



November 1st, 2013

Dear CCMTAC Members,

November begins our wonderful but busy season. Maybe you are helping your students put the finishing touches on their Sonata Contest repertoire, choosing pieces for the Baroque Festival or digging out those Christmas books so your students can provide the family entertainment during the holidays. Please feel free to come by and enjoy our branch activities this month as well, whether it's hearing our students play at the Sonata Festival or meeting our new members while enjoying a cup of coffee followed by an exciting presentation by Professor William Corbet Jones on Franz Schubert. Also, mark your calendars for our annual Christmas party, December 7th!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jeanette Dreifuerst
Contra Costa Branch President

COMING UP SOON...

- November 3: Student Recitals, recitals begin at 2:00 p.m., Orinda Community Church
- November 7: Board Meeting at Lafayette Library Redwood Room, 10:00 a.m.
- November 15: Teacher Performance Workshop 9:30 at Marcia Berryman's, 119 Siena Place, Danville
- November 17: Sonata Contest at Orinda Community Church, afternoon recitals begin at 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- November 17: CC Performing Arts Society music ensemble workshop and scholarship competition, 12:30 p.m. Bentley School, 1000 Upper Happy Valley Rd., Lafayette
- November 21: New Members Coffee 9:00 a.m. followed by a program with Prof. William Corbet Jones on Franz Schubert, 10:00 a.m. both events at Steinway and Sons, 1605 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek
- November 25: **Baroque Festival Registration Opens**
- December 7: Christmas Party at the home of Kirsten West. Evening time TBA.
- December 20: **Baroque Festival Registration Closes** at midnight.

Please see the attachments at the end of this newsletter: associate sales job at Steinway, Walnut Creek and VOCE form.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS...

New Members

There will be a coffee for new members on November 21st at 9:00 a.m., Steinway and Sons, 1605 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek. We look forward to meeting you!

Honoring Our High School Seniors Recital Posted on YouTube

If you didn't get the chance yet to check out the awesome performances by our students, here is the link to view the videos by clicking on the link or copy/paste the link into your browser.

http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8dM7K1fdAcPP_FhU6K90Q

SONATA CONTEST

The Sonata Contest is on Sunday, November 17th at the Orinda Community Church. Please feel free to come by and enjoy the afternoon recitals which will be held at 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. If you have any further questions, please contact Kirsten West at 88keywest@gmail.com.

Kirsten West, Chair

STUDENT RECITALS

Next month there will be two student recitals which will be held Sunday, November 3rd starting at 2:00 p.m.. These recitals are already full but please feel free to come and enjoy our students' performances. All student recitals are held at Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. For future recitals, please register your students online at ccmtac.org. Guidelines can be found in our directory on pages 5 and 6.

Barbara Anderson, Chair

BAROQUE FESTIVAL

Registration for the Baroque Festival will open on **November 25th** and close at midnight on **December 20th**. The entry fees are to be sent to Carlene Reeves, 1025 Hacienda Dr., Walnut Creek, 94598 to be received on or before December 20th, 2013. The festival will take place at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Dates are **Friday, February 7th and Saturday, February 8th, 2014**. More information is available on the website under "Programs" then "Baroque Festival".

Carlene Reeves, Chair

TEACHER'S PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS

The next meeting is Thursday, November 14th, 9:30 a.m. at Marcia Berryman's residence, 119 Siena Place, Danville. Please rsvp by e-mail to 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.
James Greening, Branch Chair

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The dates for Contra Costa CM evaluations in 2014 are **March 8, 9, 16 and 22**. On January 2, 2014 the database will open again. At this time, teachers will enter evaluation information, request a date, and enter repertoire. If you have any questions, please contact our branch chairperson, Judy Morrison per email at jmspraktis@astound.net.
Judy Morrison, Branch Chair

PROGRAMS

On **November 21st** Professor William Corbet Jones will present a lecture on the piano music of Franz Schubert. The meeting will be held at Steinway and Sons, 1605 Bonanza Street, Walnut Creek at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there!
Lynda McManus and Sue Farmer, Chairs

THE BULLETIN BOARD...

FACILITY NEEDED FOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

The National Guild of Piano Teachers is looking for a facility to sponsor their annual piano performance evaluations. This nonprofit organization can afford a modest rent and will provide insurance.

Please send any suggestions to Sara Harris at [**learningtree.2@gmail.com**](mailto:learningtree.2@gmail.com)

SENIORS MAJORING IN MUSIC

Opportunity to Study with Dr. Helen Marlais, professor at Grand Valley State University: "If you have any high school seniors who are interested in majoring in piano performance or piano pedagogy at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI, I would find a place for your student in my studio. I will be able to get them scholarship money and our University also has an in-state tuition waver. My students leave GVSU knowing the wide array of possibilities that are available to them in the piano field and are ready to meet any opportunity that comes their way, whether it be graduate studies, opening their own private studio or working in a community music school".

Free Piano

(Closing Estate Sale)

Fisher Brand
38 " high upright
60-plus years old
dark wood finish
very good condition
bench included

"Excellent starting piano
for a new student!"

Contact: Georgia Couch,
(925) 939-9768

*Retail sales **associate** job*
Steinway Piano Gallery Walnut Creek

Qualifications:

- Entry level to experienced
- Friendly
- Organized
- Persuasive
- Good Pianist

Interested applicants should e-mail resume in pdf format to jlevitt@steinway.com

About Steinway & Sons

Steinway & Sons was founded in 1853 by German immigrant Henry Engelhard Steinway in a Manhattan loft on Varick Street. Over the next thirty years, Henry and his sons, C. F. Theodore, Charles, Henry Jr., William, and Albert, developed the modern piano. They built their pianos one at a time, applying skills that were handed down from master to apprentice, generation after generation.

Today, we still build our pianos that way. Each Steinway grand piano, for example, takes nearly a year to create. Nothing is hurried. Even the carefully selected woods employed in the rims, tops, soundboards, and actions cure for months in our yard, kilns and conditioning rooms, until they stabilize at a rigidly specified moisture content.

Steinway is dedicated to the ideal of making the finest pianos in the world. The result is instruments renowned for their unsurpassed quality. Pianos with such superior sound and responsive touch that they enchant the most demanding pianists. And we are preferred overwhelmingly by people who share the joy of playing and owning the finest musical instrument — a joy which can be yours when you bring a Steinway into your life.

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 ASAP. Thank you!

TEACHER NAME:

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): _____

I may consider entering ensembles from within my own studio _____

NOTE: Besides operating at the non-competitive branch level, VOCE also features a statewide competitive event in the spring, for vocal/instrumental soloists and ensembles in various age categories. Performance level is very high. Competition is held in early spring. Winners receive cash prizes and perform at the State Convention. Rules can be found on the www.mtac.org website. If interested in the VOCE State Competition, contact James Greening at jgrv@juno.com