

District II Newsletter

April 2008

Student Programs Survey.....	1
Updated Directory.....	2
Student Evaluations	2
TEACHER SURVEY RESULTS:.....	2
DISTRICT DIALOGUE.....	3
SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER REPORT	3
SANTA CLARA VALLEY INTERVIEW	4
NEW PERFORMANCE VENUE STATUS REPORT FROM DAVID HUI.....	5
OUR STUDENTS AS PERFORMERS:	6
EDITORIAL COMMENT SPACE:	6

Dear Colleagues,

The newsletter editor has a new computer, so all attempts at elaborate typesetting have been set aside in favor of getting the news out on time. Let's begin with the state level information, then the districts, then chapters (actually, Santa Clara Chapter, since no other news was received by deadline).

Student Programs Survey

FIRST, A MESSAGE FROM DR. SMITH:

Dear CAPMT Members,

The CAPMT Board is considering some revisions to our CAPMT Student Programs. Our goal? To make them a meaningful part of the studio programs of every CAPMT member.

You can help! Please take a minute to fill out the survey at <http://capmt.org/surveyform.htm> .

Your responses will be given full consideration as we move forward. The deadline for replies is April 25, 2008.

Thanks for your support of CAPMT.

Cordially,

Dr. Scott McBride Smith

President-Elect, California Association of Professional Music Teachers

Updated Directory

THE EVER-VIGILANT PAT MILSTEAD REMINDS US:

Please note that the CAPMT state organization has come out with an updated directory on the web. Check to see that your listing is correct. If it is not, contact Larry Ruiz
larryruiz@earthlink.net

Student Evaluations

AND NEWS ABOUT THE UPCOMING EVALUATIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS FROM DISTRICT COORDINATOR, ANGELINE LE LEUX:

Student Evaluations will be held on Sunday, May 18 at the Jou Music Studio in Cupertino. The studio is located at the corner of Prospect and Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road.

The application deadline is April 21st (postmark). Please send applications to: Angeline LeLeux, 21834 Granada Ave., Cupertino, CA 95014. Applications can be downloaded from <http://capmt.org/site/programs.htm> (scroll down to the bottom to find Student Evaluations).

Angeline LeLeux
<http://www.angeline-leleux.com>

And also from Angeline:

TEACHER SURVEY RESULTS:

Many thanks to new member Jefferson Williams who put together a detailed report and also wrote up the following summary...your initiative and your hard work is very much appreciated!

Back in October 2007, a survey of District II members was conducted. Here is a short summary of the results. The complete report is available on the web at <http://www.capmt.org/site/DistChap/district2.htm> . - 60 (about %26 of) members responded to the survey, from 8 Bay Area counties. - Years of teaching experience ranged from 1 to 60 years, averaging around 26 years. - Hourly fee for private lessons ranged from \$33 to \$150, averaging around \$65. See the complete report for more detail including how average hourly fee differs by years of experience and location. - The frequency of rate increases ranged from 1 to 5 years, averaging around 2 years. - A large majority

(44) of teachers charge tuition by the month, with some reporting charging by the week(7), quarter(3), semester(5), or other(5). - The majority (49) of teachers report teaching 60 minute lessons. Other lesson lengths reported were: 45 minutes(42), 30 minutes(24), longer than 60 minutes(13) and shorter than 30 minutes(1). - A number of illuminating comments were given by teachers in the survey and are available in the complete report.

DISTRICT DIALOGUE

A cute student story from Jeri Danielson:

Jeri was teaching a theory class and trying to get the students to remember Tonic, Super-tonic, Mediant, etc and they were having a hard time remember the ii chord. Finally Jeri tried to give them a hint and since it had just been Super Bowl Sunday, she announced "What did you say last Sunday?" One little student raised her hand to offer, "Amen."

SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER REPORT

Dear Members,

A very Happy Spring to you. Santa Clara Chapter has started the new season with a busy slate of events. The Festival Recitals are in full swing with only one more to go. It will be held at the Palo Alto Community Center on April 19, 2008. And speaking of Festival Recitals; did you know that the proceeds from the recitals are kept in the student travel fund? \$450.00 was awarded to the students that traveled to the State Conference to perform in the Bartók and Honors Competitions. Nine students received \$50 each.

The February General Meeting was held on February 27, 2008 at the studio of Eleanor Amend. Susan Bruckner was the speaker and she presented a very lively, fascinating and informative lecture about the exuberant teenage brain. We all came home with many good ideas and tips about dealing with the teenagers. Members, please make an effort to attend the Chapter General Meetings. You will always enjoy the lectures or demonstrations. There is no association business discussed, and the meeting is followed by a pot luck luncheon where the conversation, talking shop, is another plus.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Arleen Pickett for arranging the meetings. Santa Clara Valley Chapter's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21 at 9:30 am. The featured speaker will be Gwendolyn Mok, SJSU music faculty member. Her topic will be Preparing Our Students to Study Music in College. The meeting will

be held at Carol Wood Herndon's studio, 1699 Shasta Ave, San Jose, 95128. Please contact Carol at (408) 294-3285 or cwherndon@msn.com if you would like to stay for a potluck lunch afterwards.

