

To: Board of Directors, FSMTA

From: Norma Mastrogiacomo, Chairman

Re: Byrd Piano Ensemble and Gray Perry Competitions

Date: January 30th, 2008

I would like to remind our members of two special competitions in May of this year. Please tell your local association and college members that I am looking forward to having another excellent group of talented students participate as they did last year. Below is a reminder of the description and repertoire for both. **Happy New Year to everyone!!!**

The annual Byrd Piano Ensemble and Gray Perry competitions will be held on Friday, and Saturday, May 9th and 10th, as part of the FSMTA Competitive Events. They will be held at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Teachers wishing to submit students for either competition may now access the application blanks on line at the FSMTA web site, or you can request them from me. Deadline for applications is March 29th, 2008.

The Byrd Piano Ensemble Award has two categories: Pre college (students who have not completed high school at the time the application is submitted) and College. Students present a short program of choice, either duo piano, duets, or mixed.

Pre college: 5-15 min. **College:** 8-20 minutes Students should present piano ensemble compositions of generally recognized musical standards. Memorization is not required.

Chairman can send list of representative repertoire.

Gray Perry Young Collegiate Piano Award is for college students. Any piano student of a FSMTA member who is at a private or public college or university in Florida is eligible for this competition. Students should perform two or three memorized pieces from contrasting style periods, total length of 15-20 minutes. This is an excellent chance for the younger students to gain experience in competition performance.