

MTAC ORANGE COAST CITIES



MARCH 2011

Editor: Nilou Sarraf nilousarraf@gmail.com

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Daylight Saving

March 13

Make sure to set your
clocks ahead at 2:00 a.m.

Calendar

- 3/5,6 Sat & Sun CM **Theory Testing**, MV City Hall
 3/6 Sat, CM Strings Evaluations, Saddleback College
 3/09 Wed, 10:00 a.m. BRANCH MEETING
 3/12,13 Sat, Sun, CM Voice Evaluations
 3/20 **Deadline** for mailing Showcase Recital fees
 3/19,20 CM Keyboard Evaluations, Saddleback College
 3/25 Fri, State Panel Final Audition, TBA
 3/26 Sat, **CM Keyboard Evaluations**, Private Studios
 3/26 Sat, State Panel Final Audition, Piano
 3/26 Sat, State Panel Final Audition, Voice & Winds
 3/27 Sun, State panel Final Audition — String
 3/30 **Deadline** for Composers today State Contest entry
 4/1 **Deadline** for mailing Contemporary Festival fees to Esther Park
 4/3 **Sun 2:00 pm Showcase Recital (VENUE TBA!)**
 4/6 **Deadline** for Branch Honors Recital Application to Anne Prestridge
 4/13 Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. Branch Meeting, LHCC
 4/15 **Deadline** for mailing Comm. Service Recital fees/students list to Angela Leu
 4/15 **Deadline** for High School Scholarship applications to Pennie Foster
 4/15 **Deadline** for Anniversary Scholarship applications to Pam Worcester
 4/15 **Deadline** for Convention performance applications to be submitted online
Deadline for Composer's Today Symposiums application
 4/16 **Branch Honors Recital, Saddleback Room, (VENUE TBA!)**
 4/24 **Deadline** for Composers Today Improvisation Celebration Application
 4/25 **Deadline** for Composers Today Composition Recital application
 4/25 Sunday, 3:00 p.m. **Community Service Recital**, Freedom Village
 4/30 Sat **Contemporary Festival** Saddleback College
 4/30 **Deadline** for Branch Senior Recital to Laurie Meinhold

Maps/directions to branch venues—Click :

<http://www.mtacocc.org/maps.htm>

President's Message:



NOW we are sending our students to CM evaluations very soon.

As Judy has written in her CM page in the newsletter, please double-check THEIR schedule, YOUR schedule, and check if students have maps/directions, original scores with page numbers, etc. Let's make sure that each student will have a great CM experience.

In February, Joseph Chang, played his wonderful pieces for our branch meeting, and his bio says he has completed CM advanced some years ago. Going through CM levels surely teaches many areas of musical elements, and we have some more weeks to feed students with our great advices!

Hope all the members involved will have a successful CM this year!

Here's BIG THANK YOU goes to Judy's CM team, and their plans should be followed by us members to be completed. Also, THANK YOU! Angela Leu for Community Service Recital, Shelley Johnson for running VOCE, Su-Shing Chiu for organizing Composers Today's compositions and applications, Itoe Akimoto and Pam Worcester for organizing Bach Festival! All the teachers who supported those events, THANK YOU!, too.

In March, our branch guest performer/presenter, Mr. Tai-Cheng Chen, will conduct a masterclass on Bach pieces, there are suggested pieces in the following page, and I hope many members can come to see him as he now lives in Santa Clara.

There are a couple of item I want members to pay attention (Besides CM):

1. Contemporary Festival Rules & Procedure will be delivered to you via E-mail, and also posted to branch website.
2. OUR APRIL RECITALS need a change of venues due to Mission Viejo Civic Center's renovation. Please read more about it in PAGE 6.
3. Many members are switching e-mail addresses recently. PLEASE follow the instructions on PAGE 6 not to miss any communication between you and branch and MTAC.

ALL THE BEST for your students and their upcoming events!

