



MTAC NEWS

MARCH, 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

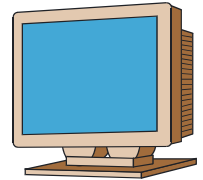
June 27 - July 1, 2008 Riverside, CA

We take great pleasure in welcoming you to MTAC's 2008 State Convention, *Celebrating the Music of America*. Beginning with an old-fashioned American icon, the Town Hall Meeting, the convention will feature an exciting and stimulating array of performances, master classes, and lectures. You will hear first-hand about the status of music education in America from the experts who have their pulse on the heartbeat of music education in our country today. Throughout the convention, master classes will be offered in flute, clarinet, violin, voice, harpsichord, and all levels of piano (from beginning through advanced), as well as piano ensemble. Recitals on flute, clarinet, violin, piano, and cello will feature some of the top artists in the country. Find specific information about this array of impressive artists and topics in this issue's Convention News. We hope to see all of you in Riverside.

Sharon Townsend Roth, program chair
Marilynn Carstens, program co-chair

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

This year you will be able to register for the convention online!! Please keep checking the www.mtac.org website for this new service. You will be able to sign up and pay for a full registration, single-day registration, and banquets ... all from the convenience of your computer! This service should be available by the end of March.



CALIFORNIA MUSIC TEACHER MAGAZINE

As your new editor, one of my goals is to help bring CMT expenses down, as they presently exceed the State Board's expectations. When you submit an article to CMT, please consider this, and write as succinctly as is possible and still include all the information you feel is important. Thanks so much for your cooperation on our "fiscal tightening.!"

M'lou Dietzer, CMT editor

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC SEMINAR & FRIENDS OF TODAY'S MUSIC

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 on June 29, 2008, during the MTAC convention in Riverside.

Friends of Today's Music, the annual commissioning project of MTAC, is pleased to announce the world premier of *Fantasy* trio, by **Paul Chihara**. This new work for flute, cello, and piano, combines elements of a familiar Japanese folk song and Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun" along with a cool jazz sophistication. Join us at the convention on June 29, 2008, for multiple performances of this new work by talented young musicians. Mr. Chihara will be in attendance and will work with the performers and participate in a Q&A session with the audience. Scores will be published by C.F. Peters, and available at the convention.

For more information on these programs, contact:

Catherine O'Connor, chair
(510) 581-6457 Cathoc@aol.com

POLICY FOR PREPARED PIANO WORKS AT MTAC CONVENTIONS

In accordance with restrictions requested from Yamaha Corporation, the following policy is in effect regarding the types of pieces performed on the pianos provided by Yamaha at our yearly convention. This year, 2008, all pianos will be Yamaha pianos.

Nothing extra may be inserted into the piano strings or on the piano keyboard during a performance. This includes Prepared-Piano pieces, and refers to fingers, or other items used on the strings for strumming.

We are asking that all teachers who may have students submitting such pieces to please forward them this information. Should a student and/or teacher feel strongly about wanting to perform such a piece, that student and/or teacher must make arrangements to supply a separate piano, not from Yamaha Corporation. Please coordinate such a request with the Convention Piano Chair (this year - Susan Clark).

ADULT PERFORMANCE SOUTH

There are 24 participants enrolled in the Adult Performance adjudications in the South. The event will be held at Chapman University in Orange, California, in Berte Hall, on Sunday, April 13, 2008. Participants elect various options, including private instruction, master classes, and recital. This promises to be a full day for the three distinguished judges: June Lusk Nelson (long-time professor at El Camino College), Antoinette Perry (from USC), and Susan Svrcek (Pasadena Conservatory and Piano Spheres). The day will begin with two recitals, one at 9:00 a.m. and the other at 10:00 a.m. Recitals are open to the public and are free.

