

Newsletter – March 2014

Reflections

Since our last newsletter, we had two successful Branch Recitals hosted by Chen Chen, and a fantastic Community Outreach Recital organized by Deanna DuBois. Furthermore, our vice president - Pat McNutt - coordinated an informative Branch Program featuring guest presenter William Wellborn on the topic of “Inspirational Ideas for Teachers and Students – Great Thoughts by Noted Musicians”.

President’s Pen – Janice Sheng

Sincere thanks to our members’ continued support, and to our excellent leadership teams for MTAC San Mateo County Branch’s terrific programs. A special acknowledgement to Certificate of Merit Program Chair, Marcela Toma, and her leadership team for their hard-work & dedication to ensure that we have another successful CM season. Led by Laurie Johnson – the 2014 Nominating Committee has been working hard to create a new slate of board members and officers for the upcoming term.

Annual Luncheon & Business Meeting - Pat McNutt

I always enjoy our relaxed lunch together at the end of each year. It is a time to visit, celebrate the events of our year, and enjoy good food together. This year we will again meet at Van’s in Belmont, with a slight variation. We will eat in the downstairs Tea Room, a choice we have made in order to provide complete accessibility to every member. Cost to each member is only \$20. Branch funds cover part of the lunch cost. To insure a spot at the table, send your reservation and check now.

We can seat 42 members. If we find there are unused reservations, you may invite guests at a later time – stay tuned.

Date: Friday, May 16, 2014

Time: 11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m

Location: Van’s Restaurant on the Hill - 815 Belmont Ave. Belmont, CA 94402

Cost: \$20 per attendee. This cost includes entrée, dessert, and

coffee/tea

RSVP by: Friday, May 9. Payment is due at the time of reservation

Payment: Check made out to MTAC San Mateo (\$20 per attendee)

Send to: Pat McNutt – P.O. Box 898, Moss Beach, CA 94038

Nominating Committee – “We Need You!” - Laurie Johnson

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing this message as head of the MTAC San Mateo Branch nominating committee. The current Board of Directors appointed a committee of four to search for candidates to fill board positions which will be vacant as of July 31st. Unfortunately, a larger than usual number of board members have given notice that they will be leaving at the end of this year. Our board consists of six officers and three directors at large. When our committee convened three weeks ago, we were looking for seven candidates for next year's board. Many of you have already agreed to serve in some capacity for the next two years. We are very grateful to those who have come forward so far. We still have not found someone willing and able to act as President or as Vice President for the next term. The branch cannot function unless we are able to fill these positions. If you are reading this, I know that at some point you felt the importance of affiliation with colleagues to promote the needs of your private studio and your many students.

This organization provides many advantages to its members. Collegiality is only one small part of the quotient. Our branch is very active in the Certificate of Merit Program which offers motivating goals and performance opportunities for all of our students. We maintain a concert venue which serves all of our teachers and students. At least three times a year we organize lectures, master-classes, or informal roundtable discussions on topics of general interest to our membership. This year, we have sent students out into the community to share their music in various informal performance settings. We have also started a scholarship program which will reward students who have excelled. I know that each and every one of you is incredibly busy balancing personal and family responsibilities with the needs of students and the need to earn a living. But, I want you all to seriously evaluate your ability to serve this organization, because I think it is imperative to keep MTAC moving forward. Board members must meet five times during the academic year. Meetings generally last one to two hours. All matters are voted on during those meetings. Individual board members have additional

responsibilities, of course, but no one person bears all the burden. The position of President is largely organizational. The president must put together the agenda for each meeting and run those meetings. The president must check in from time to time with various board members to make sure that programs are running smoothly. The president also must occasionally make an appearance at branch functions, but not at all branch functions. Other members of the board can step in as necessary to preside at branch events. The position of Vice President is primarily in charge of organizing the three branch programs and the end of the year luncheon. If the President is unable to preside at functions, the VP would be the next in line. Other Board members are usually very helpful in making suggestions for programs and in identifying potential speakers. Please seriously consider the importance of MTAC in supporting your music studio and providing opportunities and goals for your students.

