



MTAC NEWS

JANUARY, 2007



MTAC NEWS is published the months of September, November, January, March, and May. Information deadlines are the 10th of each of the above months, with all information sent electronically to Susan Clark, editor, tubaflute@comcast.net. Each issue of the MTAC NEWS is being mailed to State Board Members and Branch Presidents, plus it is available online (see below for access). Please make sure relevant information is published in your Branch Newsletter, so that this news may reach all members.

VOCE COMPETITION NEWS

The Santa Clara Branch will host all Northern California branches not already having their own VOCE competition.

Time and Place - February 17, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Application Deadline - February 5, 2007

Place - Santa Clara University Recital Hall (Franklin & Lafayette Streets), Santa Clara

For more information, contact Peter Thompson. You may fill out the application online at www.mtac.org and then print on yellow paper and mail to: Peter Thompson, 20800 4th St., #3, Saratoga, CA 95070

Peter H. Thompson

(Peter@ThompsonStudios.com) phone: 408-741-1922

Branch VOCE competitions will be taking place very soon. If your branch has not sent in your Branch Information Sheet, please do so now. Southern branches, send to Verna Balch. Northern branches, send to Peter Thompson. Branch competitions must be completed by the end of February.

VOCE BRANCH CHAIRS: please make sure all information is filled out on applications. This year, applications that are incomplete, or not typed, will be returned to Branch Chairs. Also, after your competition, please immediately send winners' forms to Verna Balch. Be sure to follow instructions at the bottom of the applications under STATE FINALS APPLICATION and include the following:

- correct check amounts
- proof of age
- application form
- stamped large envelope addressed to the teacher (see guidelines online)
- one business-size stamped envelope addressed to the teacher
- one business-size stamped envelope addressed to the student

State Competition times will be mailed in these envelopes to students and teachers. The large teacher-addressed envelope will be used to return judge's comment forms.

We look forward to receiving a deluge of winners!

Verna Balch and Peter Thompson

BRANCH NAME CHANGE

The MTAC State Board has approved the request of Orange Coast Cities North Branch to change their name. They will now be called the **IRVINE BRANCH**. Please make a note of this in your current state directory.

CORRECTION FROM NOVEMBER MTAC NEWS

Kristi Lobitz was incorrectly listed as the Piano Concerto & Solo Assistant Chair, South. Kristi should have been listed as the Piano Concerto & Solo Co-Chair, South. My apologies to Kristi for this mistake.

Irene Brown, MTAC State President

CONVENTION 2007

BRANCH PRESIDENTS: Please remind your members through newsletters or during meetings that the 2007 convention is in Santa Clara at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Center on June 29th through July 3rd — we missed the 4th of July this year! So ... you can be home by the 4th, or you can plan to stay in Santa Clara with your family and celebrate the 4th of July at one of the many Santa Clara attractions, not the least of which is Great America, right next door to the hotel. **Free convention registration is available to one member per branch who would be attending the convention for the very first time.** Each branch may select this person on whatever criteria your board chooses. Application information for this free offer will be sent to each branch.

You may reserve your hotel rooms by contacting the hotel by phone at 1-800-233-1234. The room rate is \$129.00 per night, plus taxes. There will be no charge for parking this year. Affordable lunches will be available this year, on site.

Consider sharing hotel rooms to reduce your costs, since there would be no additional charge for this. The www.mtac.org website has more information about the convention, so check regularly for updates. Thank you for your help in promoting our always-great convention!

Ruth Ann Schwan, 2007 Convention Chair

ADULT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The Adult Performance Program, North, will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2007, at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill. The master teachers in piano will be Mack McCray, Ellen Wasserman, and Ken Bruckmeier. This will be an opportunity for serious adult students and teachers to spend the day in lessons, master classes, and a recital where they can be selected to perform at the convention. Since participation in the master classes and recital is not required, this program attracts students with different amounts of performance experience. Memorization is not required for the private sessions and master classes. For more information, contact:

Karl Goldstein, North Chair
phone: 510-848-3422 email: kgoldstein@juno.com

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC SEMINAR & FRIENDS OF TODAY'S MUSIC

All MTAC students and teachers are welcome to apply for participation in the **Contemporary Music Seminar**. This program features music written after 1945 and explores the wide variety of techniques and styles of the music of our time. The **CMS** will be scheduled during the MTAC convention in Santa Clara.

