

MTAC SFEV Newsletters – Oct 2015



gilliansmith2@netscape.net Oct 5 at 1:02 PM

October General Recital/ Mark Richman Master Class/ Concert Announcement

Dear MTAC SFEV Colleagues,

GENERAL RECITAL October 18

Today is the registration deadline for the October 18 General Recital "Beginners and Pops." Send your registration forms and check made out to MTAC SFEV to Michael Paul. Please also email the names of your students and their repertoire to his email address so that he can copy and paste the information onto the program. Try to remember to do this for all events, and I will try to remind everyone as well. It saves a lot of time for our chairpeople, and results in fewer errors due to misreading of hand-written forms. To be absolutely clear... teachers should send via regular mail paper copies of the application forms with one check for all the students entered in a given recital, and teachers should send an email to the chairperson including names of performers and their repertoire. Thank you all!

This General Recital is scheduled to take place at Valley College. Due to some bureaucratic issues, there might be a change of venue, but, if that happens, we will definitely notify you.

MARK RICHMAN MASTER CLASS

Mark Richman will lead his annual Master Class at Pasadena Steinway, November 1st between 4 and 6PM. Please let him know if you would like to have any of your students play in this class. Repertoire accepted is intermediate or advanced. All teachers are welcome to attend, and many usually do, whether or not you have students performing. We always learn a great deal from Mark!

CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT

Speaking of our esteemed colleague... congratulations to Mark Richman, a winner in the Moments of Music Foundation Piano Concerto Competition which took place last weekend. Mark will be performing the second movement of Mozart's "Jeune Homme" No. 9 K.271 Concerto with orchestra in Thayer Hall at the Colburn School Sunday Oct. 25th at 3 PM. There were 6 winners each of whom will be playing one movement from this concerto of Mozart's and one by Beethoven. Admission to the public is FREE.

I hope all is going well for all of you,

Gillian



gilliansmith2@netscape.net Oct 9 at 10:42 PM

various topics

Dear MTAC SFEV Members,

Please note that the Contemporary Festival is scheduled for January 10, 2016 - Valley College Recital Hall.

Our first event of the season is the General Recital "Beginners and Pops," October 18th at Valley College. Chairperson,

Michael Paul, will be contacting those of you who have registered students participating in this event. Once the exact timing of the recitals is set, I will notify all of you so that you might attend even if you do not have students participating. Some teachers who have not participated in General Recitals before may wish to attend to observe.

The second event of the 2015/16 season is the Mark Richman Master Class, November 1st, 4 to 6 PM, at Pasadena Steinway. Mark is a master teacher who excels at the master class format. Please contact Mark if you have students you want to register for this class. Many teachers from our branch attend this class even if we do not have students participating in the class. Mark is an outstanding teacher.

Li Ming-Qiang will be leading a master class November 15th, 2 to 5 PM, at his daughter's house in Pasadena. His daughter, Jing Li, is also a member of MTAC. Professor Li lives in Hong Kong, but will be in the United States for a brief visit. Several of us in the Branch know him to be an exceptional person, pianist, and teacher! Despite his rare credentials (including being a juror for the Van Cliburn Competition), Professor Li is a very down-to-earth person who is happy to teach all who want to learn. Please let me know if you are interested in performing in or auditing this class. Trust me - you will not be sorry if you spend some time in his company!! <https://youtu.be/gq5u10shCQY> - samples of his recordings Biographical information below:

