

Music Teacher's Association of California

San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

September 2014

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- ∞ President's Pen
- ∞ Branch Programs: September 5, 2014 general meeting, January 10 & 11, 2015 Forrest Kinney, and February 1, 2015 VOCE masterclass
- ∞ Certificate of Merit: September 28, 2014 Mandatory meeting
- ∞ Branch Recitals: November 15, 2014 and March, 2015
- ∞ Membership
- ∞ Recital Hall
- ∞ Corresponding Secretary
- ∞ Community Outreach Program: Recitals: September 27 and December 13, 2014, October 1 – 31 Practice-a-thon

Presidents Pen - Janice Sheng

Dear returning and new MTAC San Mateo members:

Welcome to the 2014-2015 academic year! In May 2014, we had our biennial branch election. Listed below you'll find a list of the 2014-2016 board members and major program chairs. We have been working very hard since May to ensure a smooth transition to the new board. Our new board has been training, planning and brainstorming ideas in order to serve YOU and your students.

Here is our new board! Names with an asterisk indicate new board members and/or program chairs joining us for the 2014-2016 term of office.

President	Janice Sheng
Vice-President	Irina Behrendt*
Certificate of Merit Director	Laurie Johnson*
CM Chair	Marcela Toma
CM Strings	Marjorie Lin
CM Voice	Gina Vandellos
Honors Recital	Kathleen Johnson
Recital Hall Director	Kayoko Kuchiishi*
Branch Recitals Director	Irina Carrenca*
Membership Secretary	Gina Vandellos
Recording Secretary	Kathleen Johnson

Corresponding Secretary	Deanna Du Bois*
Treasurer	Li-Ying Wu*
Website Administrator	Kevin Imbimbo
Community Outreach Program	Deanna Du Bois
Scholarship Program	Janice Sheng
Festivals	Michelle Hsiao-Pei Hsu*

In a few weeks, you will receive more detailed information about our branch events and programs directly from our program chairs. We are delighted to announce the continuation of our relatively new Community Outreach Program, Scholarship Program and Festival Recitals for the next two years.

We are also thrilled to announce the implementation of MTAC San Mateo's first Voce Competition. To learn more about VOCE, visit: <http://www.mtac.org/programs/performance/voce/>
The best way to stay informed about our branch's programs and events is by visiting the "News and Events" page of our MTAC San Mateo Branch website: www.mtacsanmateo.org
I look forward to seeing you soon!

Branch Programs - Irina Behrendt

First, I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve as our branch vice-president in the next two years. Please feel free to contact me via email ibehrendt09@gmail.com if you have any questions or suggestions concerning the teachers' programs at our branch.

Our first meeting is on September 5th in the Oak Room of the San Mateo Public Library. It will be our opportunity to greet each other after the summer break. We will learn from the board members first hand about plans for the upcoming year, enjoy refreshments and music and hopefully discuss some burning pedagogical questions.

I am very excited to introduce our biggest event of the year – a two (or perhaps, even three) day program with a guest from Seattle - Forrest Kinney. In a series of workshops, Mr. Kinney will cover topics including teaching arranging, improvisation and creative practicing. He will hold a Master Class on improvisation and perform a concert as well.

This will all take place (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!) on January 10-11 at the Steinway Gallery in San Francisco. The Steinway Gallery is a beautiful venue and will host us free of charge! I understand that this may be far for some of you to attend, but there is parking around the block and the parking fee is only \$10. The Steinway Gallery is also easily accessible by BART. Please, please, please, plan to attend these workshops! Now is the time to start thinking if you would like your students to participate in the Master Class on Improvisation. You can read more about Forrest Kinney at his website: www.forrestkinney.com

Another date to put on the calendar is February 1, 2015. A master class will be implemented in conjunction with the VOCE competition. Please note: **students that are NOT planning to compete at VOCE are WELCOME to apply for the master class! Our master teachers will be David Chernyavsky - violin, Victoria Erlich - cello and Milton Williams - voice.

Participation fees for both master classes are \$35 per student within an ensemble fee of \$45 per soloist.

Since this is only a broad overview of our branch programs, be on the lookout for my emails which will give more detail and application instruction for both of the events! Don't forget to check out the Events Page on our website.

Have a wonderful teaching year.

Certificate of Merit - Marcella Toma

I am truly happy to get back into a routine and hope that all of you had a restful summer!

We now have a CM Committee working toward smoother evaluations and a better experience for the students. Thank you Tom Hansen, Kathleen Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Marjorie Lin, Pat McNutt and Gina Vandellos for your precious time and true dedication. With some of the funds from the registration fees, we will purchase new and higher quality MP3 players for our students. I am very happy about this.

The Certificate of Merit program administration can be complex. In order to understand all the details, it is necessary to attend our Branch CM Information Meeting. Teachers who do not attend the meeting may not be able to register their students in CM via the online registration system, and may risk having student registrations dropped automatically.

Please mark your calendar:

September 28, 2pm: Allegro Music School
1123 Industrial Rd. San Carlos, CA 94070

If you cannot attend the Branch CM Information Meeting, please contact me at mtacsm.cmchair@gmail.com as soon as possible to receive and complete the "CM Teacher's Quiz" by September 20.

Registration Opens October 1st and Closes October 31st.

Evaluation Dates 2015 San Mateo Branch:
March 14-15 Strings
March 15 Voice
March 21-22 Piano
Wind TBA – evaluation with San Francisco Branch

Please take a few minutes and take a look at our branch's new website. Under "Certificate of Merit," click on the links, and find the dates and deadlines for the branch's evaluations, the Teacher's Work Agreement, Branch Honors Criteria and much more. The primary documents and forms are now posted for you on the Teacher's Home Page to "kick off" your CM and registration.

