

SCORE

WINTER 2016

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Letter from the President

From: La Wanda Blakeney

I'm deeply honored to be your new LMTA President. I follow a long line of outstanding State Presidents, and I hope to continue their efforts to increase musical awareness and education in Louisiana.

Our convention may have ended in early October, but LMTA members have remained active. On October 10 the State Chamber Competition was held at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette. Kudos go to first place winners: Patrick Chu and Emily Wu; Joshua Duke, Elise Farris, Isabelle McCall, and Hannah Turner; and Jasmine Johnson, Alliyah Lachney, Claudia Musgrove, Isabela Musgrove, and Keerthana Stanley. For the names of teachers and all students who placed first, second, and third, please see the LMTA website.

Four of our members attended Peter Mack's workshop, which was wonderful, at the Texas Teacher Enrichment Conference in Houston on January 9. Three of us stayed the next day for the MTNA South Central Division Competitions at the University of Houston. Louisiana was well represented, and I'm happy to announce that the Junior Performance Piano Alternate was James Zhu, and the Senior Performance Piano Winner was John Wang. Benjamin Batalla was named Young Artist Performance Piano Alternate, Sungkyung Woo was named Young Artist Performance Strings Alternate, while Matthew Hurtado received Honorable Mention in Young Artist Performance Brass. Congratulations to these young people and their teachers! Go to the website for a complete list of winners and their teachers.

Two of our college students have been named recipients of the LMTA Collegiate Travel Scholarship. For more information, please see Francis Yang's article.

Letter from the President (continued)

Our Commissioned Composer for 2016 is Jim Robken, Band Director and Assistant Professor of Music at Louisiana Tech. In addition to his teaching duties, he stays busy as an adjudicator, arranger, and clinician. Way to go, Jim!

We're Number One! More than 27% of LMTA members are certified—92 out of a total of 331—which gives us the highest ranking in the nation. Let's try to maintain this prestigious honor! If anyone is interested in certification, please contact our new Certification Chair, Michelle Strain.

I hope you're planning to attend the MTNA National Convention in San Antonio, April 2-6. There really is something for everybody—stellar performances, wonderful master classes, as well as a myriad of presentations that cover every aspect of music. Please support our colleagues who are presenting sessions: Saturday, 2:15 p.m., Pamela Pike, "Learning and Making Music Through Adulthood," and Wednesday, 8:00 a.m., Chan Kiat Lim, "Plotting the Drama in Mozart's Keyboard Sonatas." Join us at the Gala on Monday evening and share in the celebration as our Foundation Fellow, Dorothy Sahlmann, is recognized for her achievements. Be sure to attend the Senior Piano MTNA Competition and cheer for John Wang. San Antonio is within driving distance, so make plans now to see this exciting and truly unique city!

And speaking of conventions, it's not too early to begin thinking about the next LMTA Convention, which will be held at Centenary College in Shreveport, October 13-14, 2016. Our convention hosts, Ross Smith (Centenary) and Kathy Norris (GSMETA President for 2016-2017), along with Joy Ratcliff and Gulya Chandler, are diligently working on plans for this event. As soon as some of the details are finalized, they will be put on the LMTA website. For those who are interested in presenting, please carefully read President-Elect Pamela Pike's letter and proposal form, which contains slight changes.

Due to privacy concerns, MTNA no longer supports a directory of LMTA members on our website. This means the convention bulletin is the ONLY place that lists current members and contact information. If you missed the State Convention last fall, you can get a bulletin from your District President. Everyone should check to make sure his/her own contact information is accurate. If changes need to be made, please notify Gulya Chandler (gchandler@bpcc.edu), who can then send the corrected information to national headquarters.

Recipe for an Enjoyable Time at MTNA

I can't wait for April and the MTNA National Conference in San Antonio. There are so many sessions and events that I want to attend - I may have to clone myself! If you are interested in composing, teaching composition, or just like to hear new (original) music, this is the year for you. Here are some highlights that you do not want to miss:

Saturday 7:30 - “*Time for Three*”. If you were thinking about skipping the opening recital, stop right now and check out their website. This performance promises to be energized and innovative and will be a delightful way to begin your time in San Antonio.

Sunday 6:00 – *Seymour: An Introduction* Film Screening. This documentary about composer, pianist, teacher Seymour Bernstein is not to be missed. The plot summary on iTunes Preview says, “Meet Seymour Bernstein: a virtuoso pianist, veteran New Yorker, and true original who gave up a successful concert career to teach music. In this wonderfully warm, witty, and intimate tribute from his friend, Ethan Hawke, Seymour shares unforgettable stories from his remarkable life and eye-opening words of wisdom, as well as insightful reflections on art, creativity, and the search for fulfillment. An engaging exploration on the dedication, perseverance, and fortitude essential to creating both art and a rewarding life, *Seymour: An Introduction* will leave audiences uplifted and inspired.

