



# MTAC NEWS

January 2014

MTAC NEWS is published the months of September, November, January, March, and May. Information deadlines are the 10th of each of the above months, with all information sent electronically to Dr. Louise Earhart, editor, [learhart@mtac.org](mailto:learhart@mtac.org).

The MTAC News is posted online at [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org) on the Teacher Home Page under MTAC.

## ASSOCIATION

From the State President .....	1
From The State Office .....	2
State Programs .....	2-4
Adult Performance North .....	2
Adult Performance South .....	2
Certificate of Merit .....	2
Composers Today .....	3
Improvisation .....	3
Friends of Today's Music and Contemporary Music Seminar .....	3
Piano Concerto Solo North and South .....	4
Special Committees .....	4
Community Outreach and Music Students Service League .....	4
Media and Publication Awards .....	4

## CONVENTION

Convention Pages Needed. Please help! .....	5
Convention Page Availability Form .....	6
Convention Artists .....	5
Convention Registration .....	8

## FOUNDATION

The Natenstedt-YAG College Music Study Scholarship .....	9
From the Foundation Chair .....	9
Donors List .....	9
2013-2014 Branch Giving Tree .....	10

This Table of Contents is interactive! Click on the title of the article you wish to read and you will be taken to that section of this pdf. In addition, all text in light blue opens an email. Italic "continued on page..." notices will take you there. This will save you time. Thank you for reading the MTAC News! Comments and suggestions should be addressed to Dr. Louise Earhart.

## From the State President

Happy New Year. I hope you had a wonderful holiday season, visiting and spending time with family members and friends, and downtime to relax and recharge for a fantastic 2014!

The 2014 Convention program is shaping up nicely. Here is a snapshot of the phenomenal artists and programs we have in store for you:

Greg Anderson & Elizabeth Joy Roe, Piano Duo  
 Aaron Blake, Voice  
 Sean Chen, Piano  
 Nathan Cole, Violin  
 Dr. Charles Fierro, Piano  
 Dr. Lincoln Hanks, Silent Films  
 Jerome Lowenthal, Piano Concerto Master Class  
 Bryan Pezzone, Jazz Piano  
 Dr. Dmitry Rachmanov, Piano  
 Jim Walker, Flute



MTAC is changing things up this year, and in the spirit of "Music Brings Us Together," we will be hosting a great new gathering, *The Monday Night Members' Social*, instead of our traditional banquet. This time will allow us to meet members and friends, old and new, in a more casual, festive setting. We will have prizes for raffle drawings. We will still have a sit-down dinner banquet on Friday night to honor Foundation donors. You can pre-register for all events, including the new Monday Night Members' Social, by Sunday, June 15, 2014.

In MTAC Foundation news, I am very happy to announce an exciting new scholarship program – The Natenstedt YAG College Music Study Scholarship. This new scholarship will enable eligible students to continue music study in their college years. Please read the announcement in this newsletter for further information.

Our deserving students rely on your generous support for student awards and financial assistance grants. Please consider donating to the MTAC Foundation today.

I look forward to seeing you all at the MTAC Convention 2014 in Los Angeles!

**Amy Martin**  
 MTAC State President

## From The State Office

### MEMBERSHIP

The State Office is preparing for our peak membership application intake, which begins March 1. This is the best time for all reinstating members and new applicants to submit applications in order to receive a full year of membership. If anyone has shown interest in our organization, or if you know of any members who wish to return to MTAC, please have them contact the State Office and we will be glad to provide them with application information and the appropriate forms. You may also direct them to the State website at [mtac.org](http://mtac.org).

Please keep in mind that July 31 is both the deadline for Certificate of Merit eligibility and the deadline to be listed in the MTAC State Directory for new and reinstating members.

Additionally, to ensure that all members properly receive renewal invoices, we are asking members to verify their current mailing address, date of birth, and contact information on their online Teacher Home page. Most updates can be made online. For any that cannot, please contact:

**Melanie Doyle**,  
Members Service Associate at [melanied@mtac.org](mailto:melanied@mtac.org) or

**Alicia Montgomery**,  
Members Service Assistant at [aliciam@mtac.org](mailto:aliciam@mtac.org).

### STATE OFFICE CLOSED

**The State Office is closed February 17 for Presidents' Day.**

## Adult Performance North

The **Adult Performance North** program is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2014, at Contra Costa College in San Pablo, CA. Individual evaluation, masterclass participation and recital performance opportunities are offered.

