



Music Teacher's Association of California

San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

September 2019

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President's Pen - Natalie Griffin, President

Dear Teachers,

Welcome to the new school year! I hope that you had a beautiful summer and are ready to start the fall semester with renewed energy, creativity, and a sense of purpose as music teachers. Your Board of Directors has been hard at work preparing for the next season of events and programs. I am extremely thankful to all of them for their volunteer hours and dedication to us all. There is no way to have a Branch without these teachers giving their time, ideas, and resources and I applaud their generosity.

There are a couple of opportunities to give back to the local branch this year. Please read the posts below and if you can help with any of these please do so! The biggest impending concern is finding a new home for our two grand pianos.

Finally, I challenge all of you to set at least one new musical goal. This could involve learning a new piece, starting a chamber ensemble, attending more live performances, or dedicating more time to personal practice. As teachers we must be the change we wish to see in our students. You are all amazing teachers. This year, discover how you can be even more amazing. Your students will, in turn, naturally reap the rewards.

Natalie

Recital Hall - Sandra Gu

The Foster City Community Center will be undergoing renovations at the end of this year and to prepare, they have asked us to move our 2 grand pianos out of the Wind Room after our December 2019

recitals. We urgently need to find a new home for our pianos and for your recitals. If we cannot find a new space we will be forced to look as less desirable options such as putting the pianos in storage or selling them. We are considering all possibilities including churches, community centers, schools, libraries, and event spaces

If you have any suggestions please email Sandra Gu at mtacsm.recital.hall@gmail.com, or get in touch with one of our board members.

Certificate of Merit - Benny Yu, CM Chair

Dear Teachers,

Please see below the important information regarding the CM Teachers Meeting. **This is a Mandatory Meeting. You will need to attend the meeting in order to enroll your students to the CM 2020**

Date: Sunday, September 8th, 2019

Time: 2.30 PM to 4:30 PM

Location: Oak Room, San Mateo Public Library 55 W 3rd Ave, San Mateo, CA 94402

Please note that you will not be able to access the Online Registration if you do not attend the meeting. There will be no take home quiz available this year. I will arrange two more meetings if you can not make it to this one.

Please email me ASAP (benny.sanmateocmchair@gmail.com) if you can not attend this meeting and I will arrange another time for you.

Looking forward to meeting everyone,
Benny

Branch Programs - Millie Lee Siu, Vice President

Dear Teachers,

Our first meeting of the new school year will be on Friday September 20, 10am-12pm at Lessons on B, 1527 South B Street, San Mateo, CA 94402.

This will be a teacher's discussion session . I believe some general exchanges about the teaching scene or ideas will benefit members. The questions for discussion could be:

How to keep our teaching fresh.

How to help students who are not naturally rhythmically inclined. How to obtain income by making good summer plans

How to deal with helicopter parents
and more

Please email your question to me at milliegysiu@hotmail.com if you have something that you want to talk about or learn from others.

Please RSVP if you are interest in attending the meeting <https://mtac.app.rsvpify.com>/I look forward to seeing everyone in the general meeting.

Warm Wishes Millie

Branch Recitals - Angeline Branson

Dear colleagues,

I hope everyone is returning to teaching, refreshed, after a pleasant summer! The next Branch Recitals will be held on Sunday, November 3rd, from 4:30-5:30 pm and 5:30-6:30 pm, in the Wind Room—our last ones at the Foster City Community Center.

The sign-up form will open a month prior to the event, but I wanted to give everyone a heads-up so that you can all plan ahead.

Looking forward to seeing you all and hearing your students! Happy teaching!

Angeline

Website

We are looking for a new webmaster for our branch website and we need YOU to help! If you have experience working with websites (or if you have only a little experience) please reach out immediately to Natalie Griffin (nfmgriffin@gmail.com) or any of our Board Members.

Your duties, should you accept this mission, will include updating teacher contact information, keeping the calendar fresh, and posting links for teachers. You are not required to attend board meetings and can work from the comfort of your music-filled home. Please gather up your website savvy willingness and say yes!

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 once a month. Send your posts to mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com which may be reviewed by the board before including them in the newsletter.

Local Concert

Musical Odyssey opens its new season on Sunday, September 15 at 1pm
777 Miramontes St, Half Moon Bay

Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina - bring your children on a guided musical tour of colorful masterpieces, lead by the masterful Quinteto Latino! Grab the first row seat or drop on the floor. It's gonna be FUN!!!

Donations are gratefully accepted at the door.

Piano Competition

Report on the 2019 San Mateo County Fair Piano Competition

The San Mateo County Fair Piano Competition on June 11th went very well with more than 40 participants from ages 4 to 18.

We gratefully acknowledge the Bay Area Mind and Music Society who provided a lovely grand piano for the competition and a total of \$2,000 cash awards for the winners.

We are deeply grateful to the local teachers and parents who, early this season, successfully convinced the Fair committee to continue this unique music competition.

Sumi Nagasawa, Coordinator