



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

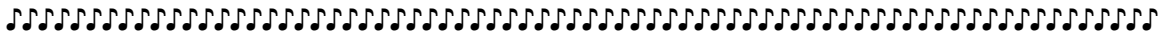
**Newsletter**

**January 2017**

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**President's Pen**  
Kevin Imbimbo

Dear Teachers,

I hope that you all had a happy and restful holiday season. The decorations and cards have barely been put away, and we are jumping back into our busy schedules. We are hosting another Branch Recital at the end of February, so this is a good time to prepare your students for their CM repertoire. Registration for the Branch Recitals is on our website, and registration is now open. Those of you participating in CM need to keep up with our website and the state site, as well as with the information provided by our CM chair, Marcela Toma. I know that she will guide you through the new procedures and make this a positive experience for your students.

We have more programs slated for the spring. One coming up this weekend, is a workshop that is sponsored by one of our members, Simone Bley. For information on this and the other programs and concerts, keep checking our News and Events page on our website.

Although it may seem far away, I have a performance opportunity for all of you. There is a Teacher Recital at our annual convention. The deadline is coming soon, so I encourage you to consider performing and sign up. Below is part of the email that I received from our State Board liaison, Vern Balch. It gives more information about registering for the recital.

I hope to see you all at our programs and concerts this spring!

*Our President, Louise Earhart, would like to encourage you to think about performing on the Teacher Convention Recital. Any instrument, and any combination of instruments is acceptable.*

*See the application on the old website under "Adult Performance Program." There is a limit of twelve performances on the Recital (six from South and Six from the North). The deadline is February 15 or until the twelve performances have been filled. Here are the Chairs for both North and South:*

*Jennifer Griest, North Chair [jgriest@contracosta.edu](mailto:jgriest@contracosta.edu)*

*Alison Edwards, South Chair [aedwards@fullerton.edu](mailto:aedwards@fullerton.edu)*

### **Branch Programs**

Irina Behrendt, Vice President

Dear Teachers,

Happy 2017!

Please join us for a Bay Area Music Educator **Pedagogy Clinic Saturday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:00-5:00**, at Myriad Music School & Dance Academy, 2250 Palm Avenue, San Mateo :  
"Motivating our Students through Sports Psychology with Coach Mike! How this applies to Teaching Music Students of all ages."

Our branch is partially sponsoring this program so that you can take advantage of it and attend for free!!

Please RSVP to Simone Bley at [simone@myriadmusic.net](mailto:simone@myriadmusic.net)

## Certificate of Merit

Laurie Johnson

All of the teacher's participating in Certificate of Merit this year have negotiated a rather rocky road. Marcela and I want to thank you for exercising patience and persistence while dealing with the new online registration system. We are pleased to have almost the same number of students enrolled this year as we did, in 2016.

As many of you already know, our branch unexpectedly lost the use of the rooms at NDNU for this year's piano evaluations (March 18 & 19). Fortunately, Marcela has been able to secure additional rooms in several of our member's private studios and music schools. Special thanks to Irina Carrenca (Burlingame Music School) and Rebecca Maggi for making their teaching studios available on short notice. Also, to Cynthia Brown (Lessons on B), Vera Shamis (Allegro Music and Dance School), and Li Ying Wu (Wu Piano Studio) who continue to provide rooms and support to our CM program.

Marcela is working on finalizing the rental agreement for theory testing rooms. She will notify all CM teachers of the location and dates A.S.A.P. As of now, we are pretty confident that the testing will take place on the same weekend as the piano performance evaluations, and in a location, in Foster City. You will be notified immediately when the arrangements are finalized.

Lastly, Marcela has announced that she is stepping down from the CM chairmanship at the end of this teaching year. In response to this news, a committee has been formed to find a new CM Chair for next year. Laurie Johnson (Chair), Gina Vandellos, and Kathleen Johnson are working with Marcela to define the job clearly and to identify someone to take over this very important job. If you are interested in being considered for this position, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the committee chair to discuss the details. There is a modest stipend of \$5 per student enrolled, which is paid to the CM Chair at the conclusion of each year. We need someone with energy, organizational skills, and people skills to make this program work.

Wishing you all successful Evaluations!

Sincerely,  
Laurie Johnson (Director of CM)

## Branch Recitals

Jennifer Ho

Happy Lunar New Year!

Our next Branch Recital will be held on **Saturday February 25th, 6:30 pm** at the Wind room in Foster City Community Center. Students of all levels and instruments are welcome to share their music. Registration is now open at <http://www.mtacsanmateo.org/recitals/recital-application.html>

## **Parents' Corner**

Elisabeth Fourtanier – corresponding secretary

Dear Families,

We hope that you will find the MTAC-San Mateo County Branch newsletter and website a source of useful information.

Please visit our website <http://mtacsanmateo.org/> where you will find updated news on our programs, information [about us](#) and on the benefits to your children of studying with a MTAC Teacher.

### **Concerts in the Community**

A great way to motivate your children is to take them to a live concert. The Bay Area is blessed with so many opportunities to attend live music performances. Here are just a few concerts that may appeal to your children this spring.

Redwood Symphony – Canada College – February 11th (8:00 pm)

<http://www.redwoodsymphony.org/>

Crestmont Conservatory of Music, San Mateo – February 11th (8:00 pm)

Gourmet Concert with pianist Daniel Glover

<http://www.crestmontmusic.org/concerts.html>

Peninsula Youth Orchestra – Carlmont

Sunday, March 5, 2017 (5:00 pm)

<http://www.peninsulayouthorchestra.org/pyoconc.php>

Ragazzi boys Chorus

March 25th, 7:30 Mission Santa Clara

March 26th, 3:00 – First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame

<https://ragazzi.org/performances/>

Peninsula Symphony

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 - San Mateo Performing Art Center

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 - Heritage Theater, Campbell

<http://peninsulasymphony.org/2017march/>