Joseph Matthews, chair

BE A JUDGE FOR THE 2008 SCRAPBOOKS AND AWARDS PROGRAM

The Scrapbooks and Awards Program is seeking those interested in judging entries for 2008. Judges will need to be available in southern California sometime between June 1st and June 15th to judge yearbooks/directories, newsletters, and other published materials, and/or attend the MTAC Convention in Riverside and be available (at your convenience) to judge scrapbooks on either June 28th or June 29th. As a judge for 2008, you will receive 1 free ticket to the Awards Banquet held on Monday, June 30th at Convention. Other perks include gaining insight into the awards process and valuable tips on producing a superior entry, and finding inspiration and new ideas to bring to your branch and individual private studio publications. Please contact Scrapbooks and Awards Chair, **Teresa Chan Escober** teresaescober@gmail.com if you would like to participate as an awards judge.

Also, to those interested in submitting entries for the 2008 Scrapbooks and Awards Program, please remember the non-postmark submission 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. Visit the "Awards Programs" page on the www.mtac.org website for more detailed information regarding awards categories and submissions.

Convention Silent Auction to benefit MTAC Foundation

A silent auction will be held this year at the Convention on Friday, June 27th. All of the items will be displayed for you during the afternoon for viewing and bidding. You and your students will have a chance to be on wonderful gifts such as private lessons with artist teachers, music, gift certificates, rare books, and much more.

You can participate by donating or soliciting items. It's easier than you think to ask your favorite restaurant or business for a donation. And ... it's a tax deduction for them! Our auction wish list includes: holiday items, gift certificates, lessons, music, restaurant gift cards, gifts for him/her, electronics (adults and kids), event tickets (music, theater, zoo, aquarium, golf), items you cannot buy (lunch or a lesson with a teacher), wine baskets, theme-park season passes, family portrait certificates, dance instruction classes. 100% of the funds raised from the silent auction will benefit the MTAC Foundation.

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 by 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 a tremendous help toward our fund-raising efforts.

COMPOSE A LEGACY

How You May Give to the Foundation

Gifts to the Music Teachers' Association of California Foundation can be made in a number of ways, some during the lifetime of the donor, thus offering immediate tax advantages, personal fulfillment, and benefit to others as part of an estate plan. The following general information may be helpful for financial planning during 2008 and the future.

CASH

Make an immediate donation and take a charitable deduction as provided by law. Any gift or bequest to the MTAC Foundation can be made in memoriam or in honor of someone you love.

Purchase a life insurance policy naming the MTAC Foundation as the beneficiary, and take a charitable deduction equal to the premium amount. Several plans are available in which a new policy can be fully paid in a period of five to seven years.

APPRECIATED ASSETS

contribute appreciated assets, such as stock, real estate, or personal property, to the MTAC Foundation and receive a charitable deduction based on the current market value of the assets without capital gains taxes.

EXISTING LIFE INSURANCE

Designate a life insurance policy naming the MTAC Foundation as a beneficiary and receive a charitable deduction based on the cash value of the policy.

WILLS

Include the MTAC Foundation in a will. Fixed amounts, specific assets, or percentages of the estate may be specified. Another option is to name the MTAC Foundation as recipient of the residue of an estate after all other expenses and specified contributions. Reduction of estate tax liability, if any, may also be available.

TRUSTS

Include MTAC Foundation as you would in a will (see wills above) and/or establish a form of a charitable trust and/or annuities that provide the donor with a fixed or variable lifetime income and receive a charitable deduction at the same time.

REAL ESTATE

Donate a home or real estate to the MTAC Foundation, enjoy the benefits of ownership for life, and recognize a charitable deduction based on actuarial value of remainder interest in real estate.

The above information is general in nature. Before making any decision, please consult with an attorney and/or financial advisor. A gift to the MTAC Foundation becomes The Gift That Keeps on Giving by prudent investment of the funds entrusted to it.

Sharon Townsend Roth, MTAC State Board of Directors - 2nd VP
Foundation Director, Glendale Foundation for the Retarded

IMPROVISATION AT THE 2008 CONVENTION

The **MTAC State Improvisation Evaluation Program** is open to students of any instrument (such as piano, winds, strings, or voice). The Improvisation Program was created to help develop total musicianship in all our MTAC students, and was updated in 2006 to include written evaluation of the student's improvisation performance. **Postmark deadline to apply for Evaluation and possible Convention Performance is April 15th.**

The updated forms for 2008 are on the MTAC website: click on Improvisation — Documents and Forms — then Evaluation and Convention Information. Students submit a prepared improvisation on cassette tape or CD and will receive a written evaluation. Those students who apply for evaluation can choose to be considered to perform at the Convention Improvisation Celebration Recital by checking that option on the application form.