This year's program will feature two outstanding judges: Sharon Mann, Professor of Piano at the San Francisco Conservatory; and Markus Pawlick, acclaimed pianist and recording artist for Naxos and SonoLuminus Records.

The enrollment deadline is Saturday, February 15, 2014. Please contact me at [jgriest@contracosta.edu](mailto:jgriest@contracosta.edu) for further information, and visit the MTAC website for enrollment forms and additional information. Applications should be mailed to.

**Jennifer Griest**  
**Adult Performance Chair North**  
3982 Whittle Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94602

## Adult Performance South

The **Adult Performance South** event will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2014 at Chapman University in the city of Orange, California. Participants may choose different combinations of private lessons, master classes, and recitals. (Please see the website for details.)

The adjudicators for this event are James Bonn, faculty emeritus from the University of California; Alison Edwards of the

California State University Fullerton piano faculty; and Dmitry Rachmanov of the California State University Northridge piano faculty.

Entry forms are available on the MTAC web site, and they are due on Sunday, February 15, 2014. Forms should be mailed to:

Dr. Joseph Matthews, Adult Performance Chair South,  
5721 East Stillwater Avenue, Unit 2,  
Orange, CA 92869-7553

Information and rules for the event are available on the MTAC web site.

For further information or questions, please contact;

**Dr. Matthews at [matthews@chapman.edu](mailto:matthews@chapman.edu) or (714)771-7190.**

## Certificate of Merit

### New Certificate of Merit Panel Award!

CM Council is very excited to announce a new award for Panel students.

The State Board has approved a custom MTAC designed "Panel Pin" Below are the criteria and clarifications of all Panel awards, including Young Artist Guild. More information may be found in Section Seven of the Panel and YAG Audition Guidelines.

Students who have passed their Regional Panel Auditions will receive a certificate from their teachers with their name, instrument, and registered level. This certificate represents the student's successful completion of their Certificate of Merit Level.

Successful students selected from Finals are honored by performing at the annual MTAC Convention in one of three Panel Award Divisions:

- (1) Panel Honors
- (2) Panel Master Class
- (3) Young Artist Guild Recital

In recognition of this outstanding achievement, students who perform at one of the above Panel Award Division Recitals at the MTAC State Convention will be awarded the following at the end of the recital:

- (1) Panel Honors -- a pin, rosette, and a certificate printed with their name, instrument, and Panel Honors Performer
- (2) Panel Master Class -- a pin, rosette, and a certificate printed with their name, instrument, and Panel Master Class Performer
- (3) Young Artist Guild Recital -- the Senior Medallion, a plaque, a rose, and a monetary award

**Judi Sans-Pertel, State Chair**

## Composers Today

2014 Young Composers Guild and State Evaluations are underway.

The CT Council is excited about our State Contest this year. Results are back earlier than usual from State Evaluations, and now any changes may be made before submitting.

The CT yahoo group is the venue where CT Council hosts discussions and question/answer forum. It is open for all MTAC members. Thank you to all who have been a part of this helpful forum. It makes it easier to learn how we can solve any existing problems and create a better music community!

Best wishes to all our composition students and teachers!

**Liz Lucus**  
CT State Chair

## Improvisation

There are two important deadlines coming soon for **Improvisation. Branch Presidents and Newsletter chairs are asked to announce the following information in your Branch meetings and Branch Newsletter.**

**1) Optional Improvisation in Certificate of Merit** — *As you enter CM repertoire online for your students in the next few weeks, remember to register your students for Optional Improvisation so they may improvise from 5 to 60 seconds for the CM evaluator.*

Young students and first-time improvisers might play for 5-10 seconds, with older more advanced students playing up to 60 seconds. The length of the Improvisation does not matter, as long as it fits into the allotted evaluation time — what matters is that the **students use their creativity and play their own music.** It can be a prepared Improvisation that they create and practice ahead of time, or they can improvise on the spot. In Certificate of Merit, the Improvisation is not rated and does not affect the outcome of the ratings for CM, but it does give the student the opportunity to improvise. When preparing to enter CM repertoire online, you will click on the Student List, then Edit Eval Info, then click "Go.. After entering repertoire, **click on "Check if Improvisation" near the bottom of the page** (just above the blue "request day/time/carpool" box) before you click "Submit.. This will print "Improvisation — YES" on the evaluator's form so the judge will ask to hear your student's Improvisation.

