

**Music Teachers' Association of California  
San Francisco Branch  
Bonnie Knight, President; Heidi Hau, Vice-President;  
Melissa Smith, Treasurer;  
Yelena Sonyants, Membership Secretary;  
Vanessa Polgar-Sonne, Recording Secretary;  
Heather Carothers, Carol Ferrando, Shari Levinger-Jacobs,  
Robert Schwartz, Crystal Wong, Directors**

**MTAC-SF Newsletter  
October 24, 2010**

Here is the annotated Table of Contents. Details follow in the body of the Newsletter. There are six topics:

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2. Volunteers Needed:
  - Recital Chair for November 14 Recital and 2011 Recitals
  - Teacher and Student Performers for December 25  
Community Service Concert
  - Teachers to perform in Teachers' Fundraising Concert  
(date to be announced)
3. Certificate of Merit News
4. Calendar for the Academic Year, with Recital Appl. deadlines
5. Upcoming Concerts, Workshop
6. Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition

APPENDIX: RECITAL GUIDELINES – PLEASE SAVE ALL YEAR

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**Introducing the Branch Volunteers**

The branch has approximately 20 volunteers, or 20% of the Branch. Thank you one and all!! See Item No. 2 for volunteer openings.

Volunteerism for the current academic 2010-2011 year began in June 2010, with the formation of the Nominating Committee for the Board. Branch President **Bonnie Knight** phoned a dozen branch members asking them to be on the Nominating Committee and **Barbara Bannett, Nataly Dukovny and Robert Schwartz** accepted the task. They were asked to please nominate themselves or other members willing to make a one-year commitment to the Board and to contact these members to see if they were willing to be on the ballot, with a two-week window to compile nominees. We have a good-sized, hardworking and creative Board this year as a result. **The names and titles of the 10 Board members are at the top of this Newsletter.** **Shari Levinger-Jacobs** is the **Board Hostess**, the A-1 provider of her home, along with tea and treats for the Board meetings.

In the summer 2010, **Crystal Wong**, Venue Chair Emeritus for many years, and **Vanessa Polgar-Sonne**, the new Venue Chair, along with **Bonnie Knight** as a Venue Assistant, negotiated together with SF State University in person and via email and phone for over two months and had great success getting an economical contract for nearly all our events. **Vanessa Polgar-Sonne** also got SFSU to tentatively agree to dates for 2011-2012, a venue coup.

**Bonnie Knight** also made arrangements for the SF Humanities Building for the CM Training/General Meeting, The Heritage for our Community Service concert, the home of **Maya Gorodetsky** for the New Year's Party/YAG Concert and Solo Competition and the Century Club for the Solo Competition Winners' Recital.

**Janis Lee**, [bjlee@yahoo.com](mailto:bjlee@yahoo.com), is the new **CM Chair**, a giant job!! **Janis Lee** has already put in countless hours long in advance of CM. She has kept the Branch up to date on CM News, arranged the training meeting with Ryan Huo, Evaluator Chair for Northern California, and obtained the Training Quiz for those members who missed the meeting. She is assisted by the **CM Committee**, comprised of former CM Chairs, **Esther Chan**, [pianistchanesther@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pianistchanesther@sbcglobal.net) and **Keiko Banks**, [sbanks@sonic.net](mailto:sbanks@sonic.net) who will use their long history and experience with CM to consult with **Janis Lee** in her first year.

**Keiko Banks**, [sbanks@sonic.net](mailto:sbanks@sonic.net) is the MTAC-SF Branch Webmaster. The branch is thankful to **Keiko** for the great look of our webpage and her conscientious regular updating of the basis.

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**RECITAL COMMITTEE** so far  
(Recital Chairs needed for 11/14 & 2011!):

**Jill Wenzel**, [jillmwenzel@yahoo.com](mailto:jillmwenzel@yahoo.com), served as Recital Chair on Oct. 17; and will be Recital Chair for the Dec. 5 Holiday Recital.

**Melissa Smith**, [MLS3@aol.com](mailto:MLS3@aol.com), accepts all recital applications and checks and forwards the information to the Recital Chair.

