

Music Notes



MTAC work is Team Work



The Monthly Newsletter of the Music Teachers Association of California, Whittier Branch

Volume 8, Issue 2 - October 2011



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President's Notes

Dear members,

The new school year has started, and several programs have begun registration. Please plan to have your students participate in the **Contemporary Festival for Piano** or the **Winter Festival for Strings**. Both will be held on December 10, 2011; application forms are available online at our *Branch* website:

www.mtacwhittier.org. The deadline to apply is November 10. Also, there is a



Tammy Tsai
President of the Whittier Branch

new **Disclosure Form** for 2011-2012 posted online. Please be sure to use this new one.

If you haven't picked up your Year Book yet, please contact Jane Oertel, Corresponding Secretary, as soon as possible. It is quite costly to mail the

Year Books, so please plan to pick up your Year Book from Jane, or you may pick them up at the next General Meeting on Monday, October 24, at 10 a.m. at the Arts Development School of Music.

At the October 24 General Meeting we will be showing the DVD of a new documentary about the famed violin virtuoso, Jascha Heifetz. Please come for this special treat! Master Class drawings will also take place. Hope to see you there!

Cordially,
Tammy

Certificate of Merit 2012

Jane Oertel, Branch CM Chair



Everything you need to know about CM can be found by logging into the MTAC website, www.mtac.org and going to the Teacher Home Page and clicking on "CM Resources" and then "CM Documentation".

DATES:

Piano: March 3 & 4, 2012

at Cal Poly Pomona

Strings and Winds: March 10, 2012 at Whittier College

Some Quick Reminders:

- Online registration started Sept. 15. If you have forgotten either your ID or password for the CM online database, please contact CM Chair Jane Oertel at (714) 879-1533 or raoertel@aol.com

- **Registration Closes Nov. 15 at 11:59 PM.**

- **Fees and forms to CM Chair Jane Oertel by Nov. 16** or postmarked by Nov. 16. No late registration, per the MTAC State Office.

- **The Whittier Branch Teacher Work Agreement** is available on the Whittier Branch website www.MTACWhittier.org

on the page "forms." For those receiving hardcopy newsletters a copy is included with this newsletter. **Teachers enrolling students in CM are required to sign it and send it in with your**

- **CM 2012 Student Listing**
- **CM 2012 Student Fees list, and**
- **your check due November 16 to CM Chair Jane Oertel.**

- **CM Panel Program Instructions/Timelines for all disciplines** – available on the "CM Resources" and "CM Documents" page accessible from the Teacher Home Page at www.mtac.org

- Repertoire input Jan 2 - Feb. 7, with the exception of Panel students whose deadline is January 10.

- **CM Tip #1:** I learned from Lowell Webster that teachers who input their repertoire data early (Soon after January 2) are more likely to get their specific day/time requests. (Not a guarantee but the chances are better based on the scheduling algorithm).

- **CM Tip #2:** If you register a student for CM and then determine that they will not participate this year before the deadline (Nov. 15), simply go to their registration page and click on the enroll box at the top of the page (Right of the Student's name) to clear the check mark and then click on submit. The student is now "un-enrolled" in CM. Students registered but deciding after registration that they are not participating in CM will be dropped, there is no refund.

Looking forward to a great CM and working with you all this year.

~Jane Oertel

Mark Your Calendar



Deadlines

Application forms are available ONLINE at our Whittier Branch website:

<http://www.mtacwhittier.org/>

and at our state website: www.mtac.org/

- Nov 10** Winter Festival Application
- Nov 10** Contemporary Festival Application
- Nov 15** Certificate of Merit Online Registration Ends
- Nov 16** Certificate of Merit Fees Paid (in hand to chair or postmarked Nov 16)
- Nov 29** Application for Holiday Musicales
- Dec 1** Master Class Application
- Jan 4** Bach Festival (Strings & Winds) Application
- Jan 10** Panel CM Literature Input Ends
- Jan 15** Composers Today compositions completed, ready for evaluations
- Jan 16** Musicales Application for Jan. 22
- Feb 7** Certificate of Merit Online Repertoire Input Ends
- Feb 7** Certificate of Merit Switch to Path B Ends

Special Events

- Dec 4** Holiday Musicales [p. 37+40 Yearbook]
- Dec 10** Winter Festival for Strings [p. 46]
- Dec 10** Contemporary Festival [p. 45]
- Jan 2** Certificate of Merit Online Repertoire Input Begins
- Jan 15** Master Classes: Piano & Strings
- Jan 22** Musicales [p. 37+40]
- Feb 4** Bach Festival (Strings) [p. 41-42]
- Feb 11** Bach Festival (Winds) [p. 41-42]

General Meetings

- Oct 24** Monday at 10 a.m. video: "Heifetz – God's Fiddler" and Drawing for Master Class at Arts Development School of Music, 10044 Rosecrans Avenue, Bellflower
- Nov 14** Monday at 11 a.m. [time changed] "Tea for Two" members & friends perform for each other; good food at Doris Morioka's home, 1475 Bonnie Jean Road, La Habra Hts.



