

**Music Teacher's Association of California**  
**San Mateo County Branch**  
**Newsletter**  
**December 2015**

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**President's Pen**  
**Kevin Imbimbo**

Dear Members,

I'd like to send a short note of thanks to all who participated in the variety of programs that our branch has presented this year. It certainly has been a busy fall! I also want to thank our board for their hard work in making these programs happen. The results of the Practice-a-thon are in, and it was a tremendous success in raising money for the scholarships, recitals and master classes that we will be supporting in the future.

We also have a full spring planned for our branch, with CM on the horizon, student recitals and our Children's Concert. Remember to keep checking our branch website for more information on upcoming programs. I hope all of you can find some time during this busy season of music making to enjoy the company of family and friends. Have a joyous and restful holiday!

**Branch Programs**  
**Irina Behrendt - Vice President**

Hello everyone,

I have a few things to recap from this fall. Diane Hidy's presentation in collaboration with the Palo Alto branch in October was really fun. Unfortunately, there were only a few of our branch's members in attendance. I am glad we were able to serve those members who were interested and able to attend. You can read my blurb about this program on our website, here: <http://www.mtacsanmateo.org/news-events.html>

Hana Mizuta, our own YAG winner of 2015, gave a wonderful concert on October 24th in the Wind Room. Not only did she play well, she presented each of her pieces with a short, spoken note. Along with Hana's demeanor and captivating smile, her mature, intelligent and emotional playing made this an evening to remember. (And she wishes to pursue a career in engineering!) Congratulations to Heidi Hau, Hana's instructor, on her pedagogical achievement! On November 15th, we had our first Chamber Music and solo strings Master Class, led by cellist, Victoria Ehrlich. It was a great success! We had a piano trio, a string quartet, a solo cello, and two student duets -cello/piano and violin/piano. This was a first time experience for many of the students. Victoria was very informative and charismatic, and the students were very responsive. I would like to thank all the teachers who participated and prepared their students. Some pictures can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1662122410696056.1073741830.1505736136334>

685&type=3

A special thank you goes to Irina Carrenca for providing her beautiful new studio for this event!  
Wishing everyone a stress-less December and Happy Holidays!

**Certificate of Merit**  
**Marcella Toma**

Dear CM Teachers:

I am honored by your trust and want to assure you that you can always count on me. Your expertise and willingness to work are truly appreciated and I thank you for everything you do for our students and our branch!

January 2nd: the CM Teachers must return to [mtac.org/login](http://mtac.org/login) in order to submit CM Evaluation Information for each student registered. The information must be submitted by the deadline set by our branch. Please find the deadlines for all instruments on our branch's website, [mtacsanmateo.org](http://mtacsanmateo.org) under CM Calendar. The information may not be changed after the branch's deadline.

After January 2nd please enter:

- Accurate and complete Repertoire information.
- Application for Branch Honors or Convention programs. Honors Recital: please check the Box, do NOT enter a piece.
- Accompanists and Ensemble partners.
- Day 1 or Day 2/AM or PM - if absolutely necessary, you may request Day 1 (Saturday) or Day 2 (Sunday) and A.M or P.M.

**We do not have venue options.**

From January through March, you should start searching and gathering your music for the non-memorized pieces for your students. Remember the student needs a secondary score for the evaluator. Do NOT allow your students to bring Photocopies with them. It is an automatic RAL, and the student will not be heard.

CM Deadlines: All Deadlines listed in the "CM Policies & Procedures" are final and non-negotiable, no exceptions.

The Theme topic for Conventions in 2016 and 2017 is Sounds of Nature: a combination of different elements and sounds inspired by nature and the out-of-doors.

Check the August CM newsletter for details. The Newsletter is available at your Teacher Homepage under documents. Students may perform up to 3 short works from a suite or collection.

The 2016 Piano Regional Panel lists the Feb. 20, 21, 27 and 28 dates for Panel, and Feb. 28 for YAG, at Diablo Valley College, Music Building. 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, CA.

Repertoire entry is from January 2-15. Please let me know if you may need the 2016 Piano Regional Schedule Request Form, which is to be used only if a student absolutely cannot make a particular assigned Regional Panel Audition date. Submitting this form does not guarantee that a change of date will be available. The deadline to turn in this form to the Panel Coordinator is January 15, 2016, postmarked or emailed.

Students may revert to non-Panel Advanced CM evaluations at the home branch until January 15th. After January 15th, students will not be permitted to revert back to non-Panel Advanced for regular CM evaluations. (See Page 4, Section 3.4 of the 2015-16 CM Panel and YAG Guidelines.)

I wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and hope the New Year will be filled with health, abundance and success. Happy 2016!

## **Branch Recitals** **Irina Carrenca**

Greetings MTAC-San Mateo!

I'd like to remind all members about our two Branch Student Recitals that will be held on January 30th, 2016 in the Wind Room of the Foster City Community Center.

The first Recital will be at 2:30 pm and the second Recital will be at 4:00 pm.

Registration will be open starting January 1st on a first come first serve basis, until full capacity.

Please note the Recital Fee increase to \$20 p/student.

Application Form: Complete the Recital Application Form. Be sure you're as detailed as possible. Include the key and Op. #, if available. Please use the composer's full name. All entries will be printed exactly as submitted. At the end of the Recital Application Form, click on "continue" and the form will automatically be emailed to the recital chair and you will be sent to our PayPal account to finish 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. Please specify which recital you are registering, in the "NOTES" box, since there are two recitals on the same day.

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 in appropriate concert attire for the performance. If you are not sure about what is appropriate, check with Irina Carrenca, the program chair.

