



MTAC NEWS

JANUARY, 2008

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 at www.mtac.org. Please publish relevant information in your Branch Newsletter, so that this news may reach all members.

2008 MTAC CONVENTION

June 27 - July 1, 2008 Riverside, CA

Celebrating the Music of America is the theme of this year's convention, and a convention you won't want to miss. Beginning with an old-fashioned American icon, the Town Hall Meeting, the convention will guide, inspire, and educate us in all arenas of our musical spheres. You will hear first-hand about the status of music education in America from the experts who make an effort to keep their pulse on the heartbeat of music in our country. Thus far, the featured artists and clinicians are: Seymour Bernstein, Carolyn Carson, Lucinda Carver, Kevin FitzGerald, Erik Forrester, Gary Gray (clarinet), Carl Matthes, Susan Svrcek, Robert Vandall, James Walker (flute), Oxana Yablonskaya, Miguel Angel Curzo (President & CEO, The Colburn School), Robert Cutietta (Dean of Thornton School of Music, USC), and Gary Ingle (Executive Director of MTNA).

The newly-renovated Marriott Hotel and the historic Mission Inn are located in Riverside. The atmosphere is relaxing and beautiful, and will offer a time for us to indulge in musical opportunities at one location with our friends and colleagues. Your State Board is working to insure a schedule that will allow you ample time to visit the exhibits, as well as attend sessions in a timely manner. We have read your comments, your concerns, and your complaints, and are making every effort to accommodate those issues.

The Marriott Hotel is 20 minutes from the Ontario Airport. Continue to check the MTAC website for further artists and sessions as they are added.

We look forward to *Celebrating the Music of America*, from June 27 - July 1, 2008, with you!

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

You will be able to register for our convention soon. More information will be on the website and in the next issue of the *California Music Teacher* magazine. Remember: Every Branch may choose one member who has never before attended convention, to receive a free convention registration! Forms for this will be sent to all branch presidents in February. Also, online convention registration will be available this year.

MTAC FOUNDATION

How many of you, or your family members, have been touched by organizations that survive mainly on donations from members of the community? These foundations touch us somehow in some way every day, whether we realize it or not. We have enjoyed art because of the J. Paul Getty Trust. Third world countries are getting health care attention because of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The music world has benefitted from the Kennedy Awards, and hundreds of families have been aided during difficult times because of the Ronald McDonald houses. The list goes on and on: American Cancer Society, Braille Institute, the Salvation Army, Asthma & Allergy, Alzheimer, Lupus, City of Hope, Kaiser Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis, etc.

The mission of the Music Teachers' Association of California Foundation is to facilitate the programs of the MTAC Association through financial support. This support is given to programs such as: student scholarships and awards; MTAC members in need; community outreach through the MTAC branches; and artistic programs of the MTAC Association.

In 1989, the MTAC Association added the MTAC Foundation. On September 25, 1989, it was determined that the MTAC Foundation was exempt from federal income tax under section 501(C)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The MTAC Foundation accepts all donations and grants, and consequently provides money for the various programs, plus awards and scholarships to students. The MTAC Board of Directors is also the board of directors for the Foundation. The members of MTAC have a strong feeling that it is our responsibility to maintain the ideas set forth in our MTAC Mission Statement and Goals (see page 2 of the directory, or the homepage of the website). In order to maintain our high musical goals, it is necessary to put money into the programs. Too many schools no longer have music programs with orchestras, chorus, bands, and solo performance opportunities. We are attempting to fill this gap in the best way possible.

There are many types of funds accepted by the Foundation:

- MTAC accepts donations by check from individuals, branches, and businesses.
- MTAC also accepts donations through Electronic Scrip Incorporated.
- Members, spouses, and friends can go for matching funds when one of you works for a company that has this program.
- Donations through stocks, securities, etc. are acceptable.
- Donations may be designated for specific programs, as so indicated, or for general use through the Second Century Fund.

Many of us give donations to churches, to organizations that touch us, or just to have a tax deduction at the end of the year. Whatever prompts you to give, include MTAC on your list this year. If each of us would just donate \$1 to \$10 a year to our Foundation (or give up one coffee drink from Starbucks per week, and donate to MTAC Foundation instead!), we would grow on a regular basis. Please consider making MTAC your charity of choice.

GRANT WRITER NEEDED

MTAC is looking for someone who is interested and experienced in grant-writing. The State Board is doing some strategic planning to make the MTAC Foundation more effective and successful in supporting our students and members. We anticipate that Grant Writing will be a part of the Strategic Plan. Please ask your MTAC members if anyone with this expertise and experience would be interested in supporting MTAC in this way. Contact Lee Galloway at Lee@LeeGalloway.com or by phoning 619-281-8118.

FOUNDATION SILENT AUCTION AT CONVENTION

The MTAC Foundation will be sponsoring a Silent Auction on Friday, June 27th, at this year's annual state convention. The items will be on display during the afternoon, and you and your students will have a chance to bid on these items prior to the start of the opening banquet that evening.