**Robert Schwartz**, [robert@sfcamerata.org](mailto:robert@sfcamerata.org), **Recital Coordinator**, creates all the student recital programs and all the recital certificates. This includes planning the programs, typing the programs, arranging for the printing of the programs, and bringing the programs and certificates to the concerts.

**Keiko Banks** and **Esther Chan** proofread the recital programs.

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**Heidi Hau**, [classic\\_hau@yahoo.com](mailto:classic_hau@yahoo.com), and **Scott Pratt** [scottrpratt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scottrpratt@sbcglobal.net), are Solo Competition Co-Chairs. Heidi Hau has supervised this Competition for the Branch previously, in addition to being in charge of the Marilyn Mindell Competition. Scott Pratt, President Emeritus, assisted with the Solo Competition last year and has agreed to take the reins with Heidi Hau this year.

**William Wellborn**, [pianoleg@aol.com](mailto:pianoleg@aol.com), is the MTAC VOCE (Voice, Orchestra, Chamber, Ensemble) Chair. When the State Convention draws near, he will be the person to consult about participation in VOCE Events.

**Bonnie Knight**, [Bonnie.Knight@att.net](mailto:Bonnie.Knight@att.net), is the MTAC-Composers Today Chair. She is also the Community Service Concert Chair.

**Maya Gorodetsky** is the Hospitality Chair for the Branch.

**Bonnie Knight** writes the Newsletter and **Barbara Bannett** edits the Newsletter.

THANK YOU, ALL. If there is anyone overlooked inadvertently, please notify **Bonnie Knight** and the correction will be made in the next Newsletter.

The MTAC-SF Branch is also extremely grateful to **William Wellborn** who gave a stellar lecture on Chopin and the Mazurka on Sunday, October 17. This was a professional engagement, but the lecture so benefited everyone fortunate enough to be present. The lecture was attended by 30 people, including Branch members, piano faculty from SFSU and School of the Arts, and piano students of all ages.

### **Volunteers Needed:**

Please contact [Bonnie.Knight@att.net](mailto:Bonnie.Knight@att.net) if you can volunteer.

- **A Recital Chair is needed** for November 14, and for all recitals in 2011. The duties are all in-person: see that the room looks neat before the concert, greet families, arrange the students in performing order, be the one to give the welcoming speech (optional, only if you want to do it), and hand out the recital certificates.

- **Teacher/Student performers needed:** The December Community Service Concert, open to TEACHERS and STUDENTS as performers, is on Christmas Day, [December 25, at 3:00 p.m.](#), at The Heritage Life Care Community Home, 3400 Laguna Street, S.F. The building is designed by [Julia Morgan](#) and we play in the front lobby, which is quite elegant. The piano is a Steinway grand, and although it is not a musician's piano, it is of much better quality than the average retirement home piano.

**There is no fee to participate in this concert, it's free, but recital applications should be received by the Recital Chair, Bonnie Knight, 2546 Great Highway, S.F., CA 94116-2613 by Saturday, December 11.** The first one hour of music submitted will be accepted. All ages are welcome.

- **Teacher performers needed:** There are going to be two Teachers' Fundraising Concerts this year. The dates are to be announced. One will be in the first semester, one will be in the second semester. **Robert Schwartz** has agreed to provide his home. He is also going to provide for auction to the attendees the opportunity to bid on a 45-minute concert in the home of the auction winner!

The Branch needs volunteer teacher-performers. Please contact [Bonnie.Knight@att.net](mailto:Bonnie.Knight@att.net) if you would like to be a part of this momentous event.

### **Certificate of Merit News**

Please see [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org) for DEADLINES and CM NEWSLETTERS from the CM State Council. **The most immediate CM deadline is November 15, 11:59 p.m. for registering students.** There is no late registration.

Members who want to participate in CM need to have email access and to have participated in the training meeting that took place on October 10, 2010. Members who missed the training meeting must pass a training quiz, which can be obtained from **Janis Lee, [bjtlee@yahoo.com](mailto:bjtlee@yahoo.com).**

## MTAC-SF BRANCH CALENDAR FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Current as of October 24, 2010

### Recital checks and application forms go to

**Melissa Smith**, Treasurer  
MTAC-SF Branch  
1504 Whipple Avenue  
Redwood City, CA 94062

**Robert Schwartz**, [robert@sfcamerata.org](mailto:robert@sfcamerata.org), **Recital Coordinator**, has requested that teachers also send the recital information directly to him in an email, if possible. It would be helpful.