(Ming-Qiang Li is a [Chinese](#) classical [pianist](#). He studied under [Alfred Wittenberg](#) and Tatiana Kravchenko, and as a young pianist in the late 1950s and early 1960s won awards at several Eastern European music competitions: the [Smetana Competition](#) in Prague in 1957 (3rd prize), the [George Enescu International Piano Competition](#) in Bucharest in 1958 (1st prize), the [International Frederick Chopin Piano Competition](#) (sic) in Warsaw in 1960 (4th prize). His recordings comprise pieces by the classics and romantics, as well as piano music by Chinese composers. During the [Chinese Cultural Revolution](#) (1966–1976) Li Ming-Qiang was sent to a work farm, subjected to torture [1]. Unfortunately, the Cultural Revolution marked the end of his career as a concert pianist, although studio recordings of his performances were made as late as 1982 [2]. In 1984 Li Ming-Qiang became Vice President of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music (1984–1989), a professor of piano, and Chairman of the Shanghai Piano Association. He served as a juror at many international piano competitions, among others those of Van Cliburn in Fort Worth, Enescu in Bucharest, Chopin in Warsaw, as well as in Sydney, Shanghai, Paris, Montreal, and Santander. In 1989 he relocated temporarily to the USA, where he held master classes at several music centers. In 1997 he moved to Hong Kong and became a professor in the Music and Arts Department at the [Baptist University in Hong Kong](#). Despite his relatively short performing-career, Li Ming-Qiang is ranked among the influential contemporary [classical pianists \(recorded\)](#).)

All the best to all of you!

Gillian



gilliansmith2@aim.com Oct 12 at 8:50 AM

Accompanist needed

Forwarding this message from one of our members:

This is Nicole Nale from piano play music systems. I have a student who is auditioning a Mozart concerto for a program with the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic. She needs an accompanist to play the tutti sections. Some of the parts will even be cut down, but she will need to rehearse beforehand and do the audition with the accompanist on November 14. I need one asap, as the accompanist I had scheduled may be dropping out. The accompanist can work out whatever payment works for them and they have already purchased the music that I will get to whoever responds. They can email me directly at NicoleNaleClassical@gmail.com. Thank you so much! Nicole Nale Piano Play Music Systems
NicoleNaleClassical@gmail.com (818) 259-9321



gilliansmith2@aim.com Oct 12

Branch Honors Qualifications

Dear CM Teachers:

Several teachers have been asking me about Branch Honors, lately, as they consider signing students up for CM. To be clear, the Branch Honors Box will appear when we select specific repertoire in January for our students. We will not be checking a Branch Honors Box when we register students in October.

Gillian

-----Original Message-----

From: gilliansmith2 <gilliansmith2@aim.com>
To: gilliansmith2 <gilliansmith2@netscape.net>
Sent: Mon, Oct 12, 2015 9:16 am
Subject: Branch Honors Qualifications

Dear Branch Members who are entering students in Certificate of Merit:

Each year, there is some confusion about qualifications for Branch Honors. Since this is registration month for CM, I thought it might be helpful for you to see the qualifications (listed below) before you register students. Teachers MUST click on the Branch Honors Box in order for your student to be selected. No student can be selected for this honor if the box on the registration form was not clicked even if their performance at CM is exceptional!!

Gillian

Students must:

- be Level IV or above
- pass theory with 70% or better
- receive a 5- or better rating for the piece chosen
- receive "Average" or better rating for sight-reading
- receive "Good" or better rating for technique

piece selected must be memorized, but not all the pieces have to be memorized (memory requirement for Level IV and above is two pieces of the three or four performed plus the etude for Level 10)



Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@aim.com> Oct 23 at 7:51 AM

Music Competition for San Fernando Valley High School Students

My name is Betsy, I'm a member of the West San Fernando Valley MTAC branch. I wanted to reach out and let you know that the organization where I teach piano has partnered with the Valley Cultural Center to offer a music competition and scholarship opportunity for high school students. See details below.

Valley Talent Music Scholarship Program Details:

Application Process:

- Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - Be 14 to 18 years old and current high school students

- o Live in the San Fernando Valley (proof of residence will be requested)
- Applicants must choose from one of the two categories below:
 - o Non-Classical Performance (Pop, Rock, Jazz, etc.)
 - o Classical Performance

Participants may play any instrument that fits under the categories of woodwind, brass, strings, and percussion. (No computer-based musical instruments allowed)

*Bands and ensembles may participate, but the award amount will remain fixed.

