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### ***General meeting – February 27***

All District II members, regardless of chapter affiliation, may attend the next general meeting for Santa Clara County Chapter, which promises to be very interesting indeed. To be held on 27 February at the home of Eleanor Amend in the city of Santa Clara, the presentation features Susan Bruckner speaking on the topic, “Teenage Exuberance.”

“Teenage Exuberance” is an overview of the latest brain research pertinent to the developing pre-adolescent and adolescent student. Susan will cover how these discoveries affect our changing students and how we can maximize this information to help retain students, keep them motivated, and get them over the hurdle of the junior high attrition rate.

Miss Bruckner will have handouts for all as well as a few copies of her book *The Whole Musician*. Her lecture will have appeal for teachers of all instruments and voice.

Susan Bruckner is a pianist and teacher with degrees from the Eastman School of Music, the New School for Music Study and the San Francisco Conservatory. She has done extensive research on learning styles and brain research pertinent to musicians and is author of the book, *The Whole Musician*. She is a clinician at the annual Healthy Musician Institute at Ithaca College and frequent lecturer on these topics in the U.S. and abroad. She is co-founder and director of the Bach Academy in conjunction with the Carmel Bach Festival. Susan is head of the piano department at Cabrillo College and has also taught at the University of Utah, Ithaca College, and Diablo Valley College.

Susan is looking forward to coming to our group! Mark your calendars for this very special General Meeting at Eleanor’s home, 2668 Gamblin Drive, which will begin at 9:30AM Wednesday, February 27, 2008. Those who wish to stay after the presentation are welcome to join in a potluck lunch. RSVP to Eleanor (408) 554-9430 or [emamend@x.netcom.com](mailto:emamend@x.netcom.com) if you are coming and staying for lunch and to specify if you are bringing a salad or dessert.

## ***Piano and Ensemble Recitals - Northern Festival***

Students from northern California who earned the top rating (5) at the chapter and district Piano and Ensemble Auditions in November were invited to participate in the Northern Festival Recitals on Saturday, January 26, 2008. 129 students participated in five recitals held at beautiful Tateuchi Hall at the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View. Participants hailed from CAPMT Districts II, V and VII. Congratulations to the students and their teachers! Students were also given the chance to spend 30 minutes in the Community School's Digital Music Lab, learning to use computer software to compose their own music.

Representing District II were teachers: Prudence Choi, Jui Ping Chou, Carol Wood Herndon, I. Lucia Hong, Soo-Hyun Hong, Sandy Huang, Larisa Kompelmakher, Sylvia Lee, Angeline LeLeux, Patricia Milstead, Julie Morgan, Jennifer Shaw Navarrete, Arleen Pickett, Ophelia Raboca, Lyudmila Shakhman, Irina Sharogardsky, Ann Sun, Tammy Tien, Mei Chen Tu, and Shen An Wong.

Many thanks to Northern Festival Chair, Arleen Pickett who took on the monumental task of organizing this important event for our students!

## ***BARTOK AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL***

The Bartok & Contemporary Music Festival took place at The Nueva School, Hillsborough, CA on December 1, 2007. The event ran very smoothly. Special thanks go to the judges, Rebecca Bogart and Dr. Dorian Ho, whose work proved truly wonderful. Credit also goes to Betty Davis, our Chapter President and District Treasurer, who provided tremendous help whenever needed. Appreciation goes to Lenora Warkentin, Honors Audition Chair. Without her, the site for the Bartok festival would not have been possible. We applaud all the participants and teachers for your great effort! And last but not least, congratulations to all the winners. Winners will compete in the Bartok final held at the State Conference in Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry, February 16, 2008.

TeckMei Chong,  
Chair Bartok & Contemporary Music Festival

BARTOK & CONTEMPORARY FESTIVAL 2008 Judges: Rebecca Bogart & Dr. Dorian Ho

2007-2008 District II Winners' Names

Level I      Elementary A (ages 6-9)

Winner: Henry Smolen, student of Christie Skousen  
Alternate: Charles Smolen, student of Christie Skousen  
Honorable Mention: Jessica Kur, student of Christie Skousen

Level I Elementary B (ages 10-12)

Winner: Andrew Wang, student of Jed Galant  
Alternate: Kevin Liu, student of TeckMei Chong

Level II Intermediate A (ages 6-13)

Winner: Ray Hua Wu, student of Jed Galant  
Alternate: Hugo Kitano, student of Dr. William Wellborn  
Honorable Mention: Stephen Waarts, student of Irina Sharogradskia

Level III Advanced A (ages 6-16)

Winner: Amanda Wang, student of Hans Boepple  
Alternate: Winston Young, student of Machiko Kobialka  
Honorable Mention: Alison Lee, student of Hans Boepple

Level III Advanced B (ages 17-23)

Winner: Vanessa Yeh, student of Machiko Kobialka

## ***Santa Clara Valley CHAPTER COMING EVENTS***

16 February Festival Recital at Palo Alto Community Center. (see Festival Recital article below)

21 February SCV Chapter Board Meeting at the home of Betty Davis, 1586 Warbler Avenue, Sunnyvale 9:30AM. All members are welcome. Contact Betty Davis (408) 241-3978 [jlbcd@earthlink.net](mailto:jlbcd@earthlink.net) if you have items to be discussed.