**2) Improvisation Evaluation Application** — *This is the last MTAC News before the Saturday, March 15, 2014, postmark deadline for the Improvisation Evaluation Application. The same deadline applies to sending a recording of the Improvisation by email.*

The Improvisation Evaluation is for students who would like professional written feedback on their Improvisations. It is also the first step for students who want to perform in one of the Improvisation Recitals at the State Convention. The Improvisations will be rated, and the top "performers" will be selected from the recorded improvisations for the Improvisation Recitals at Convention.

**The deadline to submit recorded Improvisations and Evaluation applications is Saturday, March 15, 2014.** Go to MTAC.org, and click on Improvisation<Documents. There you will find the following information and links to the application forms:

Students who enjoy improvising may send in a recording of their improvisation and receive written comments and ratings from a professional improviser/evaluator.

- **Standard Improvisation Evaluation** This evaluation is for the novice improviser at any level — the student who has just recently begun to create pieces. The student may choose a written evaluation alone or may also request to be considered for the Celebration Recital at the Convention.

- **Advanced Improvisation Evaluation** Students who participate in the Advanced Evaluation have been improvising for a while and feel comfortable performing in a group setting, particularly in 'on the spot' improvisation activities. For this evaluation, two recorded improvisations are required. Students applying for Advanced Evaluation are asking to be considered for both the Celebration and Honors Recitals at Convention.

Please send your questions to:

**Deb Sanfilippo,**  
Improvisation Council Chair, [debsanfilippo@yahoo.com](mailto:debsanfilippo@yahoo.com)

**Dorothy Burgess,**  
Improvisation Assistant Chair, [doburgess@aol.com](mailto:doburgess@aol.com)

## Friends of Today's Music / Contemporary Music Seminar

**Friends of Today's Music** has commissioned composer **Derek Bermel** to write a work for solo piano aimed at advanced-level students. Mr. Bermel is composing a set of Etudes that explore various technical challenges and nod to Bartok's Mikrokosmos. The Etudes will be five to ten minutes in duration and will be published by PeerMusic Classical. The work will be completed in February, and teachers may preview the score before submitting students to perform the premiere during the MTAC Convention on Monday, June 30, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Described by the Toronto Star as an "eclectic with wide open ears," Grammy-nominated composer and clarinetist Derek Bermel has been widely hailed for his creativity, theatricality, and virtuosity. Bermel's works draw from a rich variety of musical genres, including classical, jazz, pop, rock, blues, folk, and gospel. Hands-on experience with music of cultures around the world has become part of the fabric and force of his compositional language. We look forward to Mr. Bermel's residency at convention and the premiere of his new work.

**The Contemporary Music Seminar** will be presented at the 2014 Convention in Los Angeles. This program features students and teachers introducing and performing contemporary works. This is a terrific opportunity to share newer and unknown works by the composers of our time. All MTAC teachers are welcome to participate; selections must be published. Unpublished works may be programmed at the discretion of the CMS Chair.

For information and application guidelines contact:

**Catherine O'Connor, Chair**  
(510-581-6457) or email: [cathoc@aol.com](mailto:cathoc@aol.com)

## Piano Concerto-Solo

### New Online Application Form

The 2014 Piano Concerto-Solo *Southern Regionals* will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014, at El Camino College, Torrance, and on Sunday, March 23, 2014, at Steinway Gallery, West Hollywood (High School/Solo Division 3). The *Northern Regionals* take place on Saturday, March 15, 2014, at Santa Clara University.

We are in our second year of the new online application procedure. (.Pdf printed forms or applications filled out by hand are no longer accepted.. Each teacher must log onto the MTAC website with their personal password and then follow the links to the piano concerto-solo application form.

Payment also will be securely handled online, using a credit card. Please do not mail personal checks to the State Chairs. The application fee is \$75 per student.

Proof-of-age documents, including a copy of the student's birth certificate or Driver's License may be sent by snail mail or as an email attachment. Either way, print *clearly* the student's name *along with* division and category, i.e., "Solo/Division 4."