- Applicants must submit application forms along with video submissions and any other attachments by November 30, 2015.

Selection Process:

- Preliminary Auditions

Based on the video submissions, our judges will choose the number of applicants that will advance to the live auditions. All applicants chosen to go forward to the live auditions will be provided personal and detailed feedback on their video submission and invited to attend a master class focused on developing presentation and performance skills.

- Live Auditions

The date of the live auditions will be announced shortly after receipt of submissions. All students will get a maximum of 15 minutes to perform in front of three Judges. The judges will choose one finalist and two semifinalists for each of the two categories.

Awards:

Finalists in each category will receive a cash scholarship of \$1,000

Semifinalists will receive a cash scholarship of \$500 (2 semifinalists per category)

Thanks!

Betsy Valle

Development Coordinator & Piano Teacher

Nueva Vision Community School - 501(c)3 nonprofit

www.nuevavisioncs.org

cell: (818) 235-2280

email: betsy.valle@nuevavisioncs.org

-- Empowering our community through music education. --



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@aim.com>](mailto:gilliansmith2@aim.com) Oct 25 at 9:26 PM

Events - recently passed and happening soon

Dear Colleagues,

General Recital

The first General Recital of the year went very well. Many thanks to our chairperson, Michael Paul, for handling all the logistics. Thanks also to Laura Halladay for her persistence organizing permits, insurance forms etc. with MTAC and Valley College for use of that facility.

Concert Reviews

Saturday night and Sunday afternoon of this last weekend, I was very proud to attend two wonderful performances of members of our branch:

Aziza Syed, our spectacular new treasurer, played keyboards with her ten-piece band, Novala, at the hot club, Mrs. Fish, downtown. Aziza's group includes three percussionists 4 brass and wind instrumentalists, plus keyboards, bass and guitar. Aziza showed great skill and held her own with 9 other guys. The music which ranged from Afro-Cuban-inspired to jazz and rock was extremely well received by the crowd at the well-known, fancy night spot. Thanks for getting me to downtown LA on a Saturday night, Aziza!! I enjoyed hearing your group so much!!

Mark Richman performed the 2nd movement of Mozart's Concerto No. 9 "Jeunehomme" with orchestra as a winner of the Moments of Music Foundation's new Concerto Competition. Mark's performance was beautifully expressive, illuminating much pathos, character, and harmonic invention in Mozart's relatively early masterpiece. A friend of mine attending with me

said of Mark, "He is a poet." KUSC's Alan Chapman hosted the event - 6 winners each playing one movement of the Mozart Concerto No. 9 and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2

Mark Richman Master Class

Next weekend is the annual Mark Richman Master Class to be held at Pasadena Steinway 4 to 6PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Certificate of Merit Registration

Deadline approaching - October 31st. Please make sure your check for all your students is sent to Sharon Shaheed at Piano Play - postmarked by October 31. Sharon will also accept checks brought to her by Monday Nov. 2 (Piano Play opens at 2PM that day).

Address: 14237 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Phone:(818) 789-6110

Li Ming Qiang Master Class

Sunday, November 15, 2PM at a private home in Pasadena

All of you are welcome to attend. Please let me know if you are interested in performing and/or attending this class.
gilliansmith2@netscape.net

Li Ming-Qiang is a living legend. On YouTube, you can hear snippets of recordings he made in the past... an astonishing musician, wonderful giving teacher, who survived terrible things during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Please see biographical information from wikipedia below. He is an incredibly knowledgeable yet down-to-earth person who loves to teach and talk about music. He is superb, in particular, at producing and getting his students to produce wonderful sound in piano playing, orchestral sound as in a Beethoven Sonata, for example.

