

Music Teachers of the Desert

KEYNOTES



June 9, 2008

- Students representing the studios of Marta Basham, Kathryn Hull and Marya Marcus performed on May 4 in a recital held at Prosser Piano in Rancho Mirage.
- Also, as previously announced, the 2008 Annual General Meeting of MTOD was convened, after the recital. The roster of board members remains the same, fulfilling two-year term commitments, with the addition of Alex Danson as co-chair of the Ensemble/Honors/Bartok committee (along with Marta Basham and Jim McCormick). At the end of her report highlighting the passing year's activities, Marrilee Uhls "looks forward to another interesting year of being President. . . ."
- The Robert Hennekes Awards Auditions were conducted on May 17 at the Hull Studio. Judges for the event were: Dr. & Mrs. Frank McGinnis and Mr. Richard Reed. A total sum of \$2,600 was awarded to participating students. More details later.
- MTOD members have all probably received publicity from the University of Redlands about their Summer Piano Camp. Marrilee has offered to coordinate travel arrangements, etc. -- so if any of your students are interested in participating, please call Marrilee.
- Birthday Greetings to Cindy Brogan (May 11); Alex Danson (June 7); Robert Lada (June 9); Marta Basham (June 14); Kathy Hull (June 14) and Joanne Bourquin (June 27).
- Congratulations to Alex Danson!! He has recently earned a Master's degree in Music Composition from the University of Redlands. Bravo, Alex!

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, September 14, 2008. Why? For our Potluck-Picnic-Party, that's why!! Watch for more details in the mail.

Accompanying this newsletter as attachments are (1) a report (prepared by Jim McCormick) on the Teaching Survey conducted among our membership in September 2007; (2) a report (prepared by Marta Basham) on Awards and Recognitions earned in 2007-2008.

June 2008, Supplement

EXTRA! EXTRA!! EXTRA!!! Read All About It! !!!

As promised by auditions chair, Marya Marcus, here are the details of the Robert Hennekes Awards Auditions, which were held on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at the Hull Studio in La Quinta, California:

- Judges for the event were Dr. Frank McGinnis, Mrs. FreddieLu McGinnis and Mr. Richard Reed.
- Student entrants represented the following teachers: voice teachers Janet Hopkins and William Reynolds; piano teachers Marta Basham, Kathryn Hull, Marya Marcus and Jim McCormick.
- The 21 entrants were categorized by age. There were 6 voice entrants in the 10-14 age range; 6 in the 15-28 age range, with 3 withdrawing due to illness. Of the piano entrants, there were 23 in the 7-18 age range, with 2 withdrawing.
- Cash awards were earned by the following students:

VOICE: Mathew Borders; Daisy Connor; Nicole Jodoin; Erica Nagasmina

PIANO: Nico Bergmann; Joshua Feldman; Taylor Housken; Nadia Nikolich; Roman Nikolich; Fisaya Omelana; Michael Tseng; Max Wang; Olivia Wong; Esther Yaghoubian; Hannah Yaghoubian; Noah Yaghoubian.

In all, a total of \$26,00.00 was awarded to students.

- The board expressed its appreciation to Dr. John Norman for his cash contribution towards the awards.
- Speaking of awards, Marta Basham's student Olivia Wong was one of the students who received an award from Friends of the Philharmonic for two weeks study at the Idyllwild Arts Academy.
- Belated but sincere birthday greetings to May birthday celebrants! *Mea culpa*. Here's hoping that Merle White (14); Roy Morden (15); John Norman (20); Cindy Brogan (22); Penka Petrosovitch (28) and Marrilee Uhls (31) each enjoyed their special days.

Happy Summer!
Joyce Wade Maltais, Editor