



## February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

Dear CCMTAC Members,

We have many exciting events coming up in the next few months. The Masterclass on April 26<sup>th</sup> with Sue Hammond is the newest addition to the list. Please read the letter from Sue Farmer at the end of this newsletter for information on signing up. Also plans for a VOCE recital are underway. More details will be coming soon.

Jeanette Dreifuerst  
Contra Costa Branch President

### COMING UP SOON...

February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Student Recital, 2:00 Orinda Community Church

February 6: Board Meeting 10:00 a.m. Lafayette Library Redwood Room

February 7-8: Baroque Festival, Orinda Community Church, see below for recital times

February 13: Teacher Performance Workshop 9:30 at Barbara Anderson's, 6 Van Tassel Lane,  
Orinda

March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Student Recital, 2:00 OCC

April 26<sup>th</sup> : Masterclass with Sue Hammond, 10:00 a.m. Steinway Store

### IN THE NEWS...

Summary of **"Fido's just fine with the sound of music"** by Aaron Kinney,  
Contra Costa Times

Lisa Spector, a resident of Half Moon Bay, is a classically trained pianist who produces music designed to calm dogs. Her latest product is iCalmDog, a portable music player for canines. Her company, BioAcoustic Research Inc, which she co-owns with Joshua Leeds, an expert in the field of psychoacoustics, has now sold more than 250,000 CDs and downloads of their suite of Fido-centric music "Through a Dog's Ear". The suite consists of simplified arrangements of themes by classical composers. Spector plays the music at a slower tempo while Leeds removes the higher frequencies from the notes during postproduction. The music is especially suited to dogs that are sensitive to living in a human environment. For all of you cat lovers, they have recently introduced a line of music for cats.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS...

### STUDENT RECITALS

The next student recital will be February 2nd starting at 2:00 p.m. If you've missed the sign up for that one there will be another on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. All recitals are held at Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda.  
Barbara Anderson, Chair

### BAROQUE FESTIVAL

The Baroque Festival is just around the corner! Please come to the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda to enjoy our students perform. On Friday evening, February 7<sup>th</sup> the recitals will be held at 5:30 and 7:45. On Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> recitals will be held at 9:00, 10:30, 1:00 and 2:45. Even if you don't have students performing this year, please feel free to stop by.  
Carlene Reeves, Chair

### TEACHER'S PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS

The next meeting is Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. at Barbara Anderson's residence, Orinda. Please rsvp by e-mail to [bandersonpiano@aol.com](mailto:bandersonpiano@aol.com), or phone 925-254-5049. Please come and share your favorite pieces, your students' pieces, or anything you are working on with our very supportive group.  
Barbara Anderson, Chair

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

If you are interested in VOCE please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter. Anyone with questions about VOCE should contact James Greening at [jgrv@juno.com](mailto:jgrv@juno.com).  
James Greening, Branch Chair

### CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The dates for Contra Costa CM evaluations in 2014 are March 8, 9, 16 and 22. Evaluation times and teacher work schedules have been sent out. If you have any questions, please contact our branch chairperson, Judy Morrison per email at [jmspraktis@astound.net](mailto:jmspraktis@astound.net).  
Judy Morrison, Branch Chair

### PROGRAMS

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Scott Foglesong lectured on "Playing and Teaching Bach". I received lots of positive feedback about the lecture. He was a dynamic speaker with lots of valuable information to share with us. Thank you Sue and Lynda for coordinating this for us. Our luncheon, catered by Genoa Deli, was delicious. Many thanks to Barbara Becker for preparing the luncheon for us. The next program for this year will be our Masterclass on April 26<sup>th</sup>. **Please read the flyer at the end of the newsletter.**  
Lynda McManus and Sue Farmer, Chairs

## MSSL PROGRAM

The March 8<sup>th</sup> performance at the Oakland Children's Hospital is being rescheduled. Students will visit Rheutlinger Community for Jewish Living in April and Rossmoor in June. Please let us know if your students would be interested in joining us. You can also check out our new website at [msslmusic.org](http://msslmusic.org).

Jared Wong, Chair

## BRANCH HISTORY

Marcia Berryman has been collecting information about the history of our branch. If you have any interesting information to add, please feel free to contact her. If you are interested in reading what she has so far, please read the document sent to your email along with this newsletter.