Have a safe and joyous holiday!

P.S. If you couldn't get your preferred date at FCCC for your Studio Recitals, you may consider the Concert Hall at Burlingame Music School, in Burlingame!

## **Community Outreach Program** **Deanna Du Bois**

I am pleased to announce that the practice-a-thon (October 1-31) was an extraordinary success! Four teachers participated and their students/parents raised close to \$2,300.00 which was more than last year's take! A special thank you to the teachers whose students participated: Phyllis Pan, Irina Behrendt and Sujeeva Hapugalle. As you may remember, this donation will go toward the Concerto/Solo Competition and several San Mateo Branch programs.

The categories for the winners were: Most Consecutive Practiced, Most Practiced and Most Money Donated. They will be awarded with fancy ribbons at the Branch Recital, Saturday, January 30, 2016. All those that participated are receiving certificates.

Chris Tang (student of Sujeeva Hapugalle), will receive both the Most Consecutive Practiced and the Most Practiced awards. He practiced 78 hours! Other students of Sujeeva, Becky Tseng and Ryan Gannon, will also receive the Most Consecutive Practice award. All three of her pupils practiced every day! John Haertle (student of Deanna Du Bois) received the Most Money Donated award and with the help of his family and friends donated close to \$250. Of the four studios that participated, the studio of Deanna Du Bois brought in the most dollars (\$1,352.00).

- Sujeeva Hapugalle

Becky Tseng sponsored by: Grace & Josh Tseng Ryan Gannon sponsored by Patrick & Jean Gannon, Jason & Linda Tung, Dan Gannon, R. Das, B Berkson, V. Anderson, R. Lew, W. Zhong and R. Narayan Chris Tang sponsored by Thomas Tang

- Phyllis Pan

Emily & Alyssa Yin sponsored by Terry, Kirk & Helen Yin and Sam Hong Caitlin Odulio sponsored by

Leila Legaspi Joey Chan sponsored by Ann Chen, Helena Mak, Yin Wai, Ze Hong Chen and Pam Chen  
Brendan & Marissa Teng sponsored by Dave Teng  
Chloe Amayun sponsored by Jinky Chan, Debbie Amayun and Bernice Amayun  
Kaiden & Adalyn Liem sponsored by Ann and Mindy T.  
Jeslyn Gau sponsored by Nancy & Jim Gao and Yin Ying Zhao  
Olivia Chan sponsored by her family  
Brianna Wong sponsored by Lori Wong and Judy Fong

- Irina Behrendt

Ella Leppert sponsored by Mahin Mashhood  
Samantha Breen-Tsang sponsored by Lilian Tsang  
Leo Kargin sponsored by Yuliana Sameroynina  
Nicholas Nhien sponsored by his family  
Minerva Tomutio sponsored by her family

- Deanna Du Bois

Connor MacMitchell sponsored by Ruby & Tom MacMitchell and Jill MacMitchell  
Lindsey Bastis sponsored by Wendy Bastis  
Brandon Moon sponsored by David Moon, Jee Yoon, Jae sook Won, Youngmin Kim and Talia Plawnov  
John Haerlte sponsored by Lisa, Jeffrey & Cathy Trevino, Anne & Steve Haertle and Mary Tang  
Amelie Delizo sponsored by Tessa Solomon  
Esther Chung sponsored by Vincent Chung, Rosanna Lee and Theresa Audrey & Claudia Williams  
sponsored by Dana Alvey and Susan & Darryl Williams  
Henry Eaton sponsored by Sally & Dave Ellison and Anne & Andrew Eaton  
Marc Abraham sponsored by John Abraham  
Joanna Thangaraj sponsored by Preetha & Immanuel Thangaraj and Chris & Antony Thangaray  
Alex Fertas sponsored by Elvie Tomacder, Cynthia Beach and Paul Tomacder  
Sarah & Sofia Levin sponsored by Melanie Roth & Stan Levin  
Elise & Ethan Hsu sponsored by Andrew Hsu & Samantha Seaward  
Hannah Fiel sponsored by Barbara Fiel

The Community Outreach Recital on November 8 at the Millbrae Manor went very well. We had a variety of performers, including violin, voice and piano. Our very own Branch Recital Director, Irina Carrenca, was the featured accompanist that day. Though the piano was out of tune, all the performers, including Irina, played wonderfully.

### Corresponding Secretary

**Deanna Du Bois**

A quick note to remind you – if you have a job position announcement or any performance/educational news you'd like me to post, please send me an email: [mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com](mailto:mtacsmcorrespondence@gmail.com).

More San Mateo Branch news:

- 1 The YCM Winter Solstice Concert (see attachment) is a free concert, organized by MTAC member, Susan Bates (from the SF branch). The concert is put on by Young Chamber Musicians and many of these students' teachers are MTAC members of various branches. The concert will be held at Kohl Mansion with a reception to follow.
- 2 Local world-class music at Kohl Mansion in Burlingame:
- 3 Violist Geraldine Walther with the Altius Quartet, Sunday, December 20, 2015 – 7 pm – Gala Holiday Concert

Cherished by Bay Area audiences, former S. F. Symphony violist, Geraldine Walther, now violist of the world-renowned Takács String Quartet, returns to Kohl Mansion to introduce and perform with the Altius Quartet, silver medalist of the 2014 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition and resident ensemble of the University of Colorado – Boulder, where the Takács Quartet serves as its mentor. This non-subscription Gala Holiday Concert benefits Kohl for Kids programs, serving more than 5,500 youths annually. Visit [www.musicatkohl.org](http://www.musicatkohl.org) for ticket information.

From Natalie Griffin, Recital Hall Director