I would also like to welcome the new members to the Chapter. You will be hearing from me shortly: Kim Mi and Nagisa Ariza in Cupertino, Jean Chang and Veronica Scheidner in San Jose. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at (408) 241-3978 or E-mail at jlbcd@earthlink.net.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY INTERVIEW

Betty Davis had a chat with new member, Ann Kerobyan, violin Teacher Extraordinaire.

Ann was born in 1971 in Yerevan, Armenia. She started on her musical journey at the tender age of seven with violin lessons. She also loved singing and composing and at age 11 she wrote her first opera, which was staged at her music and translated for public television.

Her post graduate studies were at the Yerevan State conservatory, specializing in violin from 1994-1996. She received an Honors Diploma from Yerevan State Conservatory in 1994. Her instructor was Professor Edward Tadevosyan, Honored Artist of Armenia.

Ann is a concert performer, orchestra and chamber ensemble performer and a teacher. She has great experience in Armenia playing in the Babadganyan Music College Chamber Ensemble and the Yerevan State Conservatory Chamber Ensemble. In 1994 she was also a violin teacher at the Sayat-Nova Musical College in Yerevan. Her performances include soloing with the Chamber Orchestra "Serenade" in Armenia and with the Caucasian Chamber Ensemble in Germany. She received a 2001 Award Diploma: The Teacher Displayed the Best Result in Fifth Republican Competition of Young Violinists and Violoncellists.

She is now residing in the USA and we are so fortunate to have her living in this area. Since 2005 she has been a violin instructor at the Polonsky Piano School and now teaches at the Avloni Academy of Music in Saratoga. Ann is married and has two sons, 4 and 9 years old.

A quote from Ann: My teaching method is based on the fundamental Russian violin school, for my students playing the violin is not just a technical task, but entering into the world of beautiful sounds and emotions. I was always admired by two genius violin teachers, Leopold Auer and Ivan Galamian, who had a great influence on my teaching philosophy.

And here are some quotes from her students in this area:

Meera (14 years old) "Ann is a wonderful teacher. She is the only private teacher I've had, and she makes me feel confident in how I play. She's excellent at teaching proper technique and provides little tricks that make playing the violin so much easier and more beautiful. I really appreciate her patience as I learn new material and her continual encouragement that challenges me to play the best. Thanks for guiding my growth as a violinist and as a musician."?

Anika (10 years old) "I have to admit that when I first started lessons, I thought she was really strict. But then as I continued, I realized that if she hadn't been so demanding, I would never have gotten that far. Ann is a wonderful teacher."

David (13 years old) "I always wanted to play the violin and I got lucky to have a teacher like Ann Kerobyan. She always motivates me to play my best. Because of her, I have a very good hand posture which makes playing the violin a joyful experience. Whenever someone say I play good, I remember my teacher's hard work and perseverance. I always enjoy playing the violin with my teacher."

Isn't it a thrill to receive such wonderful feedback from the students. Ann is also pleased to report that several of her students have joined the California and San Jose Youth Orchestras. We are so happy to welcome Ann to this country.

NEW PERFORMANCE VENUE STATUS REPORT FROM DAVID HUI

Hi,

I thought I would update you on the status of the auditorium in Mt. View.

The auditorium has been painted.

The acoustic material is on order.

A piano has been purchased (Steinway "B") and the technician says it needs very little work from him (just adjustments).

We are in the process of ordering new chairs and getting the bar refurbished.

I am targeting a June "launch" if not sooner----but beauracracies are slow

I am starting to think about how to introduce this venue to all of you---any ideas?

Dave Hui

408-244-1497

McDragon@ix.netcom.com

OUR STUDENTS AS PERFORMERS:

Festival Recital chair, Jui-Ping Chou sent a program list from the 15 March event. Once again, mechanical complications prevent your editor from just copying the listing into this note, however, we can report that 17 pianists performed music from a rather broad variety of styles and composers. Contemporary teaching materials were represented by composers Olson, McLean and Mier, while the various earlier eras of musical composition included works by Bach, Burgmuller, Clementi, Diabelli, Liszt, Khachaturian, Rachmaninoff Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin and Grieg.

EDITORIAL COMMENT SPACE:

In the last newsletter, I inquired about interest in reinstating the teacher's recitals I remember from earlier CAPMT days. Above, there is an article about the new Mt.View performance venue. Is this an opportunity? Sign me up for a teacher's recital to introduce the Peninsula to Mt. View's newest theater. Anyone else interested?

Our next newsletter will publish in June. Deadline for articles, editorials, performance announcements and other newsworthy material: 20 May.

Until then,

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