

**Music Teacher's Association of California
San Mateo County Branch
Newsletter
May 2009**

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- **President's Pen**
- **Certificate of Merit**
- **Branch Recital: April 26, 2009**
- **Recital Hall**
- **Other Interesting News Items**



President's Pen

Pat McNutt

We are approaching the end of our active year. At the end-of-year luncheon this past Friday, I briefly described some of the things your Board has done this year. I won't list them here, but we certainly have been busy! And, many of you have also worked to create better opportunities for our teachers and students.

Our Branch By-Laws have a short clause that states our Purpose: "The purpose of this organization shall be the pursuit of excellence in the field of music education and the promotion of musical activities."

How would you, personally, like to see this Purpose realized? What can our Branch do to pursue excellence in the field of music education or how can we promote musical activities? We want to hear from YOU!

We had a maximum crowd at the lunch May 8 – sorry for those of you who could not make reservations, but we are excited that so many members were able to attend! Thank you to Janice Sheng for planning a superior end-of-year event.

Certificate of Merit

Marcela Toma

The CM Evaluation was a success. The evaluators sent thank you notes as they were grateful for the way we took care of them. The majority of the students were well prepared and the evaluators were quite impressed. Thank you all for a tremendous job this year. We will try to reinstate the Branch Honors Recitals following the CM evaluation in 2010. Please check your emails for updates regarding the CM program next fall as we will need a CM Teachers Training Session.

I wish you a well deserved, relaxing summer and I hope to see many of you at the MTAC Convention in July.

Branch Recital

Denise Chevalier

The final branch recital, April 26, was a smashing success! The audience filled the room to capacity. Twenty-six students performed

in the event, performing works ranging from Telemann to Christopher Norton. Eight piano teachers participated in this concert: Irina Behrendt, Renee Chevalier, Joy Han, Sujeeva Hapugalle, Dorian Ho, Jennifer Ho, Mania Vehouni and Brenda Zhang.

The exciting concert ended with a guest appearance, Renee Chevalier, who spoke of the music of Valeri Gavrilin and a brilliant performance by Libby Kardontchik (MTAC, Los Altos) and Vija Norkvesta performing four excerpts from Gavrilin's ballet.

Recital Hall

Li-Ying Wu

If you would like to use the Wind Room in June, we have two openings on June 21 from 12-2pm and 5-9pm. Please contact me by the 15th of May to complete your reservation. Foster City does not give our branch any pre-reserved dates for summer months. If you need to use the hall, please contact me. Thanks to all of you for a wonderful year.

Reservation for fall semester will open on June 1, 2009 and you will receive an email with all the detail information. Again, I can be reached by email: liyingwu@comcast.net or at (650)570-7750 for any questions.

SILENT AUCTION AT THE CONVENTION, JULY 3, TO BENEFIT MTAC FOUNDATION

Help MTAC pull together by supporting your very own Foundation. On Friday, July 3rd, a Silent Auction will be held once again at the convention. You will find items covering a wide range of interests.

There is more information on the www.mtac.org website on the Foundation page.

Here is a partial list of some of the items that will be up for auction:

Autographed music and CD by Seymour Bernstein

Autographs by Vladimir Ashkenazy, Leonard Bernstein, Alfred Brendal, George Gershwin

Autographs by Isaac Stern, Aaron Copland, Claudio Arrau, Bela Bartok, Paderewski, Maurice Ravel

Autograph by Jean Sibelius

KJOS Music books, *Music* “World Tour” by Keys to Imagination

Lessons with Jim Walker, Carl Matthew, Scott McBride Smith

Lessons with Kevin Fitz-Gerald, Peter Yazbeck, Hans Beopple

Starbucks coffee basket and gift cards, CD’s, DVD’s, wine baskets, knitting baskets

Jewelry, *Twilight* basket (all 4 novels and the movie), Godiva gift cards

Get-away weekend at the Santa Clara Marriott including 2 passes to Great America

Gift cards for many restaurants and much more

You may also make a financial donation to the Silent Auction and we will purchase gift cards or other items to display at the Silent Auction

InterHarmony International Music Festival – San Francisco

Tien Hsieh, a member of the MTAC Sierra Branch, will be joining the faculty of this summer’s festival in San Francisco. The Festival is still accepting applications and will be offering solo lessons,

master classes, chamber music, orchestra for instrumentalists and more. You can Google “Welcome to InterHarmony International Music Festival” or “InterHarmony International Music Festival – San Francisco” for detailed information.