### The Branch needs a Recital Chair for 11/14/10 and the 2011 Recitals!

Fall and Spring Semester Teachers' Fundraising Concerts, and Community Service Concert to be arranged. Contact [Bonnie.Knight@att.net](mailto:Bonnie.Knight@att.net) for all.

**Sunday 11/14/10** Student Recital, CA 146 SFSU, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. **The deadline for application forms and one-check per teacher to be received is Saturday, October 30.**

**Sunday 12/5/10** Holiday Recital, CA 146 SFSU, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. **The deadline for application forms and one-check-per-teacher to be received is Saturday, November 20.** The volunteer Recital Chair is **Jill Wenzel**.

**Saturday, 12/25/10 3:00 p.m.** Community Service Concert at The Heritage. See details in Newsletter above. Contact [Bonnie.Knight@att.net](mailto:Bonnie.Knight@att.net).

**Sunday 01/09/11 3:00-5:00 p.m.** New Year's Branch Party/YAG Concert with Pianist David Wu, Home of Maya Gorodetsky, 1238 - 39th Avenue, San Francisco.

**Sunday 02/06/11** Master Class in SFSU CA 146, time to be announced. Master teacher is Jeanne Stark.

**Sunday 02/20/11** Student Recital, CA 146, SFSU, 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Deadline to apply is **Saturday, February 5, 2011.**

**Sundays, March 13 and March 20** - CM in entire music wing of SFSU CA, including the Casablanca Room, 7am-7pm.

**Sunday 3/27/11** CM Honors Recital in Knuth Hall at SFSU, reserved all day 9-5, plus room CA 154. Last concert of the day will be CM Panel Honors.

**Sunday 4/3/11** Solo Competition, Maya Gorodetsky's house, 1238 - 39th Avenue, San Francisco.

**Sunday 4/10/11** Solo Competition Winners, Century Club, time to be announced.

**Sunday 5/29/11**, Adult and Student Recitals, 1:00-5:00, SFSU, CA Bldg. Rm 146. Deadline to apply is Saturday, May 14, 2011.

Installation tea in June to be arranged.

All the same dates have been reserved at SFSU for 2011-2012, adjusted for the new calendar. They are subject to change if SFSU faculty wants the same days.

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## **Upcoming Concerts, Workshop**

**Juliet McComas** will perform in the Piano Marathon at the Crestmont Conservatory of Music in San Mateo on Sunday November 7th. The marathon begins at noon and ends at 9 p.m. and your ticket is good all day. Juliet will perform works of Schumann, Chopin and Mendelssohn around 6:15 p.m. Crestmont Conservatory is located at 2575 Flores Street off El Camino Real in San Mateo. For further information, please call (650) 574-4633 or visit [www.crestmont.org](http://www.crestmont.org).

Then on Sunday, November 14th, Juliet will perform in the Mozart Piano Quartet in G Minor on the final concert of SF Community Music Center's Chamber Music Series. The concert is at 4 p.m. at the Capp Street Concert Hall at 544 Capp Street between 20th and 21st Street. For further information, please call (415) 647-6015 or visit [sfcmc.org](http://sfcmc.org).

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Our Master Class teacher, concert pianist **Jeanne Stark**, is performing in Berkeley on Saturday, November 6, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Presbyterian Church at 2727 College Avenue. The box office opens at 1:30. The hall opens at approximately 2:30. The price is \$35.00. The info line is 510-845-4444.

The program:

Mozart: Sonata in C Major, K. 330

Debussy: Ondine (from "Preludes, Book II")

Ravel: Ondine (from "Gaspard de la nuit")

Chopin: Ballade No. 3 in A flat Major, Op. 47 (inspired by Mickiewicks poem "Legend of Undine")

Beethoven: Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

NOTE: No one under 6 years old will be admitted.

JEANNE STARK graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Brussels with the highest marks of the previous 20 years and received the conservatory's most coveted award: The Prix de Virtuosite avec Grande Distinction. Born in Belgium, Ms. Stark won the Laure Van Cutsem Prize, appeared as soloist with her country's national orchestra and was selected to represent Belgium at an international festival of modern music in Bayreuth. An International Queen Elisabeth scholarship brought Ms. Stark to the United States for advanced study with Mieczyslaw Horszowski and Edwine Behre.