FROM JUI-PING CHOU, Co-chair for the monthly Festival Recitals in Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Dear fellow piano teachers,

Do your students like to have performance practices? Do they like to share their progress made in lessons? Do they like to express and share their music?

CAPMT Santa Clara Valley Chapter Festival Recital provides your student such opportunities. Detailed information and application forms can be found on [www.capmt.org](http://www.capmt.org) under student programs. The next three festival recitals will be taking place from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Feb 16, Mar 15 and Apr 19, 2008 at Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd, Palo Alto. Registration forms are due two weeks before the recital. Make sure your application forms are in on time. We do not accept late application forms. Any questions can be directed to chairpersons, Jui-Ping Chou at pingchou4piano@sbcglobal.net, or Shen-An Lin Wong at shenan\_lin@yahoo.com.

### ***East Bay Chapter news***

from president, Muza Mdzinarishvili:

Etude Extravaganza! -Sunday, March 9th, 2008 2:00 PM

Ensemble Concert -Sunday, April 6th, 2008 2:00 PM -featuring duets, 2- piano, solo instrument with accompaniment, and chamber music.

Above events will be held at The Crowden School, 1475 Rose Street, Berkeley

Kindertanzen ( Children's Dances) - Sunday, May 18th 2008 2:00 PM -concert featuring dance-forms from all composers and styles.

This program will be held at Berkeley Piano Club 2724 Haste Street, Berkeley.

### ***“DISTRICT DIALOGUE”***

A NEW IDEA FROM BETTY...

“DISTRICT DIALOGUE”

Dear members, if you have anything to say or report, call Betty Davis, Acting President and she will put it in the Dialogue. Student and teacher news and funny anecdotes are always welcome. If you have questions about teaching or music, put them in the Dialogue. Any former graduated student successes? Put it in the Dialogue. For instance...

Miss Betty and Miss Judy took 16 students to the Beethoven Center on Saturday, January 12 - on the city bus. The students had a grand time playing the ancient harpsichords and forte pianos.

One of Betty's little students reported that she was having trouble with the Demolished exercises.

I hope you all had a pleasant Holiday Season.

Betty C. Davis, acting President, SCV Chapter

## ***Our members perform as well as teach...***

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd at 8 PM

The Berkeley Hillside Club

2286 Cedar St. Berkeley, CA 94709 Admission: \$15 (\$10 for Club members and Seniors)

Call for more info: (510) 845-1350

<http://www.hillsideclub.org/concerts.htm>

Come enjoy an evening of great music as we pay homage to popular song and the composers who produced memorable classical vocal music as well as major instrumental chamber music works. Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" for solo piano was the most famous rag of its day, inspiring George Gershwin to write in a more popular style as a teenager composing his first songs. Gershwin had such success with his songs that he published improvisations for solo piano on "I Got Rhythm" and "Clap Your Hands", in addition to arranging his wildly popular "Three Preludes for Piano" for clarinet and piano. In 1942 Leonard Bernstein published his first work, Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, which looks ahead to the musical "West Side Story" with its Cuban and jazz rhythms, and to his opera "A Quiet Place" with its intimate, poignant melodies. In 1920, while studying in Paris with Nadia Boulanger, Aaron Copland was delighted and shocked that he could sell a quickly composed piano piece "The Cat and the Mouse" (Scherzo Humoristique) to Debussy's publisher! Gerald Finzi composed nine vocal cycles, countless choral works and, sadly for us, few chamber music pieces. The Five Bagatelles for Clarinet and Piano are a cornerstone of the clarinet and piano literature by one of the most popular 20th century British composers.

Hope to see you there! <http://www.MirageEnsemble.com> 510-595-4691.