The **Improvisation Celebration Recital** is open to students of MTAC teachers from the Preparatory through Advanced Levels. Click on the 2008 Convention Assignments for sample improvisations to practice before the convention. Some of these will be used at the convention as students choose a topic “out of a hat” — they will play a short improvisation on that theme.

The **Improvisation Showcase Recital** features the top student-improvisers in the state. As a part of the evaluation process, in addition to the first Improvisation required for the Evaluation application, these students prepare a second improvisation chosen from a list of five categories. Click on Convention Showcase Recital Application Form for the list. Both recordings may be on the same cassette or CD. Students selected for this recital will improvise on-the-spot and won't know the possible themes or subjects they will be asked to base their improvisation on until they are called on to play in the Showcase Recital. This is an inspirational session where teachers can gain many ideas to take back to their students.

At the State Convention, there will be sessions specifically for teachers too. Learn some Improvisation skills for yourself by participating in the **Hands-on Teacher Session**. Look for this session in the student practice room — using earphones in a piano lab setting.

The Improvisation Council hopes to see you at the 2008 Convention!

Dorothy Burgess
Improvisation Publicity Chair for the Improvisation Council

Branch Presidents: Please give this information to your Newsletter Chair so your members will be aware of the April 15th postmark deadline for Improvisation Evaluation and Convention Improvisation Recitals. We would like to have at least one applicant from each branch. If you know of a student who likes to “create” music, encourage that student to apply.

**“Celebrating The Music of America”
MTAC Convention Artist Schedule 2008**

(all schedules are tentative)

Friday, June 27, 2008

Attend the Showcases Throughout the Day

- 9:00 *Keynote Address: **Gary Ingle**, Executive Director MTNA*
- 10:00 *Town Hall Meeting: “The State of Music Education in America Today”*
Featuring panelists: **Seymour Bernstein, Robert Cutietta** (Dean USC Thornton School of Music), **Miguel Angel Corzo** (President & CEO The Colburn School, **Kevin FitzGerald, Gary Ingle, Robert Vandall**.
Moderated by **Dr. Scott McBride Smith**
- 12:00 noon *Lunch Break –Visit the Exhibits! **GRAND OPENING***
Exhibit Hall Open 12 – 6 PM
- Afternoon *Silent Auction- bid on items near the Registration Table. Raise money for the MTAC Foundation*
- 1:30 *The Piano Music of Seymour Bernstein - **Jerry Wong***
- 1:30 *Young Composers Guild*
- 2:30 *Intermediate Masterclass on Bernstein Repertoire- **Seymour Bernstein***
- 3:00 *Composers Today Winners Recital*
- 3:30 *The More the Merrier by **Robert Vandall***
- 4:30 *Technique Through the Levels – **Linda Rohmund***
- 6:30 *Opening Night Banquet, **Robert Vandall**, speaker*
Composing for Students: The View from the Inside
- 8:30 p.m. *Young Artist Guild Recital*

Saturday, June 28

Attend the Showcases Throughout the Day!

- 8:00 *Delegates Meeting – All Delegates Should Attend*
- 8:00 *New Material Review with Gail Lew*
- 9:00 *Through the Child’s Ear- How Music is Essential for Creativity and Development - **Don Campbell***
- 10:00 *Flute Masterclass with **James Walker***
- 10:00 *Piano Masterclass with **Kevin FitzGerald***
- 10:30 *Pedaling- “The Soul of the Piano”- **Seymour Bernstein***
- 11:00 *Composers Today Winners Recital*
- 12:00 noon *Lunch Break – Visit the Exhibits!*
Exhibit Hall open 10 am – 6 pm
- 1:00 *Master Teacher: Nadia Boulanger - **Don Campbell***
- 1:00 *Elementary Piano Masterclass - **Robert Vandall***
- 2:00 ***Performance Anxieties** - **Erik Forrester***
- 2:30 *Piano Solo Competition*
- 4:00 *Anton Bilotti: Musical Magic for the Teenage Student **Carolyn Carson***
- 5:00 *Flute and Piano Recital with **Kevin FitzGerald** and **James Walker***

6:00 Teacher's Recital
8:00 Concerto Competition

Sunday, June 29

Attend the Showcases Throughout the Day!