Keiko Katie Ikeda

Branch Newsletter:

Editor: Nilou Sarraf

Deadline for April issue—March 20th

Send your articles to nilousarraf@gmail.com, or postal mail to 28402 Quiet Hill, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

MTAC OCC Branch Meeting:

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 10:00am

Laguna Hills Community Center Heritage Room

Tai-Cheng Chen, Masterclass/Discussion

“---highly musical and clearly constructed playing, exhibiting a distinctive personality.”

—*Wilhelm Kempff*

“--- combines technical fluency with a propulsive drive ---”

—*The New York Times*

“--- pricks up one’s ears from the very first note--- through his vigorous, lively and vivacious playing...”

—*Die Wiener Presse*

A native of Taiwan, Tai-Cheng Chen began playing the piano at the age of six; by the time he was nine, he had won his first piano competition in Taipei. Within the next two years, he placed first in a national Taiwanese piano competition and performed Mozart’s piano concerto with the Taiwan Symphony Orchestra. At fifteen, he moved to Austria to attend the Vienna Musikhochschule. At age nineteen he not only took first prize in its internal piano competition, but also completed the school’s rigorous Concert Artist program—graduating with its highest honor of Unanimous Distinction. In the following year he won the prestigious Vienna International Music Festival Competition, in a performance that was televised throughout the world.

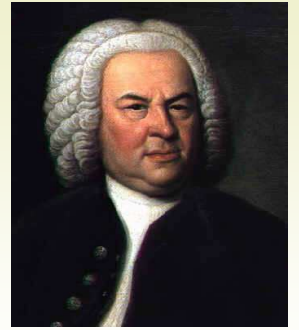
Thereafter, Tai-Cheng Chen moved to New York to attend The Juilliard School. While attending Juilliard, he won the Gina Bachauer Scholarship Award and the opportunity to play Bartok’s Third Piano Concerto with the Juilliard Philharmonic Orchestra. Shortly after earning his DMA degree from Juilliard, he returned to Taiwan to teach at Taipei National University of the Arts.

Tai-Cheng Chen has given numerous international performances, including such venues as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Recital Hall in New York, and the Grosser Musikverein Saal in Vienna. As Professor of Music, Dr. Chen has inspired generations of students, many of whom have gone on to win national and international competitions.

Interested Branch members please bring along following J.S. Bach music:

- Italian Concerto
- Inventions
- Little Preludes & Fugues
- French Suites
- English Suites
- Partitas

A Few Thoughts on J.S. Bach



Music of the Baroque era presents distinct challenges to both teacher and student—and the works of J.S. Bach are no exception. Though essential to the required repertoire of schools and competitions alike, the works of Bach can confound musicians beset with disparate editions of his printed music—editions that often seem in direct contradiction to the practices of the Baroque period.

Even in its most ideal and scholarly form, the Urtext—a written edition of a masterwork felt to be closest to the composer’s original intent—can only serve as a guideline in the faithful interpretation of the works of Bach.

More often than not, the works of the great master appear “incomplete” to our eyes today, riddled with spaces of unwritten notes. These lacunae—a common practice in the time of Bach—can render the masterwork nearly inaccessible for immediate interpretation. Moreover, even the notations that do appear on the page may not be intended to be played exactly as written. In the end, it is left to the skillful performer to fill these lacunae in a manner appropriate to the Baroque style.

Dr. Chen intends to share with the audience these insights and other discoveries he has made during his two-decade tenure as music professor at Taipei National University of the Arts, and will review articulation, fingering, and rhythm as they relate to Bach and the Baroque period.

Composers Today

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE DEADLINES FOR COMPOSERS TODAY EVALUATION AND YCG APPLICATIONS HAVE CHANGED. THE NEW DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS. YOU MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS ON THE MTAC WEBSITE WWW.MTAC.ORG UNDER COMPOSERS TODAY.

DEADLINES FOR 2010 - 2011:

MARCH 30TH STATE CONTEST

Postmarked Deadline is March 30th. Applications sent to the CT Branch Chair.

APRIL 15TH SYMPOSIUM

Summary: For composers of all ages, including students and teachers, that have submitted an original composition in the Evaluations and meet the minimum requirements of a rating of 4 or 5.

Postmarked Deadline is April 15th. Applications sent directly to Symposium Chair.

