



SAN MATEO  
COUNTY BRANCH

## January 2020 Newsletter

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### President's Pen - Natalie Griffin

Dear Teachers,

I hope that your new year is off to a good start and that CM preparations are going smoothly! This spring we have a few exciting events which you can read about below. I encourage you to come out for the YAG concert, violin masterclass, and the jazz piano workshop. We will also have our annual May luncheon so please stay tuned for details.

This year our Branch hosted two separate panel discussion sessions for teachers. We shared stories about students, parents, creative summer sessions, and how to keep our teaching fresh. In both sessions I was impressed with the amount of experience and wisdom that our branch embodies. New and seasoned teachers alike had comments, questions, and insight on a huge range of topics. The biggest take away for me was a sense of belonging to a wonderful, diverse group of teachers who are on a similar journey. Most of us are individual, private teachers which at times can feel like a vacuum. But, getting together with other teachers is a welcome wake-up call to the fact that we are not alone and that there is another teacher nearby who can relate. With that in mind, I encourage you to reach out to each other when you have a question, problem, idea, or spark of creativity. Surely, the more we share the more we all benefit ourselves and our studios.

With gratitude,  
Natalie

## Branch Programs - Millie Lee Siu

Dear Teachers,

We had a very nice meeting on January 10th with more than 20 teachers participating in our round table discussion. After coffee and introductions we addressed many topics about music lessons. The meeting ended with Joyce Morse sharing a lovely poem "The First Musician".

MTAC-San Mateo County branch is proud to be hosting a YAG concert on February 8th featuring Leslie Jin from our San Mateo branch. The Young Artist Guild (YAG) is a group of the most gifted musicians in the Certificate of Merit program. Acceptance to YAG is one of the highest honors for Certificate of Merit students. Congratulations to Leslie and to her teacher, our branch member Sujeeva Hapugalle.

Please read details below and invite your friends and students. Admission is free.

**Young Artist Guild Concert - Saturday February 8th, 2020 at 7:00PM  
at Lessons on B, 1527 South B Street, San Mateo**

**Pianist [Leslie Jin](#) will perform:**

- Prelude and Fugue BWV 848 - J.S. Bach
- Sonata in F minor Op. 57 (Appassionata) - L. van Beethoven
- Ballade No.1 in G minor Op. 23 - F. Chopin
- Sonata No. 3 in A minor, Op. 28 (1917) - S. Prokofiev

Please stay tuned for these exciting events coming up in the spring!

**April 5 from 3:00-5:00PM: Violin Masterclass with [Lisa Lee](#)** at Lessons on B  
Masterclass for intermediate-advanced students. Please email me ([milliegysiu@hotmail.com](mailto:milliegysiu@hotmail.com)) if you are interested in signing up your students.

**April 26 from 3:00-4:30PM: Lecture with jazz pianist [Yuko Maruyama](#)** at Lessons on B  
Lecture presentation: Learn to Play from Chord Charts. Learn jazz harmony on piano using chord charts to arrange, compose and improvise.

## Community Outreach Recital - Olga Moudry

Dear Teachers,

There will be a community outreach recital on **Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 1:30PM** at the San Carlos Elms (707 Elm St., San Carlos, CA 94070). Students of all ages, levels, and instruments are welcome to participate. Each teacher can sign up to 3 students for a total combined time of 12 minutes maximum. Memorization is strongly encouraged but not required. There is no participant fee. Please use [this link](#) to sign your students up.

Let me know if you need an accompanist. An accompanist can be provided upon request for a fee. A 10 minutes rehearsal can be scheduled before the concert.

Please note that seating is limited - we need to accommodate the residents of the retirement home first. The first 4 rows are reserved for the Elms residents.

Email me ([olga\\_chernisheva@yahoo.com](mailto:olga_chernisheva@yahoo.com)) or call (408-772 9834) if you have any questions.

Olga

## Rehearsal and Recital Space at Lessons on B

Our branch pianos have been moved from the Wind Room to Lessons on B. If you are looking for a venue, you may now sign up for a concert or rehearsal space at Lessons on B, 1527 South B Street at 16th Ave. in San Mateo.

The fee is \$50 per hour.

Availability is Saturdays from 5:00pm – 9:30 pm and Sundays from 10:00am – 9:00pm

Currently, we are using my Kawai KG-6C as the prominent piano. Utmost care must be taken with this piano and for all items in the studio. Other rooms and pianos are off limits.

The venue seats 60 comfortably with a maximum limit of 70. There are two tables set up for reception. Street parking only in a residential/business mix. Take care to not block any driveways.

To book a recital email a date and time request to me at [lessonsonb@gmail.com](mailto:lessonsonb@gmail.com)

Cynthia Brown

## Announcements - Elisabeth Fourtanier, Recording Secretary

*We welcome announcements useful to membership such as pedagogical events, competitions, master-classes and concerts of our teachers, and posts on personal instruments for sale. We cannot advertise for businesses or studios. Please keep your posts brief, with no photos. Announcements will go out monthly. Send your posts to [mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com](mailto:mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com) which may be reviewed by the board before including them in the newsletter.*

**Concert for kids on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM** at 777 Miramontes St., Half Moon Bay - Musical Odyssey concert series for children and families featuring the [Friction Quartet](#), whose performances modernize the chamber music experience and expand the string quartet repertoire.

The program, “The Flow of Music”, will take the students on a journey through the water cycle using the music of Haydn, Debussy, Prokofiev, Britten, Max Stoffregen and Piers Hellawell. The music will demonstrate the different ways that water behaves as it transforms from clouds, to rain, to lakes, to rivers, to waterfalls, and eventually the ocean. The presentation will teach the children about the instruments in a string quartet, the bow, tempo, dynamics, texture, and hocket. Admission is free, and donations are gladly accepted. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **Piano competition**

**The 2020 San Mateo County Fair Classical Piano Youth Competition** will be held on Friday, June 19th at the San Mateo County Expo Center (Cypress Hall). In order to participate, both students and teachers must be residents of San Mateo County. There are many prizes and awards thanks to the event’s sponsor, San Mateo Piano Store. This year’s judges are Dr. Dorian Ho and Mrs. Christyna Kozel. Online application will open soon and more details will follow. For more information please contact Sumi Nagasawa at [snpiano2001@yahoo.com](mailto:snpiano2001@yahoo.com).

### **Pianos for sale**

Three pianos for sale. Best offer. All with benches.

Baldwin M, serial 89655, brown - at Lessons on B

Kimball fancy antique case, brown - at Lessons on B

Sherman Clay 6311, black, 5' 6" great condition - in private home in Hillsborough

Please contact Cynthia Brown: cell 650 520 6153

### **Voice Teacher needed**

**BURLINGAME MUSIC SCHOOL is looking for a Voice Teacher** for children and adults.

This is a part time job, one or two times a week.

If you know of someone who maybe interested, please contact Irina Carrenca at:

[burlingamemusicsschool@gmail.com](mailto:burlingamemusicsschool@gmail.com) or call 650-307-4564