

Music Teacher's Association of California

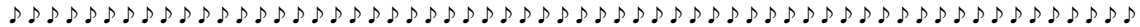
San Mateo County Branch

Newsletter

September 2009

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President's Pen

Pat McNutt

I have several items to share with you as we begin the new season. First and foremost, I sincerely wish you a good start on the new year! I hope your summer brought some relaxation. My summer was certainly relaxing. I feel like I'm racing to catch up, but know that it feels like this every year and soon I will experience a more balanced rhythm to my days.

At the MTAC Convention this past summer, our Branch received some great news: we won the Sweepstakes Award for "large branch websites!" Your board worked long and hard to set up the new website and thanks to Kevin Imbimbo, our Web Administrator, for guiding the process.

While I was at Convention, I counted the number of teachers from our Branch with students playing in convention recitals. We had 22 teachers with students participating. Hooray for us!

A big "Thank You" goes to members of our Branch who served as Delegates to the business meetings at convention. Marcela Toma, Rebecca Maggi, Irina Behrendt, Kevin Imbimbo and Deanna Du Bois got up early two mornings to attend meetings and represented our Branch in the voting process.

I'd like to welcome a new member to our Board of Directors. Yvonne Ho is replacing Li-Ying Wu as Recital Hall Director. Li-Ying is stepping down after three years – thank you, Li-Ying for a superb job and thanks to Yvonne for stepping in and tackling a busy position!

There is a new link on the MTAC State website that connects to the member shopping home page. Log in to your Teacher Home Page and you will see a link at the top where you can purchase all materials, donate to the MTAC Foundation and renew your membership. The State website is a wonderful resource for everything we need as members.

Certificate of Merit

Marcela Toma

Welcome back and a successful year to all of you! It was a pleasure seeing many of you at the Convention last summer. The registration for CM 2010 will open on September 15. Please let me know if you need your username and password. The dates for piano CM are March 13-14, 2010; String and Voice – TBA.

As requested by the San Mateo branch membership and Board, we will reinstate the Branch Honors Recitals. Consequently, we need new Branch Honors requirements. We will try to follow the keyboard requirements for Convention: Sight reading and Technique must be excellent or good, Theory score 80% or better and the Performance rating 5+. All pieces need to be memorized and the students must be CM level 5 and above and grade 7 and above. The BHR (Branch Honors Recital) application will be emailed to you after the CM results are posted.

The Teachers Training Session this fall will be held by a CM Council representative. Their availability is very limited so we received one date: September 27th, time and location – TBA. Teachers present at the Training Session at the convention are excused from our branch's session. Please try to be there as the "Remain at Level" procedure and Evaluation forms have changed.

RSVP with regards to your presence at the Teacher Training Session to singers38@yahoo.com. Best wishes to you all.

Branch Recitals

Denise Chevalier

The next two branch recitals will be: Sunday, October 25, 2009 and Sunday, January 24, 2010 at 2:45 p.m., Foster City Community Center. The October 25th recital will feature the Alma Lin piano trio (comprised of three of our members: Kathleen Johnson, Marjorie Lin and Renee Chevalier) at the end of the concert.

Applications for the October recital are being accepted now. A happy reminder: there are no fees for either the teacher or student for performing at these recitals. Look forward to seeing all of you October 25th!

Programs

Janice Sheng

This year my vision is to create more SYNERGY within our community and to create more opportunities for our teachers to SHINE!

The programs will center on CONCERTS featuring TEACHERS in performance!

There will be three concerts this year. Each concert has a theme, a time frame of 80 minutes and will conclude with a thirty minute reception.

All concerts will take place at the Foster City Community Center (Wind Room).

Please note the dates and concert themes. More details regarding the application process and program selection will be distributed soon.

- Concert #1 – “From Bach to Rock” (solo & chamber music) – Sunday, November 8th, 7:00-9:00pm
- Concert #2 – “Music of Our Time” – Sunday, January 24th, 7:00-9:00pm
- Concert #3 – “Celebration of Friendships” (music of ensembles) – Sunday, June 13th, 7:00-9:00pm

That’s right, fellow teachers; it’s time to start practicing!

Let’s make this year filled with music, collaboration, synergy and support for each other!

Membership

Laurie Johnson

I want to take this opportunity to announce two new members who have joined the San Mateo Branch. Gregory Smirnov is reinstating his membership. He is from Redwood City and teaches voice, guitar and piano. We also have a brand new member, Kimberly Blair Harmsen. Kimberly lives in Burlingame and will be teaching piano in the area. Welcome to both!

Alma Lin Piano Trio

The Alma Lin Piano Trio will perform at the Foster City Community Center, Wind Room on Sunday, November 15. This Trio features three of our fine San Mateo Branch teachers in a joint recital including the Mozart Trio in B flat major, K. 502, the Brahms Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Major and the Dvorak Piano Trio Op. 90, the “Dumky.” Bring your students and friends – this will be a treat!



ALMALIN TRIO

Sunday, November 15, 2009
7:00 PM

Foster City Community Center
600 Hillside Boulevard (at Shell)
Foster City, California

MOZART • BRAHMS • DVORAK

Marjorie Lin, Violin
Kathleen Johnson, Cello
Renee Chevalier, Piano

Free of Charge

For additional information: (650) 574-8258

Do you have a change of address, phone or email? Please send any changes to Laurie Johnson: laurlyn@comcast.net or 650-593-4559.