Roger Oertel's projector showing us what resources are available at the state website to help you register your students for CM.

Heifetz Video "God's Fiddler" and Master Class Drawing at Next Meeting, Monday, October 24 at 10 am

The Arts Development School, 10044 Rosecrans Avenue, Bellflower, will be the location of our program, a new video about master violinist Jascha Heifetz, and the drawing for January 15 Master Classes for your string students and piano students.

Peter Rosen's documentary draws on 300 hours of film and 2,000 photos, all distilled into an 87-minute documentary. Perhaps one of the more important things the documentary does is to explore what made Heifetz' playing so compelling—an important piece of the puzzle, for an entire generation who never saw Heifetz play live. Of course, Heifetz' music lives on in videos and recordings, but we see him through the distance of time, the fuzz of old film, in a black-and-white picture with a soundtrack sometimes distorted and miked too close. Even with these limitations, the brilliance shines through. But the musicians who speak in the documentary of Heifetz' playing add a new dimension of color to the conversation.

The documentary illustrates a turning point for Heifetz: his first bad review, written by New York Sun critic W.J. Handerson in 1921, who blasted the young Heifetz for failing to move forward in his musical development. Having never received negative press, Heifetz was more than despondent over the criticism; he was suicidal. He resolved to do better, and one of the documentary's finest moments is the way it shows the change in Heifetz' face before and after this incident: from the impish expression of a fun-loving youth to the serious poker face he showed the world for the rest of his life.

"I owe it to music, and myself, never to be content," Heifetz said.

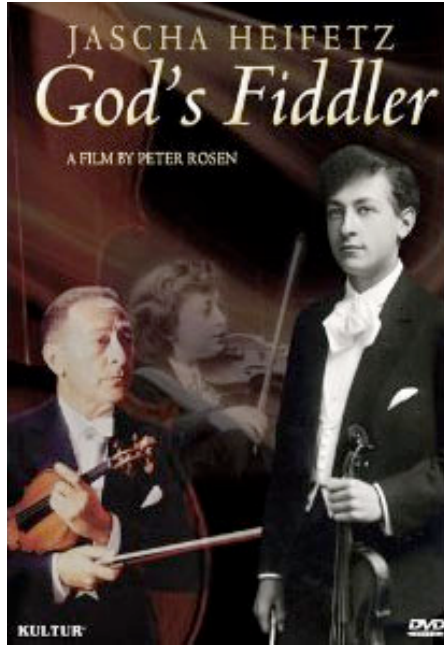
Master Class Drawing Explained

The Whittier Branch is rare among branches to provide such a fine opportunity for master classes for our students. On January 15 the piano teachers will gather at Arts Development School of Music (where we'll have the drawing/meeting on October 24) for the select students chosen to play for the Piano Master Class. Also on January 15 the string teachers will gather at the Tchaikovsky School of Music, 20265 Valley Blvd, Suite F, Walnut at 6:30 pm for the select students chosen to play for the String Master Class. The Master Teachers have not yet been announced. We've had terrific Master Teachers year after year. See much more information about this on pages 36+38-39 in the yearbook.

The Drawing on October 24 is for "eligible teachers" that is, those who have attended at least three meetings during the past 12 months. Check your attendance record online at our website: www.mtacwhittier.org. It is updated after each board meeting and general meeting. The categories for students are explained on page 38+39 in the yearbook. Remember to tell your students about the Dress Code.

The Disclosure Form Online is NEW...

Submit 1 form per **teacher** for Bach, Contemporary, Winter Festivals and VOCE. Submit 1 form per **student** for Concerto, Senior Competition and Master Class.



Yearbook Changes

MARK THESE IN YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!

page 15: Nov. 14 "Tea for Two" starts at **11 am**

page 37: Musicale dates changed to **Jan. 22** and **Feb. 19**, 2012.

Add this:

Dec. 4 Chair is Julie Bai;

Jan. 22+Feb 19 Chair is Elizabeth Wilson;

Apr 15 Chair is Kaining Lin;

Jun 10 Chair is Tom Strout.

Applications are available online

page 43: Concerto Concert June 3 at **3 pm**

page 60: Kay Pech's email is chambermusic@verizon.net



Whittier Branch Newsletter

Editor Kay Pech

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Web www.mtacwhittier.org

Deadline your news must received by the Friday following each monthly board meeting:

<u>Mon. Board Meeting</u>	<u>Fri. News Deadline</u>
Nov 7	Nov 11