

Music Teacher's Association of California

San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

November/December 2009

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President's Pen

Pat McNutt

If you are reading this newsletter, then you have successfully navigated to our website - - except those of you who receive the newsletter via postal service! Please browse through the site. Click on the Event Calendar at the top so you can be well informed of our current Branch activities.

Your Branch Board of Directors meets monthly and communicates in between those meetings on a variety of subjects. They're not only a great group to work with, but also help to provide opportunities and resources for our membership. Here are some highlights of some ongoing projects:

The November 8th General Meeting is a time to hear members play and also a good occasion to socialize and get to know each other better. Please come, enjoy the playing, refreshments and friendships!

The Yamaha C-7 piano in the wind room has received extensive work this fall. This will improve our listening and playing experience in our recital hall.

Our Branch by-laws must be updated due to by-law changes from the State MTAC.

We are looking into purchasing or renting a PA system for our meetings.

We want to improve our communication process to members via newsletter and emails. Do you have any ideas? Send them to me!

Remember to update your address, email and phone information on the State MTAC website. Go to the website, log in at MTAC Login. Then select Edit Teacher info. You should do this any time you have a change of address, phone or email.

The Berkeley Piano Club announces the 2010 Dorothy Van Waynen Competition for Strings. Applications must be postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2010. For further information, go to cmtonn@comcast.net.

I hope to see you on Sunday, November 8th!

Program
Janice Sheng

Please mark your calendars – our first Teachers’ Concert, “Bach and Beyond,” is fast-approaching!

Date: Sunday, November 8th, 7:00-9:00pm
Venue: Foster City Community Center, Wind Room
Free admission
Refreshments after the concert

Let’s support our fellow branch members and friends in performance and use this great opportunity to visit with each other after the concert!

The performers of this concert include:

Deanna Du Bois - Pianist
Thomas Hanson - Pianist
Janice Sheng - Pianist
Li-Ying Wu - Pianist
Pat McNutt and Sarah Lomax - Duo ensemble, piano & flute
Vijay Norkvesta and Libby Kardontchik - Duo pianists

The program includes:

Bach/Brahms: Chaconne, transcribed for the left hand
D. Shostakovich: Concertino Op. 90
S. Barber: Excursion Op. 20 – 3rd movement
F. Chopin: Etude in f minor, Op. 25, No. 2
Claude Bolling: Suite for Flute and Piano – “Baroque and Blue”
Mili Balakirev: Islamey

Certificate of Merit

Marcela Toma

Take some time and register your students for CM 2010. Do not wait until the last minute.

**November 15 11:59PM Database closed for Registration for all branches.
No late registration.**

November 16 Fees (one teacher, one check) must be submitted directly to the Branch Chair and must be postmarked no later than November 16. Work Contracts MUST also be submitted at this time!

**Please send to:
Marcela Toma
P.O. Box 25028
San Mateo, CA 94402**

**CM Dates for the San Mateo Branch:
Voice – February 21
Strings – March 6-7
Piano – March 13-14**

Alma Lin Piano Trio

The Alma Lin Piano Trio will perform at the Foster City Community Center, Wind Room on Sunday, November 15, 7pm. This Trio features three of our fine San Mateo Branch teachers in a joint recital including the Mozart Trio in B flat major, K. 502, the Brahms Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Major and the Dvorak Piano Trio Op. 90, the “Dumky.” The concert is free of charge and for additional information, please call (650) 574-8258. Bring your students and friends – this will be a treat!

Recital Hall Yvonne Ho

The Recital hall reservations for February – June 2010 is now open. Please check our website calendar in the “Recital Hall” section for specific days and times. To reserve the hall, you must send me requests by the 15th of the previous month. For example, to request a time in February, you must send in your reservation request by January 15th. You can find the reservation request form on our website: <http://www.mtacsanmateo.org/recital-hall.html>

The following times are available as of October 26th:

December 6th: 6:30-9:00 pm

December 12th: 6-9 pm

January 16th: 12-3 pm, 6-9 pm

January 17th: 12-3 pm, 6-9 pm

February 14th: 12-9 pm

February 19th: 6-9 pm

February 20th: 12-9 pm

April 3rd & 24th: 12-9 pm

April 23rd: 6-9 pm

Branch Recitals
Denise Chevalier

The last branch recital was marvelous. Many of the performers were very proud to announce that it was their 3rd and/or 4th time playing at a branch concert.

Daniel Wu, Andrew Mortazavi, Iris Wu, Thea Portnoy, Alex Yan, Kyoko Ohno, Ashley Wen, Alex Kong, Jeffrey Yan, Chloe Wen, Emma Breslin and Leslie Jin performed piano pieces. In addition to these great performers – so different, but all very good – we had Madeleine and Brendan Wright playing one of Mozart’s violin and viola duos and Conor Stanton playing Mozart’s Violin Concerto #4, first movement. What a treat!

Irina Carrenca, Sujeeva Hapugalle, Thomas Laratta, Marjorie Lin, Vija Norkvesta, Emi Sunahara and Anastasia Yi were the teachers of these talented children.

The concert ended with a lecture on Dvorak by Renee Chevalier and a performance by three of our branch’s performers playing the last movement of Dvorak’s e minor piano trio; Marjorie Lin, violin, Kathleen Johnson, cello and Renee Chevalier, piano. This was a fine example of performance for all our students to observe.

The next branch recital will be Sunday, January 24, 2010, 2:45 pm. at the Foster City Community Center. Our guest performers for that concert will be Libby Kardontchik and Vija Norkvesta playing music from Spartacus. Vija says the music is amazing – “rock and roll.” It should be a lot of fun!

Membership
Laurie Johnson

A blast from the past...Gregory Smirnov has reinstated his membership in the San Mateo Branch. Welcome back Gregory! Also, look for new members, Kimberly Blair Harmsen and Leah Brammer at future events. Both are piano teachers, Kimberly is from Burlingame and Leah is from Portola Valley.

TO ALL MEMBERS:

Just a reminder – be sure to update your contact information whenever you change your mailing address, your phone number, or your email address. It is important to inform both your branch membership chair (Laurie Johnson) and the office Member Service Associate (Emily Dengler) when your information changes. You can contact Laurie via email at laurlyn@comcast.net or by phone (650) 593-4559. Emily can be reached at emilyd@mtac.org or by phone at her direct extension (800) 834-3340, Ext. 102.