8:00 President's Breakfast
9:00 Delegates Meeting – All Delegates should attend
9:00 *Life: Questions and Answers* – **Bernadine Blaha & Kevin FitzGerald**
9:00 *Memories of Glenn Gould: His Technique and Artistry* -**Peter Yazbeck**
10:00 Piano Masterclass – Intermediate – Advanced with **Seymour Bernstein**
10:00 Cello Masterclass with Dr. Jeffrey Kaatz
11:00 Piano Duet and Duo Masterclass with **Bernadine Blaha & Kevin FitzGerald**
11:00 Continuing the American Tradition: Ives, Cage & Crumb – **Susan Svrcek**

12:00 noon Lunch Break – **Visit the Exhibits!**
Exhibit Hall Open 10 am – 6 pm

1:00 Playing Scales Fast – Robert Vandall
1:00 Friends of Today Music Premiere with commissioned composer **Paul Chihara**
World Premiere
2:00 *Aaron Copland – Dean of American Composers* – **Carl Matthes**, piano
Jennifer Goss, cello and **Sam Chilingarian**, violin
3:00 Teachers Recital
4:00 *Richard Chronister's Principles of Piano Pedagogy* – **Ed Darling**
5:00 Adult Performance Recital
5:00 Piano Trio Recital with Dr. Jeffrey Kaatz
7:30 VOCE

Monday, June 30

Attend the Showcases Throughout the Day!

8:00 Annual Business Meeting
10:00 *Gottschalk: An American Virtuoso* – **Michael Schneider** **MOVED FROM 1:00**
10:30 Vocal Masterclass with **Gary Glaze**
11:00 *Baroque Dance in the Keyboard Works of J.S. Bach* by **Lucinda Carver**

12:00 noon Lunch Break – Visit the Exhibits
Exhibit Hall Open 10am – 4 pm

1:00 Violin Masterclass with **Frank Almond**
1:00 *Gottschalk: An American Virtuoso* – **Michael Schneider**
1:00 Clarinet Masterclass with Gary Gray
1:00 *American Music for Piano Students 1820 – 1890* – **Rebecca Bogart**
2:00 *The Audition: Success happens when preparation & opportunity meet* –
(followed by questions and answer)s - **Gary Glaze**
2:00 *Beautiful Music Together: Creating a Private Music Studio for Teachers,
Students & Parents. Move Up to An Organized Business*” – **Carolyn Biller**

2:30 Harpsichord Masterclass with **Lucinda Carver**
4:00 Violin Recital with **Frank Almond**, violin and **Michael Schneider**, piano
4:30 Vocal Recital with **Gary Glaze**, voice & **Kevin FitzGerald**, piano
6:30 Installation and Awards Banquet
8:30 Piano Recital with Oxana Yablanskaya

Tuesday, July 1

9:00 Lecture with Ms. Yablanskaya
10:00 Piano Masterclass with Oxana Yablanskaya

WEBSITE NEWS
Online Shopping

Online MTAC orders can now be paid for using Google Checkout. See the page by going to www.mtac.org/shopping/ or navigating to the shopping page from the top or left-hand links. For more information, scroll to the bottom of the page and click “What is Google Checkout.”

How to be listed on the “Find a Teacher” web page

Please take the opportunity to have your name listed so potential students can find you. Click the MTAC Login link, log in, and select Edit Teacher Info. Choose how you want your information displayed, and click submit. It is that easy! You can choose to display your name, phone, and email in various combinations. If you have not chosen how to display your information, your information will not be displayed and no one can find you on the Find-a-Teacher page.

Partnerships web page

Please see the partnerships web page. These companies have partnered with MTAC to have their logos displayed on this page. Visit their websites and explore what they have to offer.

Lowell Webster, webmaster
lwebster@redshift.com