparing for NCATE accreditation. I never sent it off for publication. As I went through my files looking for something other than ads to fill this issue of the Soundboard, I came across this article. Though intended for music teacher educators,

B i r m i n g h a m Metro Music Forum

Birmingham Metro Music Forum, the local affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association and the Alabama Music Teachers Association, strives to dedicate its efforts to promote and enhance musical life and education in the Metro Birmingham area including district auditions, master classes, monthly recitals, the New Music Festival and the annual theory exams in January.

President: Barbara Shinn

Vice-President: Anita Ranelli

Treasurer/Membership: Kathy Burdette

Secretary: Jody Coombs

Recital Coordinator: Tatiana Kasman

<http://www.metromusicforum.com>



MTNA COMPETITION RESULTS, Oct. 20, 2012, AUBURN UNIVERS

This year we had 43 total registrations for the competitions. Special thanks go to Barb Shinn for securing our exceptional judges, Nancy Vinson for providing the unforgettable hospitality, Josh Pifer for his invaluable help throughout the day, and the students of the Auburn University MTNA Chapter for their professionalism in providing us with monitors, registration attendants, runners, and an overall positive environment.

Congratulations to all of our winners and their teachers!

Jeremy Samolesky

<u>CATEGORY</u>		<u>NAME</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
JUNIOR PIANO	Winner	Elisabeth Tsai	Ronald Shinn
	Alternate	Goeun Sim	Martin Camacho-Zavaleta
	Hon. Mention	Jonathan Hu	Vadim Serebrany
SENIOR PIANO	Winner	Aleksandra Kasman	Yakov Kasman
	Alternate	Ana Maria Crasi	Ronald Shinn
	Hon. Mention	Eamon Griffith	Lucerne DeSa
	Hon. Mention	Tianlin Zheng	Alina Voicu
YOUNG ARTIST PIANO	Winner	Edward Forstman	Yakov Kasman
	Alternate	Katherine Vest	Ronald Shinn
	Hon. Mention	Christian McGee	Jeremy Samolesky
PIANO DUET	Representative	Christina Lewis Lauren Williams	Kevin Chance
SENIOR BRASS	Winner	Kwanza Williams	Mark DeGoti
	Alternate	Jacob Reeves	James Roberts
YOUNG ARTIST BRASS	Winner	Daniel Haddock	Mark DeGoti
	Alternate	James Covington	Mark DeGoti
JUNIOR STRINGS	Representative	Goeun Sim	Martin Camacho-Zavaleta
SENIOR STRINGS	Winner	Eric Tsai	Sergiu Schwartz
	Alternate	Sylvia Wehrs	Sergiu Schwartz
JUNIOR WOODWINDS	Representative	Judy Oh	Nancy Vinson
SENIOR WOODWINDS	Winner	Coreisa Lee	Kimberly Scott
	Alternate	Nathan Bullington	Robert Janssen
YOUNG ARTIST WW'S	Representative	Dayee Chung	Diane Boyd-Schultz
SENIOR VOICE	Winner	Ariana Maloney	Ginger Beazley
	Alternate	Katelyn Thompson	Laura Doss
YOUNG ARTIST VOICE	Winner	Lauren Carlton	Paul Houghtaling
	Alternate	John Bland	Matthew Hoch
CHAMBER MUSIC	Representative	The Crawford Trio Devin Langham J. Bradley Baker Andrew Bobbett	Kevin Chance

JUDGES

PIANO	Dr. Evgeny Rivkin (University of Georgia) Dr. Chih-Long Hu (East Tennessee State University) Prof. Yien Wang (Columbus State University)
BRASS	Dr. Leonard Candelaria (Birmingham)
STRINGS	Mr. Peter Povey (Montgomery)
VOICE	Dr. Kristin Kenning (Samford University)
WOODWIND	Dr. Brian Viliunas (Samford University)



Junior Piano: L-R

Dr. Chih-Long Hu, HM Jonathan Hu, Prof. Yien Wang, Winner Elizabeth Tsai, Dr. Evgeny Rivkin.
Missing: Alternate **Goeun Sim**

Senior Piano: L-R

Dr. Chih-Long Hu, Dr. Evgeny Rivkin, Prof. Yien Wang, HM Eamon Griffith, Alternate Ana Maria Crasi, Winner Aleksandra Kasman

Missing: HM **Tianlin Zheng**



Young Artist Piano: L-R

HM **Christian McGee, Winner Edward Fortsman, Alternate Katherine Vest, Prof. Yien Wang, Dr. Evgeny Rivkin, Dr. Chih-Long Hu**



Senior Voice:

Winner **Ariana Maloney**, **Dr. Kristin Kenning**, Alternate **Katelyn Thompson**



Young Artist Voice:

Alternate **John Bland**, **Dr. Kenning**, Winner **Lauren Carlton**



Senior Woodwind:

Winner **Coreisa Lee,**
Dr. Brian Viliunas,
Alternate **Nathan**
Bullington



Young Artist Brass:

Winner **Daniel Haddock,** Dr.
Leonard Candelaria.
(Missing: Alternate **James Cov-**
ington



Senior Brass:

Dr. Candelaria, Winner **Kwanza Williams,** Missing: Alternate **Jacob Reeves**

Your business tag line here.

MTNA Certification Statistics for Alabama as of September 2012

No. of paid members	No. of members certified	Percentage of members certified	National ranking	Newly certified 7/1/12-6/30/13
336	53	15.8	27	0



Baldwin County MTA

1. **Jeanne O'Connell** and **Laurie Gruenloh** are Co-Presidents.

2. Laurie's contact info is:

Laurie Gruenloh
13525 East Blvd.
Silverhill, AL 36576
Phone: (251) 947-3044
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1. Delete Kassy Wooley and her contact info

2. Add Ellen Jones. Her contact info is;

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Wendy Faugh, president of AMTA, at the Summit with MTNA president Gary Ingle