The online registration opens Wednesday, January 15, 2014, and closes Saturday, March 1, 2014, at 11:59 p.m. You may direct any questions about the application procedure to either

**Kristi Lobitz, Chair-South** at [klobitz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:klobitz@sbcglobal.net) or  
**Anna Lin, Chair-North** at [yunghsueh@hotmail.com](mailto:yunghsueh@hotmail.com).

## Community Outreach and Music Students Service League

Attention, all **Community Outreach and Music Students Service League Branch Chairs**. The final Community Outreach and MSSL Branch Chairs meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 27, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in the Marina Room at the State Convention. Please bring your annual outreach reports to the meeting.

**Alyse Korn, Special Committee Chair**

## Media and Publication Awards

The **Media and Publication Awards Program** is entering into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We are working to improve this program, hoping that every Branch and each individual member of the MTAC will be encouraged and inspired to participate. All future entries for the Media and Publication Awards will be \*electronically\* submitted to **Jennifer Cruz, State liaison of the Media and Publication Awards Program**. Look for further announcements in upcoming issues of the MTAC News.

# Music Brings Us Together



## Convention Pages Needed. Please help!

**\*\*PAGE ALERT \*. PAGE ALERT \*. PAGE ALERT \*.  
PAGE ALERT \*. PAGE ALERT \***

Dear MTAC Teachers:

The 2014 MTAC Convention in Los Angeles (Friday, June 27 through Tuesday, July 1) at The Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel requires at least **200** (yes, two hundred!) pages who are responsible high school (or mature junior high) students during the Convention. Each page may serve at least a four-hour shift and may invite a friend (who needs not be a music student) to join him/her. **Teachers and parents** are also encouraged to be pages, especially for evening events (including banquets and receptions) and at the practice rooms. This is an excellent opportunity for your students to be an essential part of all the wonderful events at the Convention. Your students who volunteer to serve as a page may be able to receive (upon request) a letter of recommendation that could be added to any college scholarship or job application. Student pages will also receive community service credits for this volunteering job.

Below are the different types of pages and their specific duties:

**Host Page** stations at the Convention registration desk and throughout the hotel; directs/escorts Convention attendees to their destinations, answers questions, and smiles

**Event Page** picks up program. (concert, recital master class, lecture or banquet) 30 minutes prior to each event; checks event attendees' badges; passes out programs and greets event attendees; supervises entry to each event while it is in progress; opens doors at end of event; answers questions of attendees, and smiles

**Practice Room Page** supervises practice rooms and enforces practice room schedules (Adult pages only)

**Exhibit Page** makes rounds amongst the exhibitors in the exhibit rooms, answers questions, and attends to any needs of attendees and exhibitors

The Convention is packed with events and exhibits, many of which may be of great interest to your students. Those who serve as pages may attend any Convention concert, recital, exhibit, lecture, or master class (including their accompanying parent) free of charge during the day of service. The pages will be assigned to specific days, shifts, and stations at the Convention. Please provide as many students as possible, who would be able to handle the job smoothly. Students who have applied to perform at the Convention will receive notification about their performing times with ample advanced notice so they may be

able to volunteer the page's job following their performances. An orientation will be held Thursday, June 26, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, 5711 West Century Boulevard, L.A. 90045

On page 6 is a Page Availability Form. Please make copies for your prospective pages and have them return the completed form to Louisa Wong via email: [louikitw@yahoo.com](mailto:louikitw@yahoo.com), or via postal mail: 124 S. Kenter Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

I appreciate your anticipated support. Please feel free to contact me should you encounter any questions.

Sincerely,  
**Louisa Wong, Page Chair**  
**West Los Angeles Branch**  
Email: [louikitw@yahoo.com](mailto:louikitw@yahoo.com)  
Phone: 310-936-3249

## Convention Artists

### **ANDERSON & ROE, piano duo**

Known for their adrenalized performances, original compositions, and notorious music videos, **GREG ANDERSON and ELIZABETH JOY ROE** are revolutionizing the piano duo experience for the 21st century. Described as "the intense synchronization of genius" (*ThirdCoast Digest*) and "the most dynamic duo of this generation" (*San Francisco Classical Voice*), the Anderson & Roe Piano Duo aims to make classical music a relevant and powerful force around the world. Their album, *When Words Fade* (Steinway Label) spent over a dozen weeks at the top of the Billboard Classical Charts, and their videos are viewed by millions on YouTube. Graduates of The Juilliard School, they are featured on the *Sounds of Juilliard*. Highlights of the 2013/14 season include an appearance at the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival; a new all-Mozart album on the Steinway Label; and the release of their literally explosive music film, *The Rite of Spring*.



