



MTAC San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

April 2012

President's Pen

As a Branch, we cannot thank Marcela Toma enough for her implementation of Certificate of Merit. None of us knows the enormity of the job that the CM Director is responsible for. She has thanked us – now we bow down and thank her from the bottom of our hearts!! A sure sign of the success of CM in our Branch is that the evaluators love coming to San Mateo. We treat them well, and that helps our students! Another sure sign is the success of the majority of our students.

So once again – THANK YOU, MARCELA!!!!

Kathleen Johnson put together five honors recitals in one week after piano CM. Quite an accomplishment! The recitals were well organized and ran efficiently. A special thank you to Kathleen.

I look forward to seeing members at the Glover lecture/performance, and at the end-of-year lunch. These two events give us the rare chance to spend a little time visiting with other members. We also have one more Branch Student Recital in June. Read on in this newsletter for all the details.

Patricia McNutt

Branch Meeting - Daniel Glover on Beethoven Sonatas

Join us on Friday, April 27 for a lecture/performance with virtuoso pianist Daniel Glover. His presentation is "Beethoven and His Piano Sonatas". Daniel will talk about and play Op. 10, No. 3, Op. 53, and Op. 90.

Location for this meeting is the **San Mateo Public Library**, 55 W. 3rd Ave., San Mateo, Oak Room. Doors will open at 10:15 a.m. for refreshments and visiting. Please come to meet your friends and have a cup of coffee and a sandwich. The presentation will start at 11:00 a.m. sharp, and will last until 12:30. Branch Meeting - Daniel Glover on Beethoven Sonatas. Be sure to park in the garage (not on the street) and enter through the side door!

Luncheon for all members – May 18

It has become a tradition to meet at Van's in Belmont for our end-of-year lunch and short business meeting. We have our own room upstairs and the food is good. New officers will be elected and introduced at this lunch.

You are welcome to gather at 11:15 on Friday, May 18. We will sit down for lunch at 11:45. You may bring a spouse/significant other, or friend who might be interested in joining MTAC.

You must reserve a place for this lunch, and pay for it by May 11. The cost is \$18.00, or \$20.00. If you get your reservation in and have your check to Vija by May 1, your cost will be \$18. After May 1, the cost is \$20. Save \$2 and get your money in! Your check should be mailed to:

Vija Norkvesta
125 Elm Street
San Mateo, CA 94401

Email Vija to RSVP, vnorkvesta@yahoo.com.

Free Convention Registration to first time attendee

MTAC State provides a free registration to one member of each branch who is attending convention for the first time. If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please contact Pat McNutt before June 1. Convention is always fabulous!

Delegates to Convention June 29 – July 3, 2012

Our Branch is allowed 5 delegates to participate and vote in the business meetings that take place at convention. These meetings are eye-openers! They display the power and complexity of MTAC in the lives of teachers and students. We have 2 delegates signed up for this year. If you would like to be a delegate, let Pat know before convention. The

Branch will pay your early bird registration fee if you take on this responsibility. You are required to attend 2 8:00 a.m. meetings during the convention weekend.

Branch Student Recital Sunday, June 24

This will be the final branch recital opportunity for our students this year. Under the leadership of Sumi Nagasawa, this year's recitals have shown variety in instrumentation, levels, ages, and repertoire. This beginning-of-summer recital will help keep your students practicing! Deadline for entering students for this recital is June 10.

Nominations for MTAC San Mateo Board of Directors

It is election year for the San Mateo MTAC. Every two years our chapter must elect a new Board of Directors to govern our many activities. To this end, a nominating committee was formed in January, consisting of five members: Laurie Johnson (chair), Kathleen Johnson, Irina Carrenca, Lora Konnaya, and Janice Sheng.

It is the nominating committee's responsibility to identify members of the present board who are willing to continue in their responsibilities, to identify the positions which need to be filled by new board members, and then to find members who are willing and able to fill the open board positions.

This year there were four members of the current board who were willing to accept another two year term. Marcela Toma has agreed to continue as the Certificate of Merit Director. Brian Landes has agreed to continue in the office of Treasurer. Barbara Barclay has agreed to continue as the Recording Secretary, and Yvonne Ho-Massey has agreed to continue as Recital Hall Director.

The nominating committee has recruited the following members to fill the remaining open positions. Janice Sheng has accepted the nomination for President of our branch. Pat McNutt has accepted the nomination for Vice President of our branch. Gina Vandellos has agreed to the duties of Membership Secretary. Florida Ventura has accepted the nomination for Corresponding Secretary. And, Chen Chen Hsu has accepted the nomination for Director of Student Recitals.