Glen StarkComposers

Today State Coordinator



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

A Message from Judy Jenkins

The time has come! By now, the **voice** students are just about to have their evaluations, or perhaps they already have. Many thanks to **Susan Parr** for arranging to have those at her church on Saturday, and **Pam Worcester** for the facilities at Saddleback, including Sunday for voice. **Kathleen Martin**, Voice Chair, is the best; she puts it all together. Then we have the **strings** evaluations, and **Gloria Traulle** is a miracle worker, sorting through the schedule and accompanists and theory tests and evaluators—you name it. We are so very lucky to have these accomplished and willing chairs for **voice** and **strings**!

- And now on to **piano**, including **theory**. Remember, **no cell phones** in the theory test room—tell your students!! Also tell them to go to the bathroom before they come. Sorry to be so rude, but if they're desperate, a monitor has to go with them. They'll hate that! Speaking of miracle workers, **Bob and Maxine Casper** are wonderful at organizing the theory testing. Wow! We couldn't manage without them.
- Be sure to emphasize to your students that the assigned evaluation time is absolutely firm; they must be there on time, and in the right location. Also please ask the parents on "**Saddleback Days**" (**strings**, too) to wait for the students on the patio and not in the parking lot. There is no supervision in the parking lot, and we want our students to be safe. In preparing your students, please be sure that their Technique is well-prepared and that they can play it through completely without stopping or prompting from the evaluator.
- I know that you would never request a change of time or place unless it was for a dire emergency. Please know that to change now requires a long procedure that you can't do for me. Remember that the only changes accepted after March 5 are drops or change to Path B. Let me know immediately if any student needs to do either of those things.
- You should have your work assignment now. Please treat it as a firm commitment. We need every single teacher to help on these busy days. And guess what? You'll enjoy it! You'll help the students, not just your own, and you'll interact with your colleagues in a most pleasant way. This is your way of thanking the people who have been working on organizing CM (let me name a few more: **Marina Sakach**, **Nancy Pirozzi**) to get it going on these days!
- We're all eager for our students' results. No BBEs will be available on evaluation days. All results must be entered online, which means that after a day or two you can go to MTAC.org and click on Student Evaluation Results in the big menu that comes up after you log in. This could give you a head start on applying for convention performances (deadline April 15) and/or branch honors (deadline April 6). **On April 4, after all piano evaluations are complete statewide the BBEs will be available on Katy Dougherty's front porch.** Look up her address and find it by going to I-5, La Paz, Muirlands, and Ares. You can't miss it!
- One more thing: be kind to the evaluators who have come a long distance to do this work. Yes, they're paid, but it's a really long day. Please be respectful, and treat them as the colleagues they are. Do not discuss individual students' evaluations with them at any time.

Certificate of Merit is the culmination of a year of hard work for the students and their teachers. **Enjoy the accomplishment!**

And thank you all for your graciousness and cooperation.

Judy Jenkins jenkinsmusic@cox.net

IMPORTANT—APRIL BRANCH RECITALS (CHANGES!)

Due to an unexpected renovation **Mission Viejo Civic Center** decided to go ahead and do in the month of April, our two branch recitals we reserved at Mission Viejo Civic Center Saddleback room now need **new venues**.

Affected recitals are:

APRIL 3: Showcase Recital

APRIL 16: Branch Honor Recital

We are trying to find places where we do not have to change the dates of the recitals however, we may have to—hope not!

The final information of those two recitals will be announced **via E-mail** as soon as we get confirmations from new venues, and **SHOWCASE RECITAL WEB REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AFTER THAT**. So, please be patient.

DO YOU KNOW GOOD ANY FACILITIES

for Community Service Recitals?

As our branch is growing with more number of teachers and students, VERY POPULAR Community Service Recitals may need more recital days and places for students to perform.

Please forward the name of any Senior Living Community or facilities where non-profit performances are regularly performed in your neighborhood. That will be wonderful if the venue has a good quality piano.