## NEED TO UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION? HERE'S HOW...

**CCMTAC Website:** First Logon, then select the "My Profile" Button. This will bring you to the page where you can edit your information. When you are done press "Save" at the bottom of the page.

**MTAC Website:** After logging on, click on "Teacher Information" at the top left. You may edit anything in the purple box and press "Submit" at the bottom of the page.

## THE BULLETIN BOARD...

***Piano for Sale***  
*Yamaha U1*  
*Ebony Upright*

*Please contact*  
*Barbara Becker*  
*with your best offer*

[beckermusic@comcast.net](mailto:beckermusic@comcast.net)  
tel (925) 954-8808

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### *Piano Teaching Position*

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Piano teaching position: part-time, various days

Norma Bristol is looking for an experienced, mature piano teacher to teach during school and after school through her Instrumental Music Program. This program functions at a local private school and in the communities of Alamo and Diablo. If you have extra time or need extra income, this could be a wonderful opportunity for years to come. You would be a part of a team of teachers who have worked together for many years. This teaching position is starting this summer and for next school year. If you are interested or curious as to whether this is the right environment for you to add to your teaching week, please contact Norma Bristol via email at: [ncbristol@gmail.com](mailto:ncbristol@gmail.com).

**VOCE (Vocalists, Orchestral Instruments, Chamber Music, Ensemble)**  
James Greening, branch chair

We aim to hold our first CCMTAC VOCE recital in May (date/location TBA). This form is not a commitment: it is to get an idea of teacher interest. For now, we are looking to create ensembles. Instrumental/vocal solos may be allowed if there is room on the program. Students must be CM Level 5 or higher. I will be in further communication with all teacher responses.

If interested, please fill out and e-mail to me at: [jgrv@juno.com](mailto:jgrv@juno.com) ASAP. Thank you!

**TEACHER NAME:**

Retail Sales Associate (part-time) (walnut creek)

Steinway & Sons, makers of the world's finest pianos, is seeking a part-time Retail Sales Associate for our Walnut Creek, CA retail showroom. Must be friendly, organized and play piano. Prior retail experience selling luxury items a plus.

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**I TEACH:** Piano/Harpsichord \_\_\_\_\_ Voice \_\_\_\_\_

Instrumental (indicate instrument) \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PIANO/HARPSICHORD TEACHERS:**

I am interested in my student(s) participating in ensemble performance \_\_\_\_\_

I would be willing to volunteer as a coach for ensembles involving my student(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR VOICE/INSTRUMENTAL (non-keyboard) TEACHERS:**

I am interested in my student(s) participating in ensemble performance with students from other studios \_\_\_\_\_

I would be willing to volunteer as a coach for ensembles involving my student(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Fellow Teachers,

I am delighted to tell you that we will have Sue Hammond as our Master Teacher this year. We were fortunate to have Sue present a lecture at our May Meeting last year and members urged me to have her again. Sue is the originator and producer of Classical Kids which are award winning CD's that introduce children to classical music. NPR said, "Sue Hammond has probably done more to promote classical music for kids than anyone since Bernstein". She has won an "unprecedented" six Juno Awards and has been honored by the Order of Canada for her contributions to the arts.

The Master Class will be on Saturday morning April 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. at the Steinway Store in Walnut Creek (1605 Bonanza, WC). Once again Justin has graciously agreed to host an event for us in this beautiful store. The Master Class should last about 2 ½ hours and students should plan to stay for the entire class. Please don't enter a student who is not prepared to stay for all the Master Class.

The fee will be \$35 for level 6 and above. If you would like to enter one student, then please contact me as soon as possible.

Please send the following information:  
Student's name & age,  
Level and name of piece including the composer  
length of piece.

I will accept students as I receive them until we have 6 students. After I have received six entries, I will form a waiting list. I hope we are able to accommodate all who would like to enter.

Please send all this information along with a check made out to CCMTAC to:

Sue Farmer  
679 Tahos Road  
Orinda, 94563

This is a special opportunity for a student to learn from an inspiring teacher and hear other talented students.

I look forward to hearing from some of you!

Sue