

DELTA BRANCH

MUSIC
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION
OF CALIFORNIA

Delta Branch

NEWS

February, 2017

BRANCH EVENTS - FEBRUARY

- 11 Student Recital(s)
- 18 Chamber Music at Clayton Valley Presbyterian
- 19 Diablo Symphony Orchestra
- 25, 26 Certificate of Merit

OTHER EVENTS - FEBRUARY

- 4, 5 Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra
- 24 Oakland Symphony

COMING UP - MARCH/APRIL

- 3/4 CM Honors Recital(s)
- 3/25 Rachel Reilly Young Artist Competition
- 4/8 Student Recital featuring RRYAC winners

Page In this Issue:

- 1 A Message from your CM Chair
- 3 A Message from your Scholarship Chair
- 3 Adult Seminar News
- 3 Barnes & Noble Fundraiser
- 3 Chamber Music Concert set
- 2 Composers Today information
- 4 Diablo Symphony
- 2 Monthly Student Recital Information
- 4 Oakland Symphony
- 1 Rachel Reilly Young Artist Competition
- 2 Vela Studio Outreach



A message from your CM Chair

CM is less than three weeks away! In the next week the student schedule and teacher work schedule will be out - keep an eye out for them! Students and parents will be able to access the schedule online through the Parent Portal. We will have two evaluation rooms for piano on Saturday, and on Sunday will have two evaluation rooms for piano as well as one room for winds and one room for strings.

The Honors Requirements have been changed for Levels 7 and up: the theory test score should be 70% or higher in order to be accepted for the Honors Recital.

There can be no changes made to the evaluation forms before CM this year - the repertoire you entered must stay as you entered it. If you made a mistake, and the student plays a piece that is not listed on the form, the student will not be eligible for Branch Honors or Convention.

The Rachel Reilly Young Artist Competition will take place on Saturday, March 25. Forms will be out soon. We have engaged Timothy Smith, conductor of the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra as one of our adjudicators. Please encourage as many students as you can to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to participate in competition and to receive valuable feedback from quality local musicians. There are two grade categories: K-8 and 9 - 12 and two instrument categories: one for piano only and one for all other instruments. Winners will be presented at the Monthly Student Recital on April 8.

On Saturday, December 10, 2016 private students of Sharon Vela, plus a brother and sister on bass and cello, performed for the residents of Quail Lodge Retirement Community, where this photo was taken, then we traveled to The Commons at Dallas Ranch for a second performance.

At both homes we took words to Christmas Carols, with lovely voices joining us on some of our pieces. A highlight of the day was our performance of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" as many of the residents sang by memory and had joyful expressions as they recalled their younger days and families.

It was a glorious experience as the students shared their talents and love of music. It was a treat for me to hear them in lovely harmonies and to see them enjoying the music as they shared it with the elderly.



Composers Today

If you are entering students or yourself in the Composers Today State Contest you must send your proof of age and Participation Commitment Form by snail mail to:

Su-Shing Chiu
CT State Contest Coordinator
9 Pesaro
Irvine, CA 92614 or scan and email to: sushing_chiu@yahoo.com.

Proof of age and Participation Commitment Form must be received by the CT State Contest Coordinator no later than March 1.

The CT State Contest final application due date is now March 8 and is all done online. Unlike CT Evaluations, Composers can only submit one manuscript per year for CT State Contest.

Much more information is available online through your Teacher Home Page at mtac.org under Composers Today, CT State Contest.

There is a Yahoo Group for teachers interested in getting more information or asking questions. If you would like to be part of the Yahoo Group, contact Connie Tyler at connie@deephum.com. Connie is also glad to answer any questions you may have.



Monthly Student Recital Information

We have dates for our final student recitals at LMC: April 8 and May 20. May 20 is our "Pops" Recital, where we allow students to play popular music, and do not require memorization. We also will present the LMC student scholarship at this recital.

We have found a BIG reduction in participation in the monthly recitals this year, so will soon be asking you for ideas about increasing participation. Look out for a questionnaire after CM!

