



September 1, 2014

Dear CCMTAC Members,

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over and it's again time to get into the swing of things. Please plan on attending our first general meeting Thursday, September 18th, 9:30 a.m. at the Round Hill Country Club, Alamo. Come early to enjoy coffee, tea, and pastries and pick up your directory. Please take a look at the detailed information about the meeting at the end of this newsletter.

Our branch website now has a calendar feature that will show all upcoming events for the year. We are currently working on updating the website for 2014-2015.

Best Regards,
Jeanette Dreifuerst, President

COMING UP THIS FALL...

September 4: **CCMTAC Board Meeting**, 10:00 a.m., Lafayette Library, Redwood Room
September 8: **Sonata Contest Registration opens this week.**
September 18: **General Meeting**, 9:30 am. Round Hill Country Club, 3169 Roundhill Road, Alamo. Branch meeting and Certificate of Merit updates.
October 1-31: **Certificate of Merit Database** open for registration.
October 5: **Student Recital**, 2:00 pm. Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda.
October 8: **Teacher's Performance Workshop**, 9:30 am. Home of Barbara Anderson
October 15: **Registration for Sonata Contest closes**
October 16: **Program with Richard Cionco**, 10:00 a.m. Steinway and Sons, Walnut Creek
November 16: **Sonata Contest**

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome 5 new members who joined our branch this past year:

Patricia Lim (Piano), Danville
Lynn Finegan (Piano), Walnut Creek
Hyunji Park (Piano), Pleasant Hill
Ivana Taratula (Voice; Conducting) Walnut Creek,
Deborah Ashley (Piano, Violin) Lafayette

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS...

PROGRAMS

Program Chairs Lynda McManus and Sue Farmer have arranged our first program of the season for October 16th, 2014, 10:00 a.m., Steinway Store-1605 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek
Richard Cionco, Professor of Piano, Cal State University, Sacramento
TOPIC: "Steps to Learning" An organizational approach to helping your student learn difficult music.

SONATA CONTEST

The Sonata Contest will be held this year on Sunday, November 16th at the Orinda Community Church, with preliminaries held that morning in Orinda area homes and studios. Registration will open the week of September 8th and close on October 15th. You may register students through our branch website at www.ccmtac.org, under "Programs", then "Sonata Contest". The repertoire list has been posted on the website as a pdf which can be downloaded. If you have any further questions, please contact Kirsten West at 88keywest@gmail.com.
Kirsten West, Chair

STUDENT RECITALS

Our first monthly student recital will be Sunday, October 5th at 2:00 pm. All student recitals are held at Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Please register your students online at ccmtac.org. The procedures are the same as last year, and may be found in our directory. The second recital will be November 2nd.
Barbara Anderson, Chair

BAROQUE FESTIVAL

Now is the time to help your students choose Baroque repertoire to share at Contra Costa's annual Baroque Festival. We especially appreciate hearing selections by the lesser known composers of that era. The festival will take place at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Dates are Friday, February 6th and Saturday, February 7th, 2015. More information will be available on the website under "Programs" then "Baroque Festival" by the end of September.
Carlene Reeves, Chair

TEACHER'S PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS

The first meeting is Thursday, October 8th at Barbara Anderson's. Please rsvp by e-mail to bandersonpiano@aol.com, or phone 925-254-5049. These meetings can be a rehearsal for an upcoming performance, a sharing of teaching pieces, or sharing studio problems. For new members, this is a great way to get to know other members in a smaller setting. The second meeting will be held in the home of Jeanette Dreifuerst on November 13th.
Barbara Anderson, Chair

VOCE (Voice, Orchestral Instruments, Chamber Music and Ensembles)

Jim will be giving a short presentation on this year's VOCE program at the September 18th meeting. The VOCE recital is tentatively scheduled for May 31st, 2015. Anyone with questions about VOCE should contact James Greening-Valenzuela by email at jgrv@juno.com.
James Greening-Valenzuela Chair

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The dates for Certificate of Merit 2015 in Contra Costa County are March 7, 8, 14 and 15. Please plan to attend the September 18th meeting to hear about changes and updates to the program. Detailed information about the meeting is below:

CONTRA COSTA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SEPTEMBER MEETING

TO ALL MEMBERS

FROM YOUR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT CHAIR, JUDY MORRISON

The annual meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18 at Round Hill Country Club, 3169 Roundhill Road, Alamo, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

ALL TEACHERS WHO PLAN ON ENTERING STUDENTS IN CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR 2014-15 ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

Complimentary valet parking is available. NO TIP IS REQUIRED. Complimentary coffee, tea and pastries will be served.

There will be a brief CCMTAC business meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. with President Jeanette Dreifuerst presiding.

Immediately after, we will begin the Certificate of Merit presentation, Judy Morrison, chair, presiding. We expect to conclude the program by about 11:30a.m.

Our guests for this meeting will be members of the State CM Council who are prepared to field your CM questions, clarify rules and policies. A power point presentation will also be included. You will have the opportunity to see the "inside" of how CM evaluations are conducted. You will also be able to hear samples of ear training as they are presented on CM tests. ALL INSTRUMENTS WILL BE INCLUDED.

There is no "make-up" opportunity or materials to replace this meeting. If you are a CM teacher or plan to be, you should make every effort to be present.

At the sign-in table, you may pick up the new Yearbook and Directory. You may also pick up the Teacher Work Agreement which you will be required to sign and send in with your CM registration form in October.

See you all at Round Hill Country Club!
Judy Morrison, Chair

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST...

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Lynda McManus is looking for an intermediate to advanced pianist who would like to teach piano in her studio in San Ramon. Please email Lynda if you are interested pianoco@sbcglobal.net

"Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul" -Plato