Wednesday 9:15 – “*Teach Composition? Oh Yes You Can!*” Amy Immerman is presenting what should be a very positive approach to this subject – go check it out.

In addition, the Winners Concerts (Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday at 3:30) will feature performances of the winning student compositions, and Sunday at 11:00 is the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year Recital.

Bon appétit!

Ellene Owens

Student Composition Competitions Chair

Collegiate Scholarships Awarded

Melissa Quek and Garrison Turner were recently named recipients of the LMTA Collegiate Travel Scholarship. A senior at Northwestern State University, Melissa serves as president of the MTNA NSU Collegiate Chapter and is deeply committed to community service. She also teaches at the NSU Music Academy. Garrison Turner, a second year graduate student at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, is the president of the MTNA ULL Collegiate Chapter. Garrison was especially helpful at the 2015 State Convention, where he coordinated all the student volunteers. Scholarship money will enable Melissa and Garrison to attend the MTNA National Convention in San Antonio next month.

Francis Yang

Collegiate Chapters Chair

2016 LMTA Convention

Our next convention will be held on the campus of Centenary College in Shreveport, October 13-14, 2016.

LMTA Convention

Dear Colleagues,

As winter descends upon us in the deep south, your LMTA executive committee and members of the Greater Shreveport Music Teachers Association are looking ahead to autumn and busily preparing for the 2016 LMTA State Convention. This year, the convention will take place in Shreveport on the beautiful campus of Centenary College, October 13 & 14. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend as the workshop and performance line-up will be top-notch! If you are an LMTA Convention “regular,” I encourage you to reach out to a member who may not have attended in a while and encourage them to start making arrangements to join us. Regardless of how long we’ve been teaching, most of us come away with a few new ideas to try in our studios!

We are hard at work securing two nationally renowned piano pedagogues for keynote sessions/workshops throughout Thursday and Friday and an outstanding chamber group to perform for the Thursday recital. However, we know that we are blessed with much musical expertise, knowledge and talent within our LMTA ranks. So, I encourage those of you who have pedagogical presentations, workshops, and panels ready to share with conference attendees, to submit a proposal for the 2016 convention. Please see the call for proposals and be sure to email your complete submission by the April 15th deadline (another reason to get your taxes in early)!

We will share details about our keynote presenters, showcases, performers, conference presenters and sessions in early summer. We hope to see each of you in Shreveport this October!

Pamela Pike
President-Elect

Call for Proposals for 2016 LMTA Convention

We are currently accepting submissions for conference presentations on a wide variety of pedagogical and performance topics for the 2016 LMTA Annual State Convention in Shreveport, LA (October 13 & 14, 2016). When considering topics for session proposals, please keep in mind that the majority of convention attendees are teachers (primarily of piano & strings) or college students with a keen interest in pedagogy.

Sessions chosen for the convention program will be selected based on relevance of topic, other sessions being presented during the conference, space on the program, and completeness of the submission form. Submitters will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance by May 1. All decisions are final. Failure to return signed contracts by the deadline (July 2016) or to register for convention (by Sept. 15, 2016) will result in removal from the convention program. Unfortunately,

LMTA cannot reimburse presenters for any expenses associated with the presentation. Presentations that are commercial in nature should not be submitted with this call for proposals.

Please note: presenters do not need to be members of LMTA but **will** need to register for the conference (either just for the day of the presentation or for the full conference) in order to present a session.

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Please complete the form below and email to Dr. Pamela Pike pdpike@lsu.edu Email subject should read: "2016 LMTA Proposal". Submissions are due by midnight on April 15, 2016.

Full Name of all presenters:

Mailing Address of presenter (if there is a panel or multiple presenters, one presenter should be chosen to receive all correspondence regarding the convention):

Email address of presenter:

Phone Number (include area code):

Session Title:

Type of Session: _____ Workshop _____ Demo (speaking & playing) _____ Panel _____ Other

Abstract or synopsis of session: (250-word maximum)

35-Word session description: (for inclusion in conference program)

35-Word Biography of Presenter: (for inclusion in conference program)

Check all technology & equipment that you will need for the session:

_____ Piano

_____ Music Stand (please indicate if more than 1 is requested)

_____ Data Projector & Screen (for PowerPoint or Keynote displays)

Please note: If you plan on using PowerPoint, you must supply your own computer (and adapter for Macs)