### **AARON BLAKE, tenor**

A past winner in MTAC's VOCE program, **Aaron Blake** has been quick to establish an international operatic career. An alumnus of both The Juilliard School and The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University Blake began his vocal studies with one of our own MTAC members, Mrs. Annette Smith, in Los Angeles. After a Carnegie Hall debut as soloist in Handel's *Messiah* in 2011, Blake has gone on to have highly successful roles in operas by Verdi, Bizet, and Cavalli, but

*continued on page 7*

*MTAC News*

**2014 MTAC Convention Page Availability Form**

We look forward to having you serve as a Page at the 2014 MTAC Convention in Los Angeles. Your responsibility, courteousness, and alertness will contribute to the success of the Convention. Please fill out this form and return same by Sunday, June 1, 2014, to Louisa Wong, Page Chair, MTAC West Los Angeles Branch via email. [louikitw@yahoo.com](mailto:louikitw@yahoo.com), or postal service to: 124 S. Kenter Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90049. For further questions, please contact: **Louisa Wong** via e-mail: [louikitw@yahoo.com](mailto:louikitw@yahoo.com), or at her cellular phone 310-936-3249. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Your Home Ph. \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's name \_\_\_\_\_ MTAC Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Name of page partner (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your calendar to avoid conflicts with other activities you or your page partner may have scheduled. Changing schedules and reassigning page times is extremely difficult. Check [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org) for the schedule of daily Convention events that will be of interest to you. We will do our best to accommodate your preferences but cannot make any guarantees. Please note that if you are assigned to a concert, master class, or lecture, you may be required to sit outside the door to control late arrivals during the program. You may, therefore, wish to be a page at a time that does not pose a conflict with an event that you wish to attend. There will be an Orientation Meeting on Thursday evening, June 26, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel. If you cannot attend, you will need to arrive 20 minutes before your shift starts to find out what your job entails. Below, please mark all dates and times you will be available to serve as a page. Mark those shifts you strongly prefer with a plus (+).

Day	Morning 8AM-12:00 PM	Mid Day 12:00PM-4:00PM	Early Evening 4:00-7:30PM	Night 7:30-10:30PM
Friday June 27	_____	_____	_____	_____
Saturday June 28	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sunday June 29	_____	_____	_____	_____
Monday June 30	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tuesday July 1	_____	_____	_____	_____

What is the total number of shifts (3 to 4 hours) you would like to serve? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have some specific preferences (like specific hours, type of page duty, etc.), let us know. We'll do our best to consider them:

Please make a copy of this form and send the form to:

**Louisa Wong, Page Chair**  
 West Los Angeles Branch  
 124 S. Kenter Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90049

Thank you for your contribution. We look forward to working together with you at the Convention.

continued from page 5

it's his sensitive and expressive interpretation of Mozart's music in particular that is bringing him highest acclaim. Accolades for Mr. Blake have included being awarded a prestigious Bagby Foundation Career Grant and the First Prize in both the Florida Grand Opera Competition and the Concerto Competition at the Aspen Music Festival. He has also been recognized by the Metropolitan Opera National Council as one of their prizewinners.

**SEAN CHEN, pianist**

MTAC is proud to present **Sean Chen**, a 24-year-old pianist, who studied piano with MTAC member Edward Francis and went on to become a Young Artist Guild member. Chen is currently pursuing his Artist Diploma at the Yale School of Music after receiving his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in music at Juilliard, where his teachers included Jerome Lowenthal. In 2013, he won Third Prize at the 14<sup>th</sup> Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, becoming the first American to reach the finals since 1997. In the same year, he won the American Pianists Association's DeHaan Classical Fellowship, and Third Prize at the 2013 Morocco Philharmony International Piano Competition. He has recently performed as soloist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, the New West Symphony, and Juilliard Orchestras. A busy schedule lies ahead this season with recitals throughout the U.S. and abroad.