100% of the funds raised from the Silent Auction will benefit the MTAC Foundation. You can participate by donating or acquiring items. Our auction wish list includes:

- ◆ holiday items
- ◆ gift certificates
- ◆ lessons
- ◆ restaurant gift cards
- ◆ gifts for him or her
- ◆ electronics (adults & children)
- ◆ event tickets (music, theater, sports)
- ◆ vacations (airfare miles, hotels, timeshare, tours, cruises)
- ◆ memberships (gym, zoo, aquarium, golf)
- ◆ items you cannot buy (lunch or a lesson with a teacher)
- ◆ gift baskets with themes, such as wine baskets
- ◆ theme-park season passes
- ◆ family portrait certificates
- ◆ dance instruction classes

Remember that we have convention attendees from all parts of the state, so items that can be used state-wide are the best. We are also willing to accept CASH donations that can be used toward the purchase of airfare, gift certificates, and gift items. Confirmation of donated items will be needed no later than June 1st. Please contact **Jeanne Jordan** jeannejordan@sbcglobal.net for further information. A contribution form may be downloaded from the MTAC website in the Foundation section.

Your contribution will be tax-deductible for the value of the item, and will be a tremendous help toward our fund-raising effort.

SCRAPBOOKS AND AWARDS PROGRAM

Branches and individual private studios are invited to participate in one or more awards categories. Please visit the "Awards Programs" page on the www.mtac.org website, where you will find updated information for 2008, including a *new* awards category: Individual Private Studio Websites. The awards page contains an overview of the awards program, a list of winners from 2007, and a guide to submitting entries.

The non-postmark deadline for entries is May 31, 2008. When submitting entries via email, please note on the subject line that it is an MTAC Awards Entry, and for what category. Thank you for your participation!

Teresa Chan Escobar, Scrapbooks and Awards State Chair
teresaescobar@gmail.com
phone: 925-246-5280

VOICE EVALUATORS NEEDED

Happy New Year to all our voice teachers. Many of you are preparing for CM evaluations with your students, so please make certain you review the website for questions that may need answering. Lowell Webster has done a fine job of keeping the website updated for our use. The 2008 Voice Syllabus is available through the State Office, and is a necessity to insure you have the updated information for your students.

We need Voice Evaluators. Please submit your information to Sharon Welling at ensowest@pacbell.net. Thank you, and happy CM season to you all.

VOCE BRANCH AUDITIONS

VOCE branch auditions are being held in February. Please keep in mind that the winners' applications, envelopes, proof of age, and correct check amount must be sent to Verna Balch by March 1, 2008. May all students play well and may your auditions run smoothly. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Verna Balch and Peter Thompson

IMPROVISATION IN CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

There is still time for your students to practice in Improvisation to play as an optional part of CM. There have been some changes in the policy for Improvisation in CM. The Improvisation no longer is required to come from the *Improvisation Syllabus and Guide* or *Games and Activities for Improvisation*. It can be from those books, or from any other resource. The Improvisation does not have to be long. The minimum time is 5, 10, or 15 seconds, depending on the student's level. Levels Prep through 2 should be 5-30 seconds; Levels 3 through 5 should be 10-45 seconds; Levels 6 through Advanced should be 15-60 seconds. Encourage your students to try a short Improvisation.

The optional element of Improvisation in Certificate of Merit can be from any resource — even the student's own idea or a picture they have drawn. It is not necessary to bring paperwork documenting the assignment the student will use in Improvisation, but it would be helpful to include a post-it note on the student's music, noting that the student plans to improvise. Improvisation may be done at any time during the CM Evaluation, and is not a part of the Technique Chart (as it was originally). However, the Improvisation must be completed, along with all the other CM elements, within the time allotted for the CM Evaluation at the student's CM level.

When entering a student who will improvise at Certificate of Merit: When entering the repertoire online for CM (after clicking on "Edit Eval. Info"), be sure to click the "Optional Improvisation" box in the gray-shaded area near the bottom of each student's page.

Branch Presidents: Please include this information in news you send to your branch. For more information, or to receive this as an email to forward to your members: email Dorothy Burgess at DoBurgess@aol.com.

BRANCH ADS FOR THE CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

Are you interested in showcasing the exceptional qualities of your branch? You can do this by placing an ad in the 2008 Convention Program Book.

It is *never too early* to start thinking about placing a branch ad. **Ads will be accepted anytime before May 1, 2008.** Your branch ad might include:

- ★ the names of your branch board
- ★ events or special features in your branch
- ★ establishment of branch (charter date)
- ★ special attractions of your branch location
- ★ greetings to members
- ★ well wishes to convention attendees
- ★ mention of your branch website (if applicable)

Here is what you need to do to place a branch ad:

(1) Have someone in your branch create the ad using the ad specifications listed below. You may submit your ad in one of the following ways:

- a. laser printed hardcopy at 600 or 300 dpi (dots per inch)
- b. a high resolution pdf (300 dpi or higher)
- c. a disc or CD — a hard copy of your ad must accompany the disc or CD

(2) Submit a check, payable to MTAC, and send it to the MTAC State Office by **May 1, 2008:**

MTAC State Office
attention: Advertising Manager
833 Market St., Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94103

(3) Refer to this for ad specifications and prices:

- _ page - 3" wide by 2" high - **\$50**
- ¼ page - 3" wide by 4½" high - **\$100**
- ½ page - 7" wide by 4½" high - **\$150**
- full page - 7" wide by 9" high - **\$250**

If you want to use an old ad, these are on file with the printer. You will not need to re-submit the ad, but we will need you to specify where the ad last appeared. If the ad last appeared in the CMT, please make note of the date and issue (i.e. Convention 2001), the Volume, Issue, and Page Number where it appeared. From the Convention Program Book, please indicate the year and page number (sometimes ads appear between the numbered pages). Remember - even if you use an old ad, you still need to pay for this year. Your help with this is appreciated.

If you have any questions, contact Rhonda Williams in the State Office at rhondaw@mtac.org or by phone at 800-834-3340 ext. 105.