Following a highly acclaimed debut in New York's Carnegie Recital Hall, Ms. Stark has delighted audiences in France, Canada, Mexico, Belgium and the United States. She has given recitals and appeared with the New Haven Symphony, with the Boston Civic Orchestra, in Virginia, in New York's Town Hall and on WNYC in New York. She has also performed extensively with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, including a performance of Messiaen's

Turangalila with Kent Nagano conducting. For several years, Ms. Stark served as both teacher and performer in the festivals at Montauroux in Southern France and was a member of the Adamant Summer Piano School in Vermont. Ms. Stark has served at Bryn Mawr College as guest lecturer on the works of Olivier Messiaen and was Assistant Music Director for Mozart's Marriage of Figaro at Bryn Mawr.

With Today's Artists Concerts' Distinguished Artists Series in San Francisco, she has performed Mozart's Concerto No. 23, K. 488 under the baton of Kermit Moore, and Franz Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1 under the baton of Urs Schneider, both with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, and several solo recitals. In 1985, she performed a solo recital program at Carnegie Recital Hall and gave recitals at Alice Tully Hall in 1988 and 1992, both also under the auspices of Today's Artists Concerts. In 1996, she performed Bach's Goldberg Variations at Alice Tully Hall, under the auspices of Four Seasons Concerts and in 2001, she was presented in her Carnegie Hall debut recital also under the auspices of Four Seasons Concerts.

For 23 years, Ms. Stark has been Artist-in-Residence at Four Seasons Concerts' Yachats Music Festival in Yachats, Oregon. She performs regularly with Four Seasons.

**Notice from the Junior Bach Festival:** There will be a Baroque Practices Workshop on the ever-fascinating subject of ornamentation, Saturday, November 13, 2010, 1:30 to 4:00 pm, at the Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose Street, Berkeley. Admission is only \$5.00. The presenter will be noted organist and harpsichordist, Sandra Soderlund, who will discuss and demonstrate the international styles of ornamentation used by Johann Sebastian Bach. A coaching session for selected students will follow. Students and teachers are encouraged to bring their questions! See website, [www.juniorbach.org](http://www.juniorbach.org) for further details. To help our planning, please RSVP by Email to [juniorbach@earthlink.net](mailto:juniorbach@earthlink.net).

SFSU Piano Professor, **Dr. Roger Woodward**, will be performing on Monday morning, November 15th, 10:00 a.m., Book One of The Well-Tempered Clavier by J. S. Bach, at The Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose Street, Berkeley.

## **The Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition**

The Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition is directed by **Heidi Hau**. It is held on January 15, 2011, at Campbell Recital Hall, Braun Music Center, Stanford University. The application deadline is December 17, 2010. There is a Junior Competition for ages 10-13 and a Senior Competition for high school students. Winners perform at the Peninsula Symphony Family Concert in February. 3 junior winners will receive \$100 each and 1 senior winner will be awarded \$1,000. Information and competition applications can be found online at: <http://www.peninsulasymphony.org/bridges2music/competition-mindel2011.php>. Other contact information: Peninsula Symphony, 146 Main Street, Suite 102, Los Altos, CA 94022. Tel: 650-941-5291. Email: [mmpc@peninsulasymphony.org](mailto:mmpc@peninsulasymphony.org)

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Thank you all for your active involvement with the MTAC-SF.

Best wishes,

Bonnie Knight, President &  
MTAC-SF Branch Board of Directors

**Credit and appreciation to Yelena Sonyants** for the U.S. mail Newsletter distribution!

**Gratitude to Barbara Bannett** for serving as Editor of this Newsletter.

FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE BRANCH: Phone: 905-6252;

Email: [mtac-sf@att.net](mailto:mtac-sf@att.net)

See us at our website: [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org)

Newsletter published by MTAC-SF Branch Board of Directors

## **Recital Guidelines—PLEASE SAVE ALL YEAR!**

For Branch recitals, via U.S. Mail, send your completed recital applications and ONE CHECK PER TEACHER with \$20 from each of your recital students to one person only, the Treasurer, **Melissa Smith**, at her current address:

Melissa Smith, Treasurer  
MTAC-SF Branch  
1504 Whipple Avenue  
Redwood City, CA 94062

**NOTE: Only one check per teacher will be accepted!**

**Robert Schwartz, [robert@sfcamerata.org](mailto:robert@sfcamerata.org), Recital Coordinator, has requested that teachers also send the recital information directly to him in an email, if possible. It would be helpful.**

Members with internet access can find the recital application online at [www.mtac-sf.org](http://www.mtac-sf.org) under "Branch Programs." Members without internet access can ask the Recital Chair (*to be announced as soon as volunteers are found*) to mail them a recital application.

The only exceptions to this policy are the Community Outreach Concerts, which are free in which to participate. Recital applications for community outreach concerts that involve **NO CHECKS** go to

Bonnie Knight  
2546 Great Hwy.  
S.F., CA 94116-2613

Recital Chairs must send their recital application forms and checks to Melissa Smith by the deadline, just as all other members do.

All other rules are in the Recital Guidelines for Teachers at [www.mtac-sf.org](http://www.mtac-sf.org) as follows:

GENERAL RECITAL GUIDELINES for TEACHERS  
Approved by MTAC-San Francisco Branch September 2002

Thank you for paying careful attention to our STUDENT RECITAL GUIDELINES for TEACHERS. Please take this opportunity to discuss the RECITAL ETIQUETTE with students and parents.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Fill out a separate application for each student. Be sure to time the pieces accurately. Incomplete forms will NOT be accepted.

Teachers should time each piece accurately.

Send a single check payable to MTAC - SF to cover all applications. The fee is non-refundable after the deadline.

Application forms and checks must be postmarked before the scheduled deadline.

## ELIGIBILITY:

AGE LIMITATIONS STUDENT/HOLIDAY RECITAL - 18 or younger ADULT RECITAL - 19 or older

Recitals are open to students of active or provisional MTAC-SF members in good standing.

Students are required to have studied with their present teacher for a period of **at least 6 months prior to applying for the recital appearance.**

## PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

Students should play repertoire equivalent to **at least Level II** in the current Certificate of Merit syllabus.

Except for the Adult Recital memorization is required for all piano and vocal solos.

Total playing time may not exceed 7 minutes for Levels 2 - 8, and 12 minutes for Level 9 and above.

All standard repertoire is accepted. However, method book pieces and simplified versions of the classics will not be accepted.

## APPLICATIONS:

Applications are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Special requests regarding program order will not be guaranteed. No changes are allowed after the program is made. There can be up to 4 one hour recitals in one afternoon

We would like to encourage all members and their students to participate in the recitals and the recital registrar will try to accommodate as many students as possible. While you may send as many students as you like, we may not be able to accommodate more than 2 applications from the same studio, even if they are postmarked well before the deadline date. Students that could not be scheduled may be scheduled for the next recital, and the studio will be notified by the registrar.

We cannot guarantee that studios with two or more students enrolled will perform in the same hour.

Students performing the same piece may be placed in different recital program hours.

It will be the teachers' responsibility to supply accompanists if necessary.

The Recital Registrar will not be able to make exceptions. Please do not make special requests on the application form or by any other manner.

## RECITAL ETIQUETTE:

It is the teacher's responsibility to inform the students/parents of the proper recital manners and rules before arriving at the hall.

Female performers should wear knee-length skirts or dresses, or dressy slacks with blouses. Exposed midriff (mini-skirt, slit on right side) is not permitted. Male performers should wear dress slacks and dress shirt. Ties and jackets are optional. Dress shoes are required for all performers. No athletic shoes or back-less sandals. Note that it is difficult to pedal with platform shoes.

Teachers and students should arrive 15 minutes prior to the performance. If you are late, please enter the hall between performers.

Children under six years old are not admitted.

We ask that you kindly remain during the entire program out of consideration for all performers.

Teachers are responsible to educate the students about recital etiquette and stage presence such as: how to approach the piano, how to bow before and after playing, how to walk to the stage, how to pause in between pieces, etc.

To all teachers: We ask that you would follow all the requirements mentioned in the guidelines. The Board reserves the right to contact a teacher who consistently violates these adopted rules.

Thank you for your cooperation.