A successful and musical year to all!

Branch Recitals - Irina Carrenca

I want to welcome all members to the new academic year! My name is Irina Carrenca and I will be your MTAC Branch Recital Director for the next term. I'm excited to announce we'll be having two Branch Recitals in November and two Branch Recitals in March.

Below, you will find all the information necessary to register your students for the next Branch Recital.

When: Saturday, November 15, 2014. There will be two recitals: 3:30-4:30 pm and 5:00-6:00pm.

Where: Wind Room at the Foster City Community Center (100 E. Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City).

Application Form: Complete the Recital Application Form located on our website mtacsanmateo.org/

Please include the key and Op. # if available.

Use the composer's full name. All entries will be printed exactly as submitted.

Once you have finished the application form, click on "continue" and the form will be automatically emailed to the recital chair.

Next, the PayPal account will appear so you can complete 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. Also, make sure you put the date of the recital for which you are applying in the "Notes" box.

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 appropriately for performance. Concert attire is strongly recommended.

Recital fee: \$15. Each student's entry will be approved upon receipt of the entry fee.

Applications will be accepted starting on October 13th for these two recitals. Be sure to indicate which time will be better for your student.

For more information, contact me at: mtacsbranchrecital@gmail.com

Wishing you all a great year!

Membership - Gina Vandellos

I am pleased to continue serving as the membership secretary for the San Mateo County Branch. Please contact me if you have questions regarding membership. A warm welcome to the new Branch members:

Benjamin Boren (transfer)	- Piano
David Chernyasvsky	- Violin
Dr. Wayne Chow	- Composition, Piano
Natalie Griffin	- Piano
Amanda Huang	- Piano
Therese Labuguen (reinstatement)	- Piano

Recital Hall - Kayoko Kuchiishi

My name is Kayoko Kuchiishi, I am the Recital Hall director for 2014-2016. Our recital hall, the Wind Room at the Foster City Community Center, is a spacious, affordable venue for recitals. It holds up to 100 guests. There is a Yamaha 7'6" grand piano and a baby grand piano.

For a MTAC San Mateo Branch member, the rental rate is \$73 per hour, and \$37 per half an hour. A microphone with a podium is available for \$10 per recital. A minimum of three hour back-to-back booking is required, which could be combined with another member.

February – June 2015 reservations are open until September 30, 2014. To request a reservation, please e-mail to mtacsm.recital.hall@gmail.com your desired date, time and equipment, if any. The reservation request must be submitted by September 23, and payment check must be received by September 30, 2014. Additional reservation requests must be received by the 15th day of the prior month in order to confirm the availability.

Before submitting a reservation request, please read reservation procedures, rules and policies at <http://mtacsanmateo.org/recital-hall-rental/wind-room-rules.html>

Available reservation dates can be found on the calendar on the Recital Hall Rental page on our website.

For questions, please send your emails to: mtacsm.recital.hall@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary - Deanna Du Bois

I have returned as your San Mateo Branch Corresponding Secretary! (I was formerly on the board from 2004-2010). It is nice to be back and compose the newsletter.

In addition to the newsletter, if any of you would like to post an announcement (via email), I would be happy to assist. Please feel free to send me any notice about various performance or education-related news. My contact information is: mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com

Community Outreach Program - Deanna Du Bois

Welcome to a new year of Community Outreach events! In 2014-2015, the San Mateo Branch Community Outreach Program (COP) will have its first Practice-a-thon (PATH)! We will encourage our students (of any instrument) to participate in the sponsored PATH which will run for a month from October 1 to October 31, 2014. This will motivate our students to practice and improve their skills while also raising money for a worthwhile cause.

The funds received from the PATH will be donated to two entities: the MTAC's Young Artist Guild (YAG) and the Music for Children Concert Series. The Young Artist Guild is a group of the most gifted musicians in the Certificate of Merit Program. Each year, a special Presentation Concert is held at the MTAC State Convention. The Music for Children Concert Series features lecture-recitals for children ages 5-10. It is one of our branch programs which will occur in 2015!

Here are the pertinent details of how the PATH will work. We will have a sponsor form given to each teacher (via email attachment) and he/she will make the appropriate amount of copies for their students who would like to participate. The student will ask his/her family and friends to pledge their practicing. The child will fill out their practice time daily on the sponsor form. The amount of time will be designated by their individual teacher. Each week the parent and teacher will check and confirm the practice time indicated.

Everyone who participates receives a certificate and other fun rewards as long as they practice! Those that practice the most will receive “smart” ribbons. The teacher(s) who generate the most sponsor money will be awarded as well!

Be on the lookout for the Sponsor Form. It will be sent within the next week. It will have more information regarding what a student should say to their pledge, ideas of fun rewards (prizes) and suggestions on daily/weekly practice time amounts. Perhaps it will have ideas on how much a person should pledge per minute of practice. I’m really looking forward to promoting and implementing the PATH!

We are continuing with the Community Outreach Recitals this Fall. The first one will be at Magnolia of Millbrae Assisted Living September 27 at 2:30pm. The second recital will be at the Hillsdale Atria in San Mateo, December 13 at 3:30pm. Remember, any student can participate (all levels and any instrument)! Please be sure to check the COP Recital Guidelines and Requirements before you sign up your students. If you have any questions regarding the recitals or PATH, you can email me at deannadb64@yahoo.com