Friends of Today's Music, the annual commissioning project of MTAC, is pleased to announce the premier of "**Danza de los Saqsampillos**" by composer Gabriela Lena Frank. This new work for two pianos nods to Ginastera with its shifting rhythms and dramatic gestures. The word "saqsampillo" refers to unruly jungle dwellers from Peru. Plan on joining us at the convention for multiple performances of this new work by various students. Ms. Frank will be in attendance and will work with the performers and participate in a Q&A session with the audience.

For more information on these programs, please contact the State Chair:

Catherine O'Connor

cathoc@aol.com Phone: 510-581-6457

ASCAP

Don't forget to mail all branch music event programs to Susan Clark, MTAC State Board 2nd Vice President, 107 East Lake Drive, Antioch, CA 94509 ---- with the MTAC Ascap Number **500605062** written at the top of each program. Please see the September, 2006, issue of MTAC NEWS for more detailed information.

BRANCH ADS

Show branch support for this year's convention by placing your Branch Ad in the Program Book. The fees collected from Branch Ads are used solely to help produce the Convention Program book.

Branch Ads are due anytime before May 1, 2007, to Linda Rohmund, lindarohmund@cox.net Ad prices and specifications were posted in the November issue of the MTAC NEWS. Contact Linda for further assistance. Email is best.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT PANEL FEES

This year is the first year that branches are required to return the \$4 retained by the branch for Regional Panel Students. In the past, this money has stayed with the branch, although those students go elsewhere for their evaluations. It was decided that if this money comes back to the State, it can be used to help finance those Regional Evaluations. We have waited to ask for this money because teachers and students could decide to be evaluated in their own branch as advanced/non panel until January 15, 2007. Certificate of Merit Chairmen need to notify their treasurers as to the number of panel students in the branch. Then the treasurer needs to send a check to the State Office in the amount of \$4 for each panel student. **All checks should be mailed by February 1, 2007.**

Madeline Miller, State Treasurer

Hermitte2@aol.com

CONVENTION NEWS

Please pass on to your members

The convention in Santa Clara promises many exciting performances and educational opportunities within the theme “Technique, the Pathway to Artistry”. Join us!

Menahem Pressler is our featured artist with the Monday night recital, a Tuesday morning Q&A and Piano Master Class. John Bloomfield of the Golandsky Institute, known for teaching the Taubman piano technique, will give the Keynote address Friday morning, a Taubman piano technique session and Piano Master Class. Randall Faber will have two sessions on technique and artistry plus an Intermediate Piano Master Class. Catherine Rollin also will have a session on technique and an additional Intermediate Piano Master Class

We have many sessions on piano technique, such as Marvin Blickenstaff, who will present technique for the young piano beginner, Peter Yazbeck, who will present “My Memories of the Technique and Artistry of Glenn Gould”, Clara Park, who will give a session on the pedagogue, Theodor Leschetizky and Sandra Sondorlund, who will present “How they teach”, a fascinating look at how famous musicians taught their own students.

The business of music gets two great sessions from Beth Gigante Klingenstein who writes the column for the American Music Teacher (magazine of MTNA) and has written a book on the subject.

The The Tilden Trio will give a recital, and its members, all known for their great solo work, will give our violin master class and the cello master class. Additionally, we have Maria Tamburrino back by popular demand for a Flute recital and Flute Master Class. As always, we will have a vocal performance and Vocal Master Class by an artist TBA.

Martin Jones, a past student of Earle Voorhies, will give a Piano Recital and Piano Master Class. Along with his wife, Clara Park, he will also give a Duo Recital and Duo Master Class. Also, Improvisation is well served by Lee Evans who will give two detailed session on jazz improvisation. Also, Willie Myette, of “JazzKids” fame, will give an improvisation session and bring his very successful Jazz Trio for a live Jazz performance. He will include in his performance some of our great student improvisers!