Li Ming-Qiang - is a [Chinese](#) classical [pianist](#). He studied under [Alfred Wittenberg](#) and Tatiana Kravchenko, and as a young pianist in the late 1950s and early 1960s won awards at several Eastern European music competitions: the [Smetana Competition](#) in Prague in 1957 (3rd prize), the [George Enescu International Piano Competition](#) in Bucharest in 1958 (1st prize), the [International Frederick Chopin Piano Competition](#) (sic) in Warsaw in 1960 (4th prize). His recordings comprise pieces by the classics and romantics, as well as piano music by Chinese composers. During the [Chinese Cultural Revolution](#) (1966–1976) Li Ming-Qiang was sent to a work farm and allegedly subjected to torture [\[1\]](#). Unfortunately, the Cultural Revolution marked the end of his career as a concert pianist, although studio recordings of his performances were made as late as 1982 [\[2\]](#). In 1984 Li Ming-Qiang became Vice President of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music (1984–1989), a professor of piano, and Chairman of the Shanghai Piano Association. He served as a juror at many international piano competitions, among others those of Van Cliburn in Fort Worth, Enescu in Bucharest, Chopin in Warsaw, as well as in Sydney, Shanghai, Paris, Montreal, and Santander. In 1989 he relocated temporarily to the USA, where he held master classes at several music centers. In 1997 he moved to Hong Kong and became a professor in the Music and Arts Department at the [Baptist University in Hong Kong](#). Despite his relatively short performing-career, Li Ming-Qiang is ranked among the influential contemporary [classical pianists \(recorded\)](#).



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@aim.com>](mailto:gilliansmith2@aim.com) Oct 26 at 11:36 AM

Yo-Yo Ma on Intonation, Practice, and the Role of Music in Our Lives / Feature / Department / Article Index / All Things Strings

Dear MTAC SFEV Members:

I thought some of you might be interested to read this article about Yo-Yo Ma - his thoughts on music, life, art, purpose, etc. as he turns 60. Some have described him as the greatest string player on the planet for reasons which go beyond being the esteemed concert artist and founder of the Silk Road Ensemble that he is. I found it very interesting and significant. Perhaps some of you might enjoy it as well.

Gillian

<http://www.allthingsstrings.com/Article-Index/Department/Feature/Yo-Yo-Ma-on-Intonation-Practice-and-the-Role-of-Music-in-Our-Lives#.VgaeHJxeAQw.facebook>



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@aim.com>](mailto:gilliansmith2@aim.com) Oct 26 at 3:50 PM

Southern California Junior Bach Festival

Dear Colleagues:

Our Bach Festival will take place April 10, but it is a good idea to start planning with your students now. **We are encouraging all of you to enter many students.** Whether they range in ability from average to exceptional, it is enriching to study and perform this great music and hear others do so as well.

Below, please find information about our Bach Festival organized by our chairperson, Kathleen Rabun. Her contact information is at the bottom and I am sure she will be happy to answer any questions, but please try to read as much on your own first, so that we don't take up her time unnecessarily.

Southern California Junior Bach Festival Registration & Information for Teachers

Registration for the 2016 Southern California Junior Bach Festival (SCJBF) opens November 1, 2015 and closes March 21, 2016. Teachers can go to the website www.scjbf.org to register. The Festival will take place Sunday, April 10, 2016 from 12pm - 4pm at the Steinway Beverly Hills store.

If you are a returning teacher or new teacher, you can login and/or sign-up on the tab [REGISTRATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS](#) on the [HOME](#) page. There are complete instructions for new and returning users on this page. If you are a returning teacher and your email address has changed, please email the webmaster to update your information. You can reach the webmaster at this link: http://www.scjbf.org/contact_webmaster.htm

Festival organizers have asked that returning teachers update the list of students participating. Teachers need to delete students who are no longer participating (graduated, no longer taking lessons etc.) from their list.