Keiko Ikeda
toneofbell@yahoo.com

E-Mail Changes: HOW TO UPDATE

If you have changed your e-mail address recently or will change in the near future:

- 1) INFORM MTAC STATE OFFICE-** Go to www.mtac.org, TEACHER LOG IN and change your e-mail address at MTAC DATABASE.
- 2) INFORM OCC BRANCH-** Go to www.mtacocc.org, TEACHER LOG IN and change your e-mail address

- 3) INFORM BRANCH COLLEAGUES-** Contact Branch newsletter editor to put your new e-mail address to our Branch Newsletter Announcement

Those 3 steps will complete your update.

@@@@
All the branch blast e-mails are using most updated teacher information (e-mail address) from MTAC State website database in the effort of not missing any newly joined members.



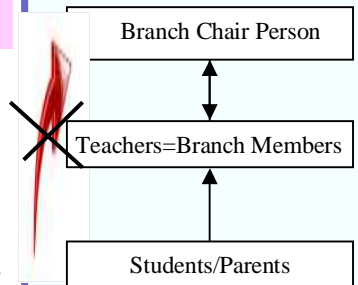
REMIINDER TO TEACHERS

FOR CM, FESTIVAL AND/OR ANY MTAC BRANCH EVENTS PLEASE DO NOT LET YOUR STUDENTS COMMUNICATE TO CHAIR PERSONS.

ALSO, THE BRANCH DO NOT ACCEPT REGISTRATION FEES BESIDES YOU.

CHECKS MUST BE YOURS (MTAC MEMBERS), NOT STUDENTS' PARENTS.

Communication/Checks FLOW CHART





Message from *MTAC STATE OFFICE*

-Outstanding Service Award to Peter Yazbeck –Send a letter to him!

The 2011 MTAC Convention has a special presentation scheduled at the Friday Night Banquet, July 1, 2011. MTAC will be presenting **Peter Yazbeck** with an **Outstanding Service Award**, the 14th such award presented in the history of MTAC. As part of this evening, we will be presenting Peter with a notebook full of letters and memories, including funny stories, memorable stories, thank-you's, and just about anything you'd like to write down for Peter to read.

All letters need to be sent no later than May 15th to Heidi Lyn Williams, 2885 Denise Ct., Newbury Park, CA 91320 – or emailed to her at hlyn@pocketjazz.com

Please share this information about the honoring of Peter Yazbeck, and the need for many memories in writing, to your entire Branch. And if you're planning to attend the 2011 Convention, don't miss the Friday Night Banquet when you register. It's sure to be fun and inspiring and wonderful, as we pay homage to a man who has helped to shape MTAC into the Association it is now.

Susan Clark
MTAC State President
tubaflute@comcast.net

MTAC
Convention 2011

July 1 – 5, 2011

Marriott Hotel

at

**the Oakland City
Center**

ABOUT Peter Yazbeck (BIO)

Peter Yazbeck is a leading music teacher and adjudicator in Southern California. He has devoted most of his life to teaching, both privately and for twenty years as a professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara. His students have been the recipients of numerous awards. Numbering in the hundreds, many of his students have positions in the world of academia, and in the world of pop and jazz. He was also an officer on the State Board of the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) for nine years, and President of MTAC.

Now semi-retired, he still teaches selectively and holds classes monthly for teachers. His interest in pedagogy was sparked mainly because of his involvement of MTAC and his desire to upgrade teaching standards throughout the state. While on the state board, he was program chair for four State Conventions, bringing in outstanding artists and lectures for members to hear. He is very involved as a leading adjudicator for the National Piano Guild out of Austin, Texas as well as the Certificate of Merit program for the MTAC. He

also has judged various young artist competitions and scholarship in California and Nevada including the Joanna Hodges International Competitions, the Los Angeles Liszt Competitions, the MTNA Concerto and Bartok Competitions, the Northern Nevada Teachers Festivals, and the Orange County Musicale Arts Festival, to name only a few.

Born of Lebanese parents in his native Canada, Peter was the youngest of eleven children, and the only one to enter the world of the arts. He began his studies rather late at the age of eleven in his home town of Wallaceburg, Ontario.

He won many awards at festivals in the area, and gave his first solo recital at the age of sixteen, and received his associate-ship at the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, Canada at the age of eighteen. Peter was chosen to enter the senior school of the department of music at the University of Toronto, which was an intensive course for gifted performers.

