



SAN MATEO
COUNTY BRANCH

Music Teacher's Association of California San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

April 2017

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- **President's Pen: Annual State Convention, Santa Clara, June 30th-July 4th**
- **Branch Programs: Concert for Kids, Sunday April 9th, 4:00 pm**
- **Branch Business Luncheon: Friday June 2nd at 11:30 am**
- **Community Outreach Program: next recital – Sat. April 22nd, 3:00 pm**
- **Certificate of Merit**
- **Branch Recitals: next recital - Sunday, May 21st, 12:30 pm**
- **Parents' Corner**

President's Pen

Kevin Imbimbo

As you are winding down from CM and the year of teaching and performing, I hope you take some time to reflect on the programs and recitals that we have presented. The board is always working to schedule a variety of events and concerts that we hope will be of interest to our membership. Your input is always helpful to keep us on that track. One of the ways you can give us this feedback, is to come to our end of the year luncheon on Friday, June 2nd. This is also a good time to recognize and thank the board members who give so much of their time to organize these programs and take care of the day to day business of our branch.

Before we end, however, there are two events left on the calendar. We have what has now become an annual event. Our children's Concert will be presented on April 9th from 4 – 5 PM at the Foster City Community Center. This is one of our most fun events of the year, and is a great outreach to the community. We are thankful to the Foster City Library and Foster City Parks and Recreation department who helped make this program possible. We also have one more performance opportunity for your students: the last Branch Recital will be held on May 21st. Please check the News and Events

page on our calendar for times and registration for this and all our events. I urge you to use the resource of our website to keep up with all that is going on in our branch.

Last, but not least, we do have our Annual State Convention coming up from June 30th – July 4th, 2017. The theme this year is “Breaking Barriers”. Our own Janice Sheng, a past president and member of our branch is the program chair for the convention. You can go to the state website to check out the featured artists and keynote speaker. The convention is in our own back yard this year at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Santa Clara. An incentive to attend is that the State gives each branch a free registration for one member who has never attended a convention. This is a great opportunity for a new member to find out about the many programs that MTAC offers and meet the State Board, as well as members from other branches. I always find the many lectures, recitals and student performances to be informative and inspirational. If you are interested in going and have never attended a convention before, please contact me at kji@sanbrunocable.com. The board will make the final decision on who will receive the free registration.

Thanks for your continued support of our branch – without you there is no MTAC San Mateo!

Branch Programs

Irina Behrendt, Vice President

Dear all,

The Spring is here, the CM is complete, it's time to relax and have some fun before the teaching year is over.

Our annual **Concert for Kids** is coming up on April 9th at 4pm at the Wind Room.

This event is made possible through a collaborative effort of our branch, Foster City Library, and Foster City Parks and Recreation department. The performing group is QUINTETO LATINO, a woodwind quintet specializing in classical and contemporary music of Latin American cultures. The flyer is attached - please, print it and post it in your studios!

We want most of our students to benefit from this FREE concert! Here is a preview link for your enjoyment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXsv63X8rOE>

Save the date for the end-of-the-year **Branch Business Luncheon**. It will be held on **June 2nd at 11:30am** at the Van's restaurant in Belmont - 815 Belmont Ave, Belmont, CA 94002. More details will come in a few weeks.

I have heard from a few teachers who have attended the clinic at Myriad Music School on February 4th. I'd like to thank Simone Bley for extending the invitation to us! I would like to hear more feed back - it would help me to plan future programs!

Certificate of Merit

Laurie Johnson & Marcela Toma

Dear CM Teachers:

I would like to take a moment to Congratulate everyone on your accomplishments and your valuable contribution to the CM program. Your punctuality, positive attitude and efforts must be acknowledged. The evaluators were delighted with the venues and our branch's particularly well prepared students.

A heartfelt thanks to Tom Hansen, for dedicating his time and energy prior to CM and over the evaluation week-end. Also thanks to Pat McNutt for teacher work scheduling and to Janet Williams for help with the testing.

A special note of thanks to Marjorie Lin, Strings coordinator, and Gina Vandellos, Voice coordinator, and all of you for all you do for your students and our branch.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the convention in Santa Clara this July.

Warm wishes for a restful and fun summer!

Marcela

Community Outreach Program

Olga Moudry

We had a very successful recital on March 11th at San Carlos Elms with 13 performers (8 pianists, 4 singers and 1 violinist) from 5 studios. Our audience was very supportive and encouraging, and they want us back!

There will be another concert at the Elms on **Saturday April 22nd at 3:00 pm.**

The San Carlos Elms is a very nice venue for our COP recitals, with a nice hall, a good grand piano, a separate room where performers can relax and a private rehearsal space. The management and the residents always welcome our performers with excitement.

I would like to encourage string and wind instrument players as well as singers to take part. We have a good accompanist who is charging a very reasonable fee for the actual time of each individual rehearsal and performance.

Registration for the April 22nd concert is now open and will end on April 15th . Program duration limit per teacher is 12 min and maximum number of students is 3. There is no fee to sign up. If you would like to participate, please see the recital guidelines and information on how to sign up at

<http://www.mtacsanmateo.org/images/pdf/COPrecitalguidelines2017.pages.pdf>

Branch Recitals

Jennifer Ho

Our recital on February 25th was very successful. We had positive feedback from the 8 teachers and 15 students who participated. I am looking forward to the next Branch Recital which will be held on **Sunday May 21st, 12:30 pm** in the Wind Room of the Foster City Community Center. Students of all levels and instruments are welcome to perform.

Parents' Corner

Elisabeth Fourtanier – corresponding secretary

Dear Families,

We hope that you will find the MTAC-San Mateo County Branch newsletter and website (<http://mtacsanmateo.org/>) a source of useful information.

Concerts in the Community

There is nothing like a live music performance to inspire and motivate your children. Here are a few concerts that may appeal to young families.

Redwood Symphony – Canada College –
Saturday April 8th (8:00 pm) with Miranda Liu (Britten's violin concerto)
Saturday June 3rd (8:00 pm) with Tamami Honma (Brahms 2nd piano concerto)
<http://www.redwoodsymphony.org/>

Crestmont Conservatory of Music, San Mateo – Gourmet concert series
Sunday May 7th (3:00 pm) with pianist Brian Villa Connor
Saturday June 17th (8:00 pm) with Daniel Glover and Tom Hansen piano duo
<http://www.crestmontmusic.org/concerts.html>

Peninsula Youth Orchestra – Carlmont
Sunday, May 21st, 2017 (5:00 pm)
<http://www.peninsulayouthorchestra.org/pyoconc.php>

Ragazzi boys Chorus
Saturday April 29th, 1:30 pm - Burlingame United Methodist Church
Saturday June 10th, 5:00 pm - First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto
<https://ragazzi.org/performances/>

Peninsula Symphony
Friday May 19th, 8:00 - San Mateo Performing Art Center
Friday May 20th, 8:00 - Heritage Theater, Campbell
<http://peninsulasympphony.org/2017march/>

Summer reading

As summer is getting near, I would like to recommend a captivating book: Musicophilia -Tales of Music and the Brain- by Oliver Sacks (Vintage, 2008/2009).

The author explores the power of music in the brain through fascinating stories of patients with neurological disorders or injuries, as well as of healthy people. A variety of topics are explored such as absolute pitch, musical synesthesia, music and amnesia. We learn how music therapy helps patients with movement disorders (e.g., Parkinson, Tourette) regain freedom. Most touching is the chapter on dementia as we learn that “*musical perception, musical sensitivity, musical emotion and musical memory can survive long after other forms of memory have disappeared.*”