



NewsNotes

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President's Message

Dear SCMTA members,

I love January the First! It is a really new day. It is a time of year filled with renewed hope and possibilities. As I assume the presidency of SCMTA, I would like to express my appreciation for all of you who contribute mightily to the future of our students.

Your participation in this organization is evidence of your dedication to the unknown potential developments of our future creativity. "Alison" may have the potential of a Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Bartok, Stravinsky, or...? This mission is what drives us, day by day. But what about "Bobby"? It seems he has no prayer of achieving the complications of a Bach Invention. For him, we may simply revel in the accomplishment of a well-balanced melody with an accompaniment. Our flexibility in adjusting to these achievement possibilities is OUR greatest act. We understand the variations, we adapt and we bring all we know to the communication and love of our art.

We are in the business of communicating the history of humanity through music. We share with the past certain emotions and experiences because we are human, no matter our historical placement in the timeline of the world. The basic elements of music have stayed constant through the musical periods, but the expression of these elements have changed, reflecting our natural reactions to the circumstances of the time in which we live. Our students will learn to appreciate this lineage of emotional expression through music and carry the importance of self-expression forward.

Enough of this "patting on the back!" Few of us think about this big picture as we prepare for our teaching days. So, a standing ovation for all of you. We are preparing both the performers on stage AND the audience who will "bravo!" for that inspired performance!

Happy New Year,

Melanie Foster Taylor, President

SOUTH CAROLINA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

*This year it's in our own backyard!
Registration still available at REDUCED rates!
See next page and visit mtna.org.*

Music Teachers National Association
2009 National Conference

atlant 

March 28-April 1 • Atlanta, Georgia

South Carolina Southern Division Results

MTNA Young Artist Performance Competition

Brass Winner: Paul Dickinson (*Mark Britt*)

Voice Alternate: Valerie Osborn (*Deanna McBroom*)

MTNA Senior Performance Competition

Brass Alternate: Andrew Smith (*David Hamilton*)

Woodwind Alternate: Linard McCloud (*Cliff Leaman*)

MTNA Junior Performance Competition

Woodwind Alternate: Judith Lin (*Mary Allyn B Purtle*)

String Honorable Mention: Tommy Nakashima

(*Sarah Johnson/Linda Sickles*)

Piano Honorable Mention: Naomi Causby

(*Maria Lomazov/ Joseph Rackers*)

MTNA National Elections - Vote! Vote! Vote!

The February/March edition of *American Music Teacher* magazine holds the ballot for the national election.

Instructions are listed in the AMT magazine, OR you may go online to www.mtna.org and follow the election instructions.

MTNA Conference Early Registration Deadline Extended

MTNA has extended the early registration deadline for the 2009 MTNA National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, March 28-April 1. If you haven't yet made your plans to attend, register on or before March 6 to receive your discount.

This conference promises to be one of our best ever, featuring a performance and master class by pianist Olga Kern, in addition to a recital by pianist Margo Garrett and Grammy Award winning tenor Anthony Dean Griffey. Additional highlights include nearly 100 educational sessions, and master classes and teaching demonstrations by Dennis Alexander, Randall Faber, Martha Hilley and Peter Takács. Also, the finals of the MTNA Student Performance Competitions will take place and Technology, Group Teaching and Recreational Music Making and Collaborative Performance Tracks will be offered.

Another special event will be the MTNA Gala, held at the Georgia Aquarium. During this event the MTNA FOUNDATION Fellows will be recognized.

Make your plans to come early for one of three pre-conference sessions: Pedagogy Saturday, Professional Studio Saturday or Collegiate Expo.

If you've already registered for the conference and want to add Gala tickets, a pre-conference workshop or the MTNA Awards Brunch, just call the MTNA headquarters at (888) 512-5278.

For more information or to register online, visit the Conference website.

Looking Ahead...

Audition Dates

- District I Greenville (Sherry Parrini) - March 28
- District II Spartanburg (Julia Eldred) - March 21
- District III Hilton Head (Frances Hunt) - TBA
- District IV Anderson (Carrie Smetana) - March 21
- District V Columbia (Robert Jones) - April 4
- District VI Aiken (Mary Losey) - April 4
- District VII Charleston (Mimi Garvey Nusbaum) - March 21
- District VIII Myrtle Beach (Donna Sanders) - April 4
- District IX Greenwood (Joyce Nickles) - April 4
- District X Florence (Linda McKenzie) - April 4

SCMTA State Pre-college Auditions

Saturday, April 25, 2009- USC School of Music, Columbia

SCMTA Honors Recital

Sunday, May 24, 2008 - USC School of Music, Columbia, 4:00 p.m.

MTNA State Competitions

November 2009, Converse College

REGISTER YOUR STUDENTS FOR AUDITIONS

on line!

Easy, secure, on-line registration is now available on our web site — scmta.org —. See “DISTRICT AUDITIONS” on the [home](#) page or “2009 INFORMATION” on the [auditions](#) page.

Opportunity for Service at State Auditions

If you are planning to enter students in our State Auditions, please send Helena Meetze names of students who would be interested in monitoring or providing other light duties. Contact Helena at: (803) 776-6500 or hmeetze@bellsouth.net.

Support the MTNA Foundation

NewsNotes is published January, May, and September each year. Articles and items of interest to the membership are encouraged. Submissions are accepted by e-mail ONLY to janice@fiinte.com. *NewNotes* deadlines are January 15, May 15, and August 15.