His mentors at this time were the Russian Swiss pianist, Boris Roubakine, and the

renowned Ukrainian pianist Lubka Kolessa. He continued his post graduate work at the Mannes College of Music in New York City, where he worked with Czech pianist Hans Neuman.

While in New York he made his Canadian debut at Eaton Auditorium in Toronto, Canada and at Town Hall in New York City.

Later in California he worked with Muriel Kerr of USC. Peter has performed widely in recitals, with orchestra, and for radio. His recording of Grieg's Piano sonata, and Holberg Suite for Educo sold well for many years.



The 16th Annual Fullerton College Piano Ensemble Festival was held on January 29, 2011 in the college's Campus Theater. The evening Circle of Winners concert featured the finalists selected from the day-time competition. From the finalists, a Grand Prize winner was chosen for each level. Congratulations to the following finalists, Grand Prize winners and their teachers:

Early Intermediate Level:

Allen Huang and Jerry Qu, Grand Prize;	Ana Stal, teacher
Yuna Kin and Phoebe Cho, finalists;	Jin Yoo, teacher
Eric Duong Phan and Carolyn Vu Tran, finalists;	Molly Nguyen, teacher
Brittany Khong and Katherine Pham, finalists;	Elaine Lin, teacher

Intermediate Level:

Caroline Chu and Krystal Wang, Grand Prize;	Frenda Yang, teacher
Austin Chen and Joshua Yen, finalists;	Teri Watson, teacher
Nelson Wong and Natalie Wong, finalists;	Nancy Teng, teacher
Silke Hoffmann and Mia Winther-Tamaki, finalists;	Keiko Winther-Tamaki,
teacher	



Late Intermediate Level:

Samuel Wang and Emily Liu, Grand Prize;	Frenda Yang, teacher
Joseph Yen and Richard Rivale, finalists;	Teri Watson & Carol Hills, teachers
Helena Nguyen and Ashli Phan, finalists;	Molly Nguyen, teacher

Advanced Level:

Benjamin Yeh and Christopher Yeh, Grand Prize;	Peggy Taylor, teacher
Jenna Buckle and Kendra Buckle, finalists;	Maria Deming, teacher

The judges for this year's festival were Dr. Dmitry Rachmanov from California State University, Northridge and Mr. James Bonn, from USC.

The judges also selected Benjamin Yeh and Christopher Yeh to participate in a Master Class on March 5, 2011, by Thomas Schumacher of Eastman School of Music. The Fullerton College Department of Music has arranged for Mr. Schumacher to perform a recital on Friday, March 4, 2011 at 6p.m. and to conduct two master classes on Saturday, March 5. Please visit: <http://music.fullcoll.edu/season/calendar.asp> for more information.

Student referrals

As I've said before, the poor economy has greatly diminished the amount of calls and e-mails I receive from parents seeking music teachers. Usually weeks now go by without a single call or e-mail. When I do receive a request, my focus is always in helping families find the best teacher for their needs while staying within a close driving distance to their home. I currently use our branch directory when giving out teachers' names and contact information.

When I give families the names of teachers, often they request *numerous* names. And what I've been hearing from our branch teachers, parents are often interviewing several teachers and comparing their fees and overall policies before they reach their decision.

All of this is due to the current "buyer's market" for students seeking teachers. Gone are the days (at least for now) where I need to warn parents that they may have to contact a large number of teachers before finding one with *even an opening* in their studio (yes, this was the case years ago).

So I wanted our branch teachers to know that they're not alone in experiencing this "shopping around" from prospective students. Unfortunately, it is a sign of the times, and we can just hope it's only temporary.

Nancy Lau

Student Referrals

E-mail: nancylau@cox.net



ANNOUNCEMENT



Dear Fellow Music Teachers:

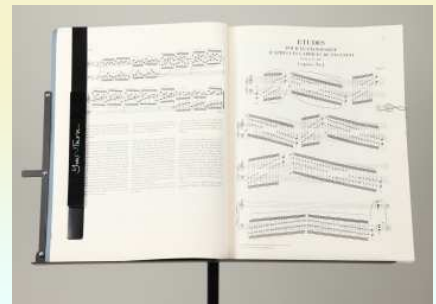
Do you have trouble keeping your music books open and flat? And when you turn a page, does it stay in place?