All CAPMT members are invited to a Gala benefit concert and reception for the San Francisco Chopin Foundation at Old First Church in San Francisco (1751 Sacramento at Van Ness Avenue) on Sunday February 24 at 2:00. The program features artists from the Bay Area and beyond and offers a wide variety of works by Chopin. Featured artists include Robert Schwartz, Daniel Glover, Jaejin Lee, Mack McCray, William Wellborn, Reah Sadowsky, Jean Alexis Smith, Michael Boyd, Sujeeva Hupugalle, the Hilda Huang/Hugo Kitano duo, and mezzo-soprano Donna Bruno. For more information please contact Old First Concerts at 415-474-1608 or at <http://www.olderfirstconcerts.org>

## ***AN INTERVIEW***

Betty had a chat with long time member Patricia Marks Milstead. Here, her report...

Our Pat Milstead, a very important member of Santa Clara Valley Chapter came to us from Shreveport, Louisiana. She has also lived in Kansas City, Missouri; Texarkana, Texas; St. Louis, Missouri; Houston, Texas; and Des Moines, Iowa. Pat earned the love of travel very early on.

She has a degree in Piano Performance from St. Louis Institute of Music and has attended classes at Washington University in St. Louis, North Texas State University and San Jose State University.

Pat moved to California with her late husband, Larry Milstead. They have 5 boys and 1 girl, and all but one live in California. She has 10 grandchildren, with one on the way and 1 great grandchild. Holidays are very festive and warm at Pat's house.

Pat's talents are many and she has directed church choirs in Des Moines and San Jose for much of her adult life. She has also directed children's choirs, choirs of parents, choirs of nurses and a men's choir. She is currently the principal organist at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Los Gatos and she accompanies choirs, singers, instrumentalists, and plays for weddings, funerals and special services. She is constantly in demand.

When Pat moved to California, she joined CAPMT and has become a very important cog in the wheels of the organization. She is the Past VP of Districts and Chapters and a former Santa Clara Valley Chapter President. She is currently the Membership Chair for the Chapter and handles the E-mail notices for the District - a big job. She has served many years on the Chapter board. She has also held the office of Dean and Education/Resource Chair of the American Guild of Organists and she teaches piano, organ and accompanying.

Her other activities include traveling, and she has been to England, New Zealand, mainland China, Canada, Germany, Italy and Greece. She has attended many State and National teacher Conferences and National Organ Guild Conferences. She loves her travels and also plays Bridge, enjoys hiking, playing in ensembles and her many family activities.

A quote from Pat: "Membership in CAPMT and MTNA has broadened my knowledge and outlook on teaching and music in general. I consider my fellow members in Santa Clara Valley Chapter not only professional acquaintances, but good friends."

Thank you, Pat, for your dedication to music, students, members and how do you keep on looking like a movie star!!!

## ***HERE'S SOMETHING FOR YOUR COMMENTS...***

Dear Music Teachers

I am in the process of planning an acoustic upgrade of an auditorium that would be specifically suited for the performance of instrumental recitals using acoustic instruments (i.e. pianos, stringed instruments, etc.) as well as vocal performances. This effort would involve refurbishing and modifying an auditorium that seats 200 to 400 listeners comfortably.

The current plan is to acoustically modify the auditorium, purchase/lease a piano (6'-7' grand piano) and then have it voiced to the auditorium.

There is an adjoining dining room that can be used to serve after-recital refreshments or to seat an "overflow" audience, and for an extra charge, there is a full commercial style kitchen that is available next to the dining room.

This auditorium is to be located in Mt. View, next to the Mt. View City Library. Before I can recommend proceeding with this project, I need to have an idea if there is a market for this kind of facility.

So what I would like to know, would you consider using such a facility and what do you usually pay for using such a facility for your current studio recitals?

Please email me (or call me) with your ideas. I would be glad to answer any of your questions and entertain any of your suggestions.

David Hui  
McDargon@ix.netcom.com  
(408) 248-6554

## ***from the editor...***

First, thank you so very much for the articles from this edition's contributors. The association runs on the efforts of dedicated volunteers, and the only way to become involved is to say yes, and get started (that's how I got this job). It is also helpful to know what the association offers our students, and those reports certainly serve to increase both knowledge of and participation in, the various activities of CAPMT.

Of course, the association isn't just about giving our students opportunities,

it's for us, too. The upcoming conference in the City of Industry offers us the opportunity to learn. The Santa Clara County meetings, three each year, present interesting and enriching topics, close to home.

When I first joined CAPMT, there was a teacher's recital. Attendance at the event wasn't huge, but it presented the opportunity for those of us who enjoy being on the stage to "put our best foot forward" and share literature for various instruments. Spouses came, reminding them that they were not the only folks who had to listen to practicing musicians at home.

The formal recitals in a hall might not be necessary. What would happen if CAPMT held potluck luncheons or suppers with musical interludes? parlor concerts featuring our members? informal time to share our favorite repertoire, or to play a "pupil saver" piece with a particularly nice melody?

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