Chamber Music Recital February 18

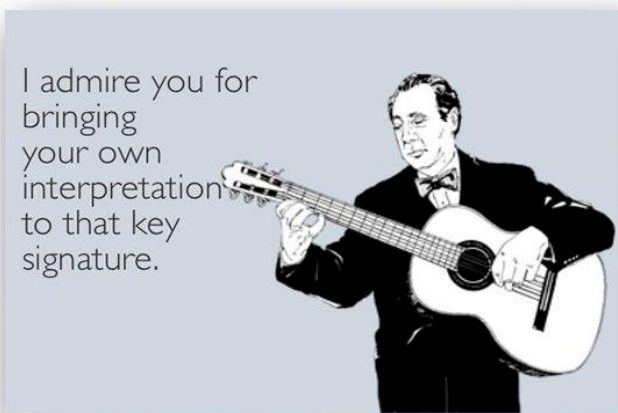
The Clayton Valley Presbyterian concert series will host an evening of chamber music on February 18 at 7:30 PM. Rick Shinozaki, violin, Durwynne Hsieh, cello, and Catherine Thompson, piano, will perform Durwynne's Piano Trio and Cello and Piano Sonata; the Grand Tango by Piazzolla; and Catherine and Rick will play solos as well. All the music is new and exciting and very listenable. This is a repeat of the performance that was held January 15 at the Thompson home. A wonderful afternoon was had by all who were able to attend that recital. Please see the attached flyer.

Scholarship news from Delta Branch MTAC
Scholarship Chair, Nancy Bachmann:

IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME!

There are two Delta branch scholarships this year: our usual LMC \$1200 award AND the Graduating High School Senior Delta Branch Scholarship of \$1000. I have included pdf's of the guidelines and application forms for both. Delta Branch teachers, please note the importance of the letter from the HS student's teacher.

Find the forms attached here and in a separate email from Catherine.



Adult Student Seminar

The last Adult Student Seminar was such a success that no one wanted to go home! We had only four performers and six in attendance, but the discussion was lively and interesting! All adult students of Delta Branch are welcome, along with their teachers. We have decided to do "works in progress" and to meet more often. Future dates are:

April 30, June 25, and September 17. So mark your calendars. I will be sending out reminders as well.

Maureen Honegger
Adult Seminar Chairperson



Barnes & Noble Fundraiser

Our Barnes & Noble day was a great success! Thank you to all the studios who participated. We filled the entire day with music, and the store was thrilled. We brought in \$1130.69, including tips.





Experience an afternoon of music from Mexico and Brazil – intense, passionate, lyrical, rhythmic, and humorous. [El Mariachi Alegre](#) joins the Diablo Symphony for a festive finish! We are also proud to present the premiere of a work by local Walnut Creek composer Justin Levitt.

Arturo Marquez (1950-) is a Mexican composer whose work has been characterized by an exploration of medium and language. **Carlos Chávez** (1899-1978) was a Mexican composer, conductor, and educator who founded and directed the Mexican Symphonic Orchestra. Marquez's **Danzón No. 2** and Chávez's **Sinfonia India** are two of the most popular and most frequently performed Mexican contemporary classical music compositions.

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959) was one of the most prominent Brazilian composers of the 20th century, combining elements of Brazilian folk music with western art music to create a unique style. Inspired by the contrapuntal and structured music of J.S. Bach, the **Bachianas Brasileiras** combine Bach's structure with the sound of Brazilian folk music.

Justin Levitt is an award winning pianist and composer, President of the nationally recognized music organization Composers, Inc. and is an active participant and supporter of our local music community. We are proud to premiere his work, **"From Another Time"**, which is based on reminiscences of Russian life.

El Mariachi Alegre, music directed by Esteban Steve Zapiáin, has performed with Los Lupeños at Yerba Buena Gardens in San Francisco as well as the Mexican Heritage Plaza, and for schools, churches, Dia de los Muertos and Holiday functions throughout the Bay Area. The **Fiesta Mexicana** is a joyous tribute to both mariachi and symphonic music, including an original musical arrangement that will be premiered at this concert.

February's "Notes from Native America" concert by the Oakland Symphony is our exploration of the music associated with Native Americans, something we as a Nation should be doing more of. Audiences will experience the rich cultural heritage of the hundreds of tribes and peoples that make up this community. This concert will be a chance to learn more about the first people to inhabit our country. There will be spoken word, dance and native instruments in what should be a colorful and spiritual concert experience.

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 9

Feather Dances

SuNuNu Shinal Traditional dancers from Kashia Stewarts Point Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians

JEROD IMPICHCHAAACHAAHA' TATE

Lowak Shoppala' – Fire and Light Hymn

JOHN CHRISTOPHER WINEGLASS *Big Sur: The Night Sun*

Emiliano Campobello, *native flute*

Marcie Chapa, *world percussionist*

Jayson Fann, *world percussionist*

Kanyon Sayers-Roods, *Native American singer from the Costanoan Ohlone and Chumash Tribes*

JEROD IMPICHCHAAACHAAHA' TATE

Lowak Shoppala' – Fire and Light Clans

Vincent Medina, *narrator*

Members of Oakland Symphony Chorus