Consider whether you can offer your time during these next two years. MTAC San Mateo needs you now. We cannot continue the excellent programs that our branch offers without each and every one of you contributing through service on the board periodically throughout your careers. We have nine people on the Board of Directors. In addition we have members who administer programs like the community outreach, festival recitals, scholarships, and our web management. Our membership list contains the names of 105 teachers. That means that at least ten percent of our membership is actively needed every year in order to run this organization. I personally believe that it is worth investing energy in keeping this institution running strongly. Please call me, Laurie Johnson, at 593- 4559 if you wish to find out more about the demands of these positions. I would love to chat with you. Being on the board is an excellent way to grow your network of friends in our local music arts community.

Give it a try!

Membership - Gina Vandellos

Membership Renewals begin in April – Invoices will be sent to qualifying members.

Member Address Updates – If you have moved recently, or changed any contact information, the State Office will need this information to properly

invoice them for renewal. Please provide your updated contact info to: mtacsmembership@gmail.com

Contributory Membership at MTAC San Mateo – A Contributory Member at our branch may rent the Recital Hall, enroll students in branch recitals and festivals. A Contributory Member may NOT enroll students in the MTAC San Mateo Scholarship Program.

Community Outreach Program - Deanna DuBois

We had a wonderful performance at the Bayview Villa Home a few weekends ago. There were mostly pianists and a cellist who played a beautiful rendition of Bach's Suite III. Many residents attended and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the program. Thank you teachers for having your students participate in these volunteer performances!

Web Site Administrator - Kevin Imbimbo

There are DVDs from the following branch events: Contemporary Music Festival, Branch Recitals (November 2013 & February 2014), and William Wellborn's presentation. Contact Kevin at kji@sanbrunocable.com if you wish to obtain a copy of a DVD.

Chamber Music Festival - Sujeeva Hapugalle & Janice Sheng

Please join us to celebrate our MTAC San Mateo's 75th Birthday with chamber music presented by our students and teachers; enjoy delectable treats, and possibly win some exciting door prizes!

- Sunday, May 18, 2:30-5:00 PM
- Foster City Community Center – Wind Room
- Application opens on March 1, and closes when we reach maximum performance time

Application forms for student-ensembles & teacher-ensembles are emailed to our members. The forms can also be accessed from our branch website: www.mtacsanmateo.org/festivals

MTAC San Mateo Scholarship Program - Janice Sheng & Jean Hsia

We are thrilled to continue into the second year of the MTAC San Mateo

County Branch's Scholarship Program! The goals of our Scholarship Program include:

- Assisting students with musical studies outside of their private lessons
- Promoting the students' involvement in community outreach & community service

The 2014 MTAC San Mateo Scholarships are:

- Up to FIVE \$400 Scholarships

Applicants will be asked to:

- Be a student of a current MTAC San Mateo member in good standing
- List/describe how they have been involved with community service in the past 6 -12 months.
- List the music program(s) that they wish to apply for outside of their private lessons.
- Provide two references: one of the references will be their private music teacher.
- Provide a video recording of their performance, presenting two contrasting pieces. - Video recordings can be submitted electronically to: mtacsm.scholarships@gmail.com - Post mail submission (DVD format): 1748 Pierce St. San Mateo, CA 94403
- Accompaniment is not mandatory.
- Community service can be non-music related, or music-related.

There are numerous sources of community service that are not necessarily related to music. The students can incorporate any of their community service experience as part of the application to our Scholarship Program. Some examples of music-related community service include participating in the MTAC San Mateo Community Outreach Program, or helping out at our branch events.

The application form is sent electronically to our branch members, and

it is posted on our Website (www.mtacsanmateo.org/scholarship-program). There is no application fee. Please help us spread the word about this wonderful program. We hope many of our students will benefit from the MTAC San Mateo Scholarships!

Contact info: mtacsm.scholarships@gmail.com

Names of the Judges: to be announced Scholarship

Winners' Concert: to be announced

Submit applications by: May 1st, 2014

The premiere announcement of this year's scholarship recipients will take place at our branch's Annual Luncheon on Friday, May 16th, 2014.

Compiled & Edited by Janice Sheng