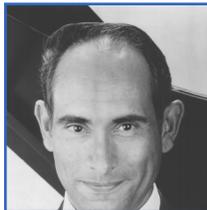
**NATHAN COLE, violinist**

**Nathan Cole** joined the Los Angeles Philharmonic as First Associate Concertmaster in 2011. He was previously a member of the Chicago Symphony and Principal Second Violin of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. A native of Lexington, Kentucky, he made his debut with the Louisville Orchestra at the age of ten.

Mr. Cole later enrolled at the Curtis Institute of Music. While at Curtis, he formed the Grancino String Quartet, debuting in New York's Weill Hall. Several summers at Marlboro further enriched his love of chamber music. While in Chicago, Cole taught at Roosevelt University and coached the Chicago Civic Orchestra. Currently on the faculty at the Colburn School for the Performing Arts, with classes at the Colburn Conservatory and the University of Southern California, Cole is also an online teaching artist with ArtistWorks. The Nathan Cole School of Violin includes a video curriculum of orchestral excerpts, concertos, etudes, and fundamental lessons.

**CHARLES FIERRO, pianist**

**Charles Fierro** is an accomplished pianist, teacher, professor, author, and music reviewer. He has worked with many legendary musicians, including Nadia Boulanger, who personally invited him to perform in the 1976 American Bicentennial Recital at the Palace of Fontainebleau in France. Fierro has a wealth of highly acclaimed recordings to his credit, including the piano works of Aaron Copland, which was made under the auspices of the composer himself. Fierro has made concert tours for the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council and has given more than 25 concerto performances with orchestras. He has appeared twice at the National Gallery of Art and the Dumbarton Oaks Foundation in Washington, D.C., and is currently a Professor Emeritus of Piano at California State



University Northridge, where he received the Distinguished Teaching Award, Fierro holds a Doctorate of Music "with Distinction" from the University of Southern California.

**N. LINCOLN HANKS, composer**

A professional singer and composer, **N. Lincoln Hanks** thrives in the outer regions of the music spectrum. He studied composition at Indiana University with Don Freund, Frederick Fox, and Claude Baker, and with John Harbison at the Aspen Music Festival. Many distinguished performing artists and groups have performed his music, including pianist Paul Barnes, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Cypress String Quartet, and the Dale Warland Singers. Recently his works have been featured on North/South Concerts, the Cutting Edge New Music Festival, the Boston New Music Initiative concert series, and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival. Lincoln composes and teaches in Malibu, CA, where he is the Blache E. Seaver Professor of Fine Arts at Pepperdine University. Additionally, he is a member of the composition faculty at the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp. More information about Lincoln may be found at [www.nlincolnhanks.com](http://www.nlincolnhanks.com).



**DIANE HIDY, pianist**

**Pianist Diane Hidy** is known for her expertise in writing music for students with ADD and other learning differences. She recently presented at the 2014 MTNA Conference in Chicago. Her **Attention Grabbers** are *National Federation of Music Clubs'* selections for 2014-16 and her **Sight Reading Flashcards** are downloaded

hundreds of times each week. With Keith Snell, she co-wrote **Piano Town**, a method series for beginning piano students. Besides her 40+ recordings of piano teaching repertoire, her most recent recording was with Jane Bastien on Bastien's newest **Piano Literature, Volume 6**. Diane made her Carnegie Hall debut following her studies with John Perry and Leon Fleisher. Diane was the first woman Fellow of the American Pianist Association and won the national MTNA Collegiate Artist Award. She attended Juilliard and holds music degrees from the USC and Peabody. Diane lives in San Francisco with her husband and two children.

**VIVIAN I-MIAO LIU, collaborative pianist**

**Dr. Vivian I-Miao Liu** is a versatile collaborative pianist. She has worked with the Long Beach Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Opera Pacific, Boys Choir of Harlem, Calico Winds, California Quartet, Pacific Symphony, Redlands Bowl, Riverside Philharmonic, Pokorny Low Brass Seminar and many others. She collaborated with major philharmonic orchestras and symphonies in Chicago, Los Angeles, Pacific, San Diego, San Francisco, Shanghai, and Vienna, as well as with singers from major operas in Baltimore, Bayerische Staatsoper, Los Angeles and New York. She also performed in Taiwan, Russia, Austria, and the U.S., and appeared on radio and television. She received a DMA in keyboard collaborative arts from USC and has given lectures at the Tainan National University of Arts in Taiwan. She was also asked to adjudicate competitions at the MTAC and SYMF. Currently she is on the faculty at the Chapman University and principal rehearsal pianist with the National Children's Chorus.



