

Music Teacher's Association of California

San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

June-August 2009

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President's Pen

Pat McNutt

I look forward to seeing several of you at the Convention in Santa Clara. I know many of you have students performing at convention. Be sure to direct your performing students to the "Information for student performers" which is on the mtac website below the list of student performers.

If you have not registered for Convention, July 3-6, you can still get a considerable discount if you register before June 16th.

Pages for convention are sorely needed. Since we are geographically close, this could be a good chance for students to earn community service hours. The application form was emailed to you a few days ago. You may also contact the 2009 Page Chair, Deborah Sanfilippo, 408-942-6824 or email debsanfilippo@yahoo.com.

Here's a note from the State MTAC President, Lee Galloway:

“I've said it before, but will again; I really hope to see you at Convention. Besides MTAC all-time favorites Jon Nakamatsu and Hans Beopple, we also have Melody Bober, Helen Marlais, Scott McBride Smith and many others. I've noticed that members favor master classes. I think we have an all-time record number of master classes at this convention (one or two every day)! So come, enjoy, learn, share and say “hi!” Notice, for your convenience, that we will have a quick lunch set-up in the Exhibit Hall as well as a photographer there for professional photographs of you or your students.”

There is a newly designed membership pin available. The pin is gold with our embossed logo, a blue border and is 1 1/2” in diameter (cost is \$10). Pins will be for sale at convention as well as from the State office.

Our San Mateo Branch is eligible to have five Delegates attend convention. The business of an organization as large as MTAC has a great deal of business to conduct! We currently have three delegates representing us at convention. They are Kevin Imbimbo, Deanna Du Bois and Marcela Toma. If you are interested in getting an inside look at our organization and want to be a delegate, please contact me. You must attend two meetings: one on Saturday morning July 4 at 8 a.m. and one on Monday morning, July 6 at 8:00 a.m. There is a perk! Your convention registration fee will be reimbursed by the Branch.

Happy summer and see you at convention!

Website Update

Kevin Imbimbo

Hopefully, you are all checking out our website on a regular basis. On the homepage, there is a short video featuring the duo piano performance of Libby Kardontchik and Vija Norkvesta. They played some of the music of Valeri Gavrilin at the branch recital April 26th. If you didn't get a chance to attend the recital, be sure to check out their playing online!

I know that the summer is often a time when things change for teachers – students graduate, you may change your policies or your address. If anything changes that would effect your profile on the web, please let me know. Don't wait until September. It's always better to have everything correct ahead of time to insure that you are not passed up as parents start checking for teachers in the fall. It will also help me stay on top and not get backed up with requests from many teachers all at once.

If you notice anything that is confusing on the website, or you have a suggestion, don't hesitate to drop me an email at kji@sanbrunocable.com. Finally, I have been taping and putting together DVD's of our Branch Recitals. I have just finished making a DVD of our

last recital, April 26th. If you have a student who performed in that recital, and would like a copy of it, let me know. I am making them available for \$8 each. Even if you did not have a student in the recital, these videos can also be a good teaching tool on posture, hand position, etc.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the convention in Santa Clara. I will hopefully have a surprise or two on the website with regards to the convention. Have a restful summer!

Here is your surprise! I have posted a podcast on my website that covers the convention with interviews and my thoughts about the recitals, lectures and workshops. Just click on the link below and it will take you to my homepage. Click on the podcast link at the top and you can listen to this audio podcast. You can also subscribe by clicking on the subscribe button on the main pocast page, and then all future episodes will automatically come to you. I hope you find this informative and entertaining. Please feel free to give me any feedback, so I can fine tune my podcast, and make it more relevant to your needs.

<http://www.musicmasterspianostudio.com/>

Branch Recitals

Denise Chevalier

The next two branch recitals will be: Sunday, October 25, 2009 and Sunday, January 24, 2010 at 2:45 p.m., Foster City Community Center. The October 25th recital will feature the Alma Lin piano trio (comprised of three of our members: Kathleen Johnson, Marjorie Lin and Renee Chevalier) at the end of the concert.

San Mateo County Fair Classical Piano Competition

Branch member, Sumi Nagasawa, helps run the classical piano competition at the San Mateo County Fair every August. This summer the competition takes place Sunday, August 16. The entry fee is \$30. The age categories are 6 years and under, 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11 & 12, 13 & 14, 15 and up. The repertoire requirements are on the application. You can get an application on the Fair website, www.sanmateocountyfair.org. If you cannot find the application online, a brochure from the Fair will be sent to every household in San Mateo County and the application is in the brochure. Or you may contact Sumi at snpiano2001@yahoo.com.

Bay Area Music Association announces the upcoming Young Artist Mid-summer Music Festival

This year, the festival will be held in two locations, one in Palo Alto on July 11th at the

Cubberly Community Center and the second in Berkeley on August 8th at the Crowden Music School.

Every participant in the Festival receives an award. It is open to students of all ages, levels and instruments. The performers will be judged by well-respected judges and will be based on individual performance. Comments will be mailed to teachers after the Festival.

You can visit their website for more details and for applications. The website is www.bayareamusicassociation.com. Deadline dates are soon, so if you are interested, now is the time to apply.

Do you have a change of address, phone or email? Please send any changes to Laurie Johnson: laurlyn@comcast.net or 650-593-4559.

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