



**Music Teacher's Association of California
San Mateo County Branch
Newsletter
April 2016**

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President's Pen
Kevin Imbimbo

Dear Members,

It's hard to believe that summer is almost here! Our branch has had a busy year of recitals, master classes and special programs. It's time to thank our board, especially Irina Carrenca for her work on our Branch Recitals, Irina Behrendt for organizing the many programs that we have had and last, but certainly not least, Marcela Toma and Laurie Johnson for their work on our CM Program. I think we have provided a true diversity of programming that, I hope, has been valuable to our membership.

And we are still not done yet. We have a wonderful concert coming up that has become a yearly event. Our Kid's Concert was well received last year, and we have another great program for this year. Viviana Guzman, a wonderful flautist, is our featured performer on April 17th at 5 PM. Check out the News and Events page on our website for more information.

Although I have only had the opportunity to work with this board for one year in taking over for Janice, I have had great support and will miss those that have finished their term of service and are moving on. We will be ushering in a new board at our May luncheon, and the slate of officers will be sent to you soon. I hope to see many of you there, and don't forget – the Convention is coming up in July. This year it will be held at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel. As in the past, I am anticipating a great week of lectures, concerts and workshops. Make sure you get in on early registration, as soon as it opens, and reserve your spot.

As always, I continually ask for your feedback on the programs and concerts that we have provided this year, and for any suggestions that you may have for the future.

See you at our luncheon!

Branch Programs

Irina Behrendt, VP

Dear all,

The **Annual Branch Luncheon** is planned for **Friday, May 20th at 11:30am** at the Tea Room of The Van's "Restaurant on the Hill" - 815 Belmont Ave., Belmont, CA 94002.

It is one of our favorite events of the year. Come to share a meal, mingle, hear the news and vote in our new board. Please, save the date and RSVP here:

<http://goo.gl/forms/mCQfWg420p>

Our branch is contributing \$5 towards each member's meal, so your out-of-pocket cost is \$25.50. If you are bringing a guest who is a non-member, their cost would be \$30.50.

Concert for Kids is scheduled for **April 17th at 5pm** in the Wind Room of the Foster City Library. Send your students, bring your children, your children's children, your neighbors' children - you get the picture. Viviana Guzman is our guest this year and she is phenomenal. Check out the array of flutes she is bringing with her:

Tin Whistle - Irish Flute
Native American Indian Flute
Gemshorn - Medieval Flute
Chinese Flute
Hungarian Flute
Chilean Flute

She will perform, play games with the kids and answer questions.

Browse her website: <http://www.Viviana.org>

See you there!

Certificate of Merit

Marcela Toma

Dear CM Teachers:

NEW: the MTAC will introduce a new online registration system starting next fall. You will receive brochures with the instructions for parents registering their own children for CM. We will follow up on this subject at the mandatory CM Teachers' meeting in September (TBA).

I would like to take a moment to congratulate all of you on your accomplishments and your valuable contribution to the CM program!

A heartfelt thank you for your positive demeanor, your punctuality and effort. I must acknowledge the site and door monitors, the teachers in the theory and grading rooms, hospitality, check-in desk. You are all a necessary piece of this puzzle and your service is very much appreciated by everyone.

I am sure you are aware by now that we printed *stickers* for our branch' students in completing their evaluation. The students were enthusiastic and proud. A huge success! The printed certificates and stickers were ordered only for our students by our branch.

Heartfelt thanks to Tom Hansen, Marjorie Lin, along with Kathleen Johnson and Janice Sheng, Gina Vandellos, Pat McNutt, Rena Ling, Cynthia Brown, Vera Shamis and Li-Ying Wu for inviting us into your private studios with fine pianos, Natalie Griffin and Laurie Johnson.

The CM evaluations were a success overall; and even though the number of students with RAL and IC ratings was very small, it is regrettable and strenuous on the families, teachers and the CM team.

Become accustomed with your respective instrument Syllabus and the Policies & Procedures on the Teacher's Home Page at mtac.org. Read and keep all the CM Newsletters and CM chair's emailing for future reference. You will find all the answers in these documents.

It is a joy and a privilege working with such a dedicated group of teachers!

Branch Recitals

Irina Carrenca

Our next and last Branch Recital of this academic year will be held **Saturday, April 23rd** at 3:30 pm in the Wind Room at the Foster City Community Center. Registration is now open on a first come - first serve basis. Please follow the guidelines and register ASAP.

Please note the Recital Fee has increased to \$20 per student.

Application Form: Complete the [Recital Application Form](#). Be sure you're as detailed as possible. Include the key and Op. #, if available. Please use the composer's full name. All entries will be printed exactly as submitted. At the end of the Recital Application Form, click on "continue" and the form will automatically be emailed to the recital chair and you will be sent to our PayPal account to finish the payment process. Before submitting

the application, you must use the drop down menu to put in the number of students you have entered and the amount will be totaled automatically. Please specify which recital you are registering, in the "NOTES" box, since there are two recitals on the same day.

Number of students: Limited to a maximum of 4 students per teacher.

Performance time: The combined performance time for the registered students for each teacher is a total of 15 minutes or less. All pieces must be memorized.

Dress: Students should dress in **appropriate concert attire** for the performance. If you are not sure about what is appropriate, check with Irina Carrenca, the program chair.

P.S: Venue for Studio Recitals:

Burlingame Music School Concert Hall is available for Studio Recitals at a very reasonable rate. For more information call 650-307-4564.

Membership Secretary

Gina Vandellos

New Member

Please join me in welcoming Cobi Ashkenazi, who has recently joined our branch as a student member. Cobi teaches piano.

Nominating Committee Report

Irina Carrenca, Vera Shamis, Vija Norkvesta and Gina Vandellos

The nominating committee is pleased to present the following candidates to the MTAC San Mateo County Board of Directors for the next two-year term beginning on August 1st.

Treasurer: JungHae Kim

Membership Secretary: Don Harper

Corresponding Secretary: Elisabeth Fourtanier

Recording Secretary: Joyce Morse

Branch Recital Director: Jennifer Ho

We thank the following members for returning for a second term on the Board of Directors.

President: Kevin Imbimbo

Vice President: Irina Behrendt

Certificate of Merit Director: Laurie Johnson

Recital Hall Director: Natalie Griffin

An email ballot will be sent to you within the next few weeks. Please vote via this ballot or vote with a paper ballot at the Annual Banquet.