I am excited that we have found such a strong leadership team to take our organization through the next two years. I hope that all of you agree and will ratify this proposed slate of officers at your earliest convenience. You will be receiving an official ballot soon. You will be able to vote by e-mail, snail mail, or by bringing ballots to the luncheon, on May 18th.

Thanks to all nominating committee members for their excellent work and thanks to the membership for stepping forward to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Johnson, Nominating Committee Chair

Reminder: Benefit Concert for Talents of the World with David Gvinianidze and Vladimir Rodionov

Dear Friends and Music Lovers,
We are honored and thrilled to invite you to a concert of David Gvinianidze, an internationally acclaimed opera tenor and baritone.

Concert will be held:

Date: Tuesday, April 24

Time: 7-30pm

Address: Allegro Music School
550 Pilgrim Dr .#F
Foster City CA 94404
650-341-3200, 650-867-6143
Tickets price : \$20

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XA2Amr4lr3A> - video

<http://david-gvinianidze.com/> more information

David Gvinianidze

David's accomplishments are multifaceted but he is most widely recognized for his exemplary opera performances and philanthropic work. After finishing in the Tbilisi State Conservatory of Georgia, David began his professional career and has traveled to nearly every continent to showcase his talents. He has performed at Svetlanovsky Hall (Moscow), Merkin Hall (New York), and Carnegie Hall (New York).

David is the founder, president and director of the charity

organization, "Talents of the World". All proceeds from this event will go towards funding "Talents of the World" in the aspirations of providing more opportunities for our future generations.

For his contributions to the betterment of humanity, David Gvinianidze has been awarded a Gold Medal for philanthropy from the Russian Federation, the United Nations Gold Medal, a United Nations diploma, and the highly prestigious "Ruby Cross of Glory Star" (from the Russian Federation) for his contributions to the development of art. David has had his name imprinted in the "Sokolniki", the equivalent of the concrete Stars in Hollywood. His Fund, "Talents of the world", is an active member of the International Association "Znaniya (Knowledge)" and is considered the dominant organization in the field of artistic culture. In 2007 David received a Gold Medal from "Znaniya" and his name is entered in the encyclopedia "People of Our Millennium," along with the names of the most prominent figures of culture and art of our time.

His fame and success are largely a result of his incredible attention to detail and his passion for perfecting every nuance of music that is to be played. His powerful vocals range from tenor to baritone and his rich voice can travel from pianissimo to fortissimo with great ease. His concerts are often regarded as "mini theatrical performances" due to his passion and ability to portray the feelings of his opera character.

His works include: Lencky "Evgenie Onegin", Alfred "La traviata", Jose "Carmen", Frederico "Arlezianski", Macduff "Macbeth" and many more.

Vladimir Rodionov

Vladimir is the primary pianist for the "Talents of the World Foundation." A graduate of the Conservatory of Nizhny Novgorod in Russia, Vladimir has won several competitions including the National Russian Piano Competition and the International Competition of Chamber of Singers and Accompanists. He is commonly referred to as a "man-orchestra" for his incredible manipulation of music and critics are quick to comment on his ability to achieve a musical harmony with any fellow performer. Irina Krutova, Alejandro Olmedo and Sergei Kunaev are just some of the singers he has worked with. His accomplishments also include numerous solo performances that are popular throughout Russia and Europe.

Slavyanka Concert in Palo Alto Sat. April 28.

Bass/baritone Mel Thompson is a voice student of Cynthia Brown, and is a member of the acclaimed a capella men's chorus, Slavyanka. Both voice and piano teachers and students are encouraged to attend to hear first-hand the depth of Russian, Georgian, Armenian music. This will greatly help the playing, singing, and understanding of the various powerful composers and the folk music of the various regions. The bass lines are incredible! Come hear the unusual and famous throat singing.

Attached is a pdf file that contains the flyer/poster for the upcoming Slavyanka concerts the end of this month.

Liturgical music includes Russian, Armenian and Georgian pieces. Russian pieces include: the Rachmaninoff "Bogo do'ritse", the Kedrov close-harmony "Otche Nash - Our Father", "Blazhen Muzh" (the Kievan chant "Blessed is the Man").

The folk music breaks into three groups, here are examples: those of the land (Into the Dark Forest, O You Steppe, Evening (Tchaikovsky); Balkans (Ne Sedi Jemo, Jovano Jovanke) and village folk (Pai du li ya, Chastushki, Oi Na Hore). They will be singing the Latvian piece "Las tie Tadi". There is also a TTBB arrangement of the spiritual "Deep River".

Mel Thompson has graciously offered a \$5 discount on any ticket to teachers and students who buy their tickets through him ahead of time. His email address is mel@comtrac.net.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIW_OiuMUpQ