### **JEROME LOWENTHAL, pianist**

**Jerome Lowenthal** continues to fascinate audiences with a youthful intensity and eloquence born of life-experience. Mr. Lowenthal studied with Olga Samaroff-Stokowski, William Kapell, Edward Steuermann, Alfred Cortot, and Artur Schnabel. Having won three international competitions, he then moved to Jerusalem where he performed, taught, and lectured for three years. He made his debut with the New York Philharmonic in 1963. Since then, he has performed quite extensively, appearing as soloist with conductors including Barenboim, Ozawa, Slatkin, Leonard Bernstein, Eugene Ormandy, and Pierre Monteux. He has also collaborated with Itzhak Perlman, Ursula Oppens, as well as the Lark, Avalon and Shanghai Quartets. Mr. Lowenthal has taught for 22 years at the Juilliard School. His recordings include concerti by Tchaikovsky and Liszt, solo works by Sinding and Bartok, opera paraphrases by Liszt and Busoni, and chamber music by Arensky and Taneyev. Recently, he recorded the complete *Annees de Pelerinage* by Franz Liszt.



In 1969, he won the associate principal flute position with the Pittsburgh Symphony. He later became principal flutist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Mr. Walker can be heard on 600+ sound tracks, having recorded jazz/pop sessions, as well as for TV and motion pictures. His formation of Free Flight, a jazz/classical quartet, resulted in four Tonight Show appearances, 16 recordings, and annual concert tours. Mr. Walker is founder of Beyond the Masterclass and writer/ creator of the Young Artist Series for Flute (Alfred Music Publishing). His flute ensembles and quartets are published through Flute World Publishing. Mr. Walker travels extensively, giving clinics and master classes around the world.



### **BRYAN PEZZONE, pianist**

**Bryan Pezzone**, a freelance performing and recording artist in the Los Angeles area since 1987, is known as a versatile performer who is comfortable in classical, contemporary, and improvisational styles. He performs with composers and musicians as diverse as Pierre Boulez, John Williams, and John Adams, and records on countless

film and television soundtracks. He is the pianist in the group Free Flight, a crossover classical/jazz quartet whose concerts feature many of his own compositions. Bryan was principal pianist in the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra from its inception in 1991 to 1999 as well as the former chair and founder of the multi-focused keyboard department at the California Institute of the Arts from 1987 to 2000. He abandoned both those positions in order to discover new paths. He is passionate about continuously redefining himself and his role as an artist, musician, and person in today's complex and eclectic culture.



### **MICAH YUI, pianist and chamber musician**

Pianist **Micah Yui** made her solo recital debut in Canada at age ten and her orchestral debut two years later. She is the recipient of three consecutive Canada Council Grants, two Ontario Arts Council Grants, the Alberta Achievement Award, and the Edmonton Civic Award. Micah is a top prizewinner of the Frinna Awerbach International Piano

Competition, Yale Gordon, Harrison Winter, and Canadian Music Competitions. Micah has appeared as soloist with the Montreal Metropolitan Orchestra and the Syracuse, Edmonton, and Victoria Symphonies. She has also performed with Paul Coletti, Daniel Heifetz, James Dunham, Jacques Israelivitch, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, to name a few. Micah holds degrees from the Juilliard School, Peabody Conservatory, the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and the University of Toronto. Her recording with the London Symphony Orchestra was "Record of the Year" by *Stereophile Magazine*. Micah is currently on the faculty at The Colburn School.