Please make sure to go to the the tab [RULES & GUIDELINES](#) for a list of the current rules and guidelines. It is the teacher's responsibility to make sure they follow all the requirements for participation. No exceptions will be allowed.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the SCJBF-SFEV Branch Chair; Kathleen Rabun via email at kathleen@rabunpianostudio.com



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@netscape.net>](mailto:gilliansmith2@netscape.net) Oct 27, 2015 at 9:18 AM

Fwd: CM 2016 Registration Closing Soon



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Dear MTAC Member:

Participation in the Certificate of Merit® Program is a wonderful opportunity that we wouldn't want anyone to miss! This is just a reminder that there are only five more days remaining to complete your students' CM Registration. The database will close at 11:59 PM on Saturday, October 31, 2015. There is no late registration.

Looking forward to another successful year for students, teachers and the MTAC Certificate of Merit® Program.

Thank you,
MTAC State Board of Directors
MTAC CM Council



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@netscape.net>](mailto:gilliansmith2@netscape.net) Oct. 29, 2015

Mark Richman Master Class

Dear MTAC SFEV Colleagues:

We hope to see many of you at the master class to be conducted by our colleague Mark Richman. It will take place this coming Sunday at the Steinway Store in Pasadena from 4 to 6PM. Perhaps Mark will send us the repertoire to be performed so we can bring scores. Just for your information, teachers may have students perform in this class (intermediate to advanced repertoire accepted), if not this year, perhaps next year. The fee per student is \$30.00 - payable to the branch.

A member of the branch (not Mark) suggested that I send you a brief bio of Mark's, the store address, and parking instructions. All that information is below.

See you there!!

Mark Richman graduated summa cum laude from UCLA, received an MM from Juilliard and pursued doctoral-level work at Boston University. His principal teachers include Leonard Shure, Aube Tzerko, Rosina Lhevinne and Leah Effenbach. He taught at UCLA for many years. He has performed extensively in the US and many other countries and has appeared locally as soloist with the LA Philharmonic, the Glendale Symphony, the San Fernando Valley Symphony and the American Youth Symphony. Mark assisted famed violinist, Jascha Heifetz, in his master classes at USC. His students have won major awards and prizes at state, national and international levels.

Steinway Piano Gallery
150 E. Colorado Blvd Suite 101
Pasadena, CA 91105

(626) 744-7774 Parking: drive east past the store, turn right, and you will see a public parking lot immediately on the right.



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@netscape.net>](mailto:gilliansmith2@netscape.net) Oct 30 at 7:42 PM

Dear MTAC SFEV Members,

Repertoire to be performed at Mark Richman's Master Class will be:

Brahms: Intermezzo in AM, Op. 118 #2

Beethoven: Sonata Op. 111--1st movement

Chopin: "Heroic" Polonaise in AbM

Please remember that day light savings time begins this weekend. Keep that in mind for both the master class and CM registration. Checks for CM totals should have been mailed to Sharon today or be post-marked tomorrow at the very latest!! If you do not get your check in the mail tomorrow, you must hand it in to Piano Play between 2 and 9PM on Monday.

Looking forward to seeing many of you on Sunday!! Happy Halloween!

Gillian



[Gillian Smith <gilliansmith2@netscape.net>](mailto:gilliansmith2@netscape.net) Oct 31 at 4:53 PM

CM Registration Ends Today



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To CM-Eligible Members:

For those of you who are participating in **Certificate of Merit 2016** and have not yet registered your students, please do so now.

Online registration for CM ends tonight, **Saturday October 31, at 11:59 pm** when the online registration system closes. *You will not be able to register after that time.*

If you plan to participate and have not registered for CM 2016, please log on to your **Teacher Home Page** now to ensure that your students can participate in the spring. For any last minute questions, please refer to your **CM Resources** of your **Teacher Home Page** section which includes information on policies and procedures.

The State Office is open Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm. If you need assistance on Saturday, October 31 please contact your CM Branch Chair. If you cannot contact your CM Branch Chair please call (415) 484-8506

Thank you,
MTAC

833 Market Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94103
T: (800) 834 3340