Katherine Westine & Phebe Craig will present “Baroque Dance Decoded” with performance on two harpsichords and with two excellent baroque dancers who will demonstrate the various Baroque Dance steps and invite the audience to join in. Gail Lew is back by popular demand for more “Piano Teaching Tips and New Piano Materials” including music giveaways for every audience member. And you won’t want to miss Betty Woo presenting “Contemporary Piano Literature for the Upper Levels” including great selections for Panel consideration.

Plan now to attend the entire convention, because these great events are spread out over the full four and a half days. See you in Santa Clara!

Lee Galloway, Convention Program Chair
lee@leegalloway.com

2007 AWARDS PROGRAM

BRANCHES: It is not too late to submit your newsletters, yearbooks/directories and recital programs for award consideration! Please send one copy of each to the Awards Chairman, Erika Ramos, no later than June 4, 2007. In addition, *please be sure to notify all your branch members* that they can submit their personal studio recital programs to be considered for an award. Help me get the word out so that the outstanding work of your branch and of your members may be honored!

Bring your branch scrapbook to the convention in Santa Clara for display and judging, beginning June 29, 2007. Look for the Scrapbook Display Table (it will be clearly labeled and in a public area). Judging begins on the second day of the Convention, and will be completed on the morning of the Annual Awards Banquet, Monday, July 2, 2007. Make sure a representative brings your scrapbook for display.

MTAC also has awards for Branch Websites. Make sure your branch website is correctly listed by your branch name, with a link through www.mtac.org (under Branches). It will automatically be considered for an award, if it is on the State Website.

TEACHERS: Submit your recital programs by the June 4th deadline. Remember that there is no limit to the number of recital programs an individual studio or branch may submit for consideration.

AWARDS JUDGES STILL NEEDED

Would you like to be a judge for these awards? The Scrapbook and Awards Program is currently looking for more judges to evaluate the entries for the 2007 Convention;

Requirements:

1. Be available sometime between June 8th and June 13th to judge the recital programs, newsletters, and yearbook entries.
2. Attend the 2007 State Convention in Santa Clara and be available (at your convenience) to judge the scrapbooks sometimes between June 30th and the morning of July 2nd.

Perks:

1. Receive one free ticket per judge to the Annual Awards Banquet, held on July 2, 2007, at the MTAC State Convention in Santa Clara.
2. Gain insight into the awards process and valuable tips on producing a superior entry.
3. Find inspiration and new ideas to bring back to your branch and home studio publications.

Erika Ramos, Scrapbook and Awards Chairman
P.O. Box 10986 - San Bernardino, CA 92423
(909) 792-5009
esr.pianostudio@verizon.net

MTAC IMPROVISATION: Fun and Affordable?

While musical improvisation can have significant pedagogical benefits, (i.e. stimulate interactive learning, solidify theory concepts, and provide another outlet for understanding musical expression), it can also be fun! And fun can be a good thing! Whether a student is stuck-in-a-rut with memorization, showing frustration with a certain piece, or could use a change of pace and an added spark to the lesson, improvisation is a great way to keep the lessons enjoyable.

Improvisation in Certificate of Merit: Remember that improvisation can be incorporated into the CM Evaluation, and it's not too late to do it. Not only does this provide students an outlet for improvisation, it has been known to reduce student anxiety before and during the examination. For more information on how to do this, visit the MTAC website, or contact anyone on the Improvisation Council. Bonus: there is no extra cost to do this!

Improvisation Evaluation: Students can also receive encouraging and constructive feedback for their improvisation by participating in this program. To find out how to participate, and maybe even have students explore another side of the language of music, visit the MTAC website or contact anyone on the Improvisation Council. It only costs \$7 per student to participate in the evaluation program. The Application Deadline for the Evaluation is April 15, 2007.

MTAC FOUNDATION BRANCH DONATIONS

Thank you to our Branch Donors: Contra Costa, Delta, Glendale, Hacienda Heights, Kern, Los Altos, Los Angeles, Monterey, Palo Alto, Pasadena, San Fernando West Valley, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Whittier.

It is not too late to add your branch name to the list of donors for fiscal year 2006-07. You can download a donation form from the Foundation page on www.mtac.org.

Thank you again to the Branches who have donated to the MTAC Foundation so far this year. Your contributions assist with student awards and scholarship, and are greatly appreciated.