### **DIMITRI RACHMANOV, pianist**

**Dr. Dmitry Rachmanov** is a Professor of Piano at California State University, Northridge, where he serves as Chair of Keyboard Studies. Dr. Rachmanov has served on the faculties of Manhattan School of Music and Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, and has appeared as a guest artist, masterclass clinician and lecturer at schools such as UCLA, University of Chicago, Indiana University, University of Michigan, University of Washington, University of Iowa, Tulane University, Royal Northern College of Music (UK), Shanghai Conservatory, Shanghai Normal University, and Beijing Central Music School. Rachmanov has been heard at venues such as New York's Carnegie Hall, Washington DC's Kennedy Center, and in major halls throughout North America and Europe. He has recorded for Naxos, Parma, Master Musicians and Vista Vera labels. Dmitry Rachmanov is a graduate of The Juilliard School and he holds the DMA from Manhattan School of Music.



### **JIM WALKER, flutist**

**Jim Walker** is a professor of winds and percussion and flute coordinator at the USC Thornton School of Music. Graduating with honors from the University of Louisville, he went on to play flute in the United States Military Academy Band at West Point.

## **Convention Registration**

### **Los Angeles Hilton Hotel at LAX Friday, June 27 – Tuesday, July 1, 2014**

Early-bird full convention registration is available to members up until Thursday, May 15, at \$210. After that date, pre-registration pricing is available until Sunday, June 15, at \$250. After Sunday, June 15, the full convention is \$290. We also offer reduced prices for a spouse/relative, or a college student.

All teachers attending the convention for any reason are required to register and will be mailed a registration invoice if they do attend and fail to register. Single onsite day registrations are available for \$145.

Here are three ways that you can register: (1) when you receive an invitation by email from the MTAC State Office to register, (2) register on the MTAC website, or (3) use the registration form in the upcoming California Music Teacher Magazine. Online registration will be available on March 1.

The MTAC has negotiated a favorable room rate of \$94 at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton.

New Branch members who were approved after Thursday, August 1, 2013, receive \$40 off the full convention registration rate. The State Office must receive this discounted convention registration application on or before Sunday, June 15, 2014. This is a great opportunity for new members to meet and network with members throughout the state.

**Gwen Churchill  
Convention Registrar**

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# MUSIC TEACHERS'

ASSOCIATION *of* CALIFORNIA



# FOUNDATION

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*Excellence in Music Education*

## The MTAC Foundation Announces: The Natenstedt-YAG College Music Study Scholarship

The MTAC Foundation is pleased to announce a new scholarship program being launched in 2014 - the Natenstedt YAG College Music Study Scholarship. The purpose of this scholarship is to support Young Artist Guild members who seek to continue their music studies in college. The minimum amount of each scholarship is \$1,000.00. The application period will run from Tuesday, July 15 through Monday, September 15, 2014. To be eligible, applicants must be current members of Young Artist Guild, enrolled as full-time students at a U.S. accredited college or university, and evidence enrollment in at least one music class in a semester/term, or demonstrate continued private music study with a collegiate-level or faculty teacher. Financial need may be considered, but is not required. For further information and applications, please contact Rhonda Williams, Foundation Operations Administrator.

**This scholarship program is made possible by the generous donation and dedicated, loyal support of the Natenstedt Family, who were instrumental in initiating and developing this new, exciting scholarship opportunity.**

## From the Foundation Chair

### GETTING THERE – FOUNDATION CAMPAIGN

As the 2013 year drew to a close, many of you generously gave to the MTAC Foundation Campaign and helped to lift it to a higher level. Our donations as of December 31, 2013, came to a total of \$14,064.11. We still have a long way to go, but this is a good start. Seventeen Branches have already become donors, and we are looking forward to having ALL the Branches join this Foundation party. As always, thanks go to the members who have become part of our Foundation Family.

The push for donations this year is a result of our need for more scholarship money for our wonderful students. We are on our way but we still need YOUR support. Remember that any donation, large, medium, or small, is greatly appreciated.

**Joyce Osborn, Foundation Chair**

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**2013-2014 Branch Giving Tree**



*Music Teachers' Association of California Foundation*  
**2013-2014**  
*We believe in the MTAC Foundation's vision of excellence and its Mission. We support Composers Today ♦ Friends of Today's Music ♦ Improvisation ♦ Music Study Assistance Grant ♦ Piano Concerto and Piano Solo ♦ Vocalists, Orchestral instrumentalists, Chamber music, Ensembles ♦ Young Artist Guild ♦ Young Composers Guild*  
*Together we can and will make a difference.*