YouTurn is a new type of music page holder that provides a simple and effective solution to **both problems**. Visit www.youturnmusic.com/videos.php to see how musicians use YouTurn at the piano or on a music stand.

While this new product is available for purchase at music stores, I will be offering this to you on **March 9 for a special price of only \$22**.

I'm looking forward to meeting you!

Katrina Querriera, Private Piano Instructor, Huntington Beach
kquerriera@gmail.com



IRVINE CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES Presents

Young Artists from Junior Chamber Music, Orange County www.juniorchambermusic.org

Friday March 11, 2011 7:00pm

Irvine Presbyterian Church
 4445 Alton Parkway, Irvine, 92604

Tickets: \$15 General/\$13 Advance / \$10 Senior & Students

*To reserve the advance tickets, e-mail Christine Azzoni Dow
 Artistic Director, Irvine Classical Music Series at:
christineazzonidow@cox.net*

Program

movements from Beethoven String Quartet Op. 18
 Brahms Clarinet Trio,
 Piazzolla Primavera Portena,
 Arensky Piano Trio,
 Mendelssohn D Minor Trio...

For more information visit our website: www.irvineclassical.com



American Guild of Organists Orange County Chapter Presents



Sandra Azzoni Wood, violin



Christine Azzoni Dow, organ

Sunday March 20, 2011 4:00pm

First Baptist Church

1010 West 17th ST.
Santa Ana CA, 92706
Free will offering

Program

Sonata in D minor
Mysterien Sonaten No. 1 "Annunciation"
Invocation Op. 55
Intermezzo
5 Pieces
From Six Pieces
Meditation
American Sonata

John Stanley
Heinrich Biber
Mrs. H.H. A. Beach
Peter Mathews
Hermann Schroeder
Josef Gabriel Rheinberger
Cecile Chaminade/ arr. Charles Callahan
Charles Callahan

Christine Azzoni Dow

E-mail: christineazzonidow@cox.net

Piano needed at Mission Hospital

If anyone would like to donate a small piano to Mission Hospital, it would be greatly appreciated. There are monthly student recitals held for the patients and families. The current piano is in very poor condition. Please help the hospital continue this wonderful community service. If interested, please contact Ms. Conni VanBilliard, Recreation Therapist at Mission Hospital ARU. Her phone # is 949-365-2189, and her email is cvanbilliard@CHOC.org



Advertisements

MTACOOOC



Call Your Piano "Mechanic"

Thanks to all of you that asked your students call me before purchasing a piano. I have been pleased to help many of them find pianos that I believe will perform well for years to come. More than half of the pianos I check out, I recommend not to purchase! My \$35 inspection fee has saved your students hundreds, not to mention the help I provide in doing the search.

Bob Casper
(949) 448-0353
bcasper@cox.net



Newsletter Advertisements Guidelines:

*Non-Commercial
/educational
events*

OCC Members:

Free with approval of the branch

Non-OCC Members:

Free with approval of the branch

Commercial, Buy & Sell, and Businesses

\$20.00/issue (9 issues/year) for a

partial space of the page. Larger ads will be charged more with the approval of the branch.

Only the advertisements which are beneficial for members' professional life will be published.

Yahama Piano For Sale. G-1, 5'2", walnut, perfect, like-new condition, beautiful. Greatly reduced for immediate sale **\$10,500**. Lovely padded bench include as well as one free tuning during the first year of ownership. Piano seeks music-loving home. **Linda Eldrige (949)637-9763**
yourpianostudio@cox.net

Newsletter Mailing

If you prefer receiving Branch Newsletter by postal mail, please send \$15.00 check, payable to MTAC OCC to cover the postal fee & printing.

TO: Keiko Ikeda
85 Matisse Circle, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

We highly recommend you to read the newsletters online to take advantage of the many direct links where you can go to get more information.