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April Newsletter 2023



Dear Members,

I remember the eye-opening experience of my freshman music history classes in 1975 at University of Connecticut, Storrs: Mus. His. 101 & 102 with Dr. Bruce Bellingham. I loved how he introduced each period by comparing architecture, visual art and music from ancient Greek times to medieval times, through the Renaissance, Baroque and forward.

At holiday time, the vocal majors at UCONN were asked to perform in the yearly 'Renaissance Christmas' festival, which ran for two weeks every December. Each performance was complete with the Lord and Lady of the Court leading the proceedings with food, drink, merriment and song. Scholarly Renaissance instrumentalists from Boston to Yale University would be on hand as the backup band, I mean the Courtly musicians.

Pianists, like me, were relegated to sitting in the audience as there was absolutely NOTHING for us to contribute. (The piano had not been conceived of yet and what do you do with X number of undergraduate pianists anyway?) So, I sat mesmerized by the costumes, the dialog, the gorgeous, open, clear intonations of the viols and viola da gambas and recorders and shawms and maybe even a sackbut. The audience was carried along as minor cast members in a theater production. For me, this was a profound, exciting time for me, replete with captivating haunting, new sonic experiences. Ah, what a fun memory from soooooo long ago now.

This was the inspiration for choosing Collegium Musicum for my performing ensemble instead of the choral group. I still remember practicing virginal pieces on the harpsichord and singing and playing recorder on Belle qui tiens ma vie from Orchesography by Thoinot Arbeau.

Well, in the spirit of the Renaissance and with the coming of spring, please enjoy listening to this Shakespearean song by Thomas Morley, with Christoph Genz, voice, & Michael Freimuth,



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lute. I love the refreshing sound of voice and lute and the crisp rolled RRRR's and infectious hemiolas!!! Click on the link to hear it. You will have to endure 5 seconds of ads before you can SKIP AD. I hope you enjoy this!! Warmly Norma

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ3XbrnLRMO>



*It was a lover and his lass
That o'er the green cornfields did pass,
In springtime, in springtime, in springtime,
The only pretty ring time.
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding a ding,
Hey ding a ding a ding, hey ding a ding a ding,
Sweet lovers love the spring.*

Thomas Morley, "it was a lover and his Lass."

MEETINGS, PROGRAMS AND RECITALS

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Come meet the new piano and have lunch on Thursday May 18, 2023 at 10 a.m. Orinda Community Church Fellowship Hall. Put this on your calendars! Let's all get together for our last meeting of the school year. The Sonata contest repertoire will also be revealed. Look for details on menu in the May newsletter.

FROM OUR PROGRAMS DIRECTORS:

Happy Spring everyone! Thank you so much for joining this year's programs. From learning about Anxiety in Kids and Teens, to Ethnic Minority American composers, and the differences between multiple music exams, I hope everyone found something or learned something new and useful.

For those who joined us at the last program with Grant Kondo on the differences between various music exams, here is the link to the Google spreadsheet with all the compiled information. When you click on this, you will see the testing systems listed across the top. This is a fully developed Excel spreadsheet which will not print out well, but you can try. To view it online more comfortably, you should 'zoom in' on the database.

[Testing Spreadsheet.xlsx](#)

docs.google.com

For those who missed the event and would like to see the recording, it has been graciously uploaded and shared by the Alameda MTAC Branch as a private YouTube video at this link:

<https://youtu.be/k2N9F-nec4E>

If there are any questions or problems with the links, please feel free to contact me at ley100@mail.chapman.edu.
Cynthia Ley and Amy Zheng, Program Co-Directors



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CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Results are in!! Check the website.

MONTHLY STUDENT RECITALS

The next Monthly Recital will be held on Sunday April 2 at 2 PM. Registrations are closed. Waiver signature deadline is Friday, March 31st. at 10 PM. Any registered students who do not have the waiver signed by this deadline will not be allowed to perform in the recital.

As you know, student waiver forms are a requirement for participation in all events held by CCMTAC.

To avoid undue stress and paperwork in running the monthly recitals, we have instituted a NEW POLICY: **Electronic signatures are mandatory to be signed by Friday @ 10:00 PM, 2 days before the recital. If this is not completed, the student will not be allowed to play in the Recital. There will be no signing of waiver forms at the recitals.**

We strongly recommend the wearing of masks during the recitals as well as use of hand sanitizer. Students may remove their mask during the performance. We are continuing to clean the keys between performances to reduce any chance of transmission of colds or flu or you-know-what.

Upcoming Monthly Recital Dates: 4/2/23 and 5/7/23 (student and adult).

Anne Russell, Recital Chair

MUSIC TEACHER WORKSHOP AND SHARING OF REPERTOIRE AND IDEAS

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Marcia Berryman, 1001 Camino Verde Circle, Walnut Creek. She plans to serve coffee, tea and snacks. We encourage teachers who are preparing to perform but ALSO new and experienced teachers who would like to share repertoire they like to teach or are teaching or just ideas, successes or any problems. It's a great opportunity to get acquainted in a small group. Please respond to Marcia and me if you plan to attend.

berrymanm@hotmail.com

bandersonpiano@gmail.com

Barbara Anderson, director

HONOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS RECITAL

Our HOHSS recital is scheduled for Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 7PM. It will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek. Please look for details and registration information in the upcoming MailChimp from Julie.

To participate in the recital, please complete [this application form](#), including a statement on "What Music Study Has Meant to Me" (250-500 words) **by APRIL 23, 2023, 11:59pm.**

CONTESTS AND FESTIVALS

SONATA CONTEST

Stay tuned for the new repertoire at the May 18 meeting.

BAROQUE FESTIVAL

Stay tuned late in the year for details.





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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Teacher looking for studio space:

Sofia Cruz, a piano teacher in our area, is looking for a studio space to teach piano lessons at least three times a week. Sofia has been teaching piano lessons for 8 years, but recently relocated to the bay area. Walnut Creek would be ideal, but anywhere in Contra Costa County could be considered. Please call or text Sofia at (510) 306-4338 with any ideas or information.

Upcoming opportunities at the 2023 Convention: Communication from the state:

As you know, our 2023 Convention is in Santa Clara this year from June 30th to July 3rd, and so begins our search for volunteers! Shifts for volunteers are 2 hours long. If a volunteer has two shifts, for a total of 4 hours, they will earn a free Convention Day of their choosing. Should a volunteer take on four shifts, for a total of 8 hours, they will earn full Convention.

BERKELEY PIANO CLUB
announces
**The 2023 Dorothy Van Waynen
Competition for Piano**
\$3500 First Prize
\$2500 Second Prize
\$1000 Doris Marliave Award
and
A Recital at Berkeley Piano Club

General Requirements:

Age: Age 17-25 as of April 1, 2023

Residence: Resident of or attending school in one of the following counties:
Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara

Repertoire: Candidates will perform one work selected from **EACH** of the following periods:
1) Baroque OR Classical **2)** Romantic OR Impressionistic, AND
3) 21st Century/Contemporary, 20th Century, OR Own Composition
(Repertoire should be chosen to demonstrate three distinct styles and periods.)

Fee: \$50 - nonrefundable.

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by mail or delivery service and be post-marked no later than **MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023**. Berkeley Piano Club reserves the right to limit the number of entrants to a total of 20. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Auditions: Saturday, April 1 (Preliminaries) and Sunday, April 2, 2023 (Finals) at Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste St., Berkeley

Recital: Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 2:30 pm at Berkeley Piano Club.

Complete competition rules and applications: berkeleypianoclub.org
or contact
Competition Coordinator
vanwaynen@comcast.net
(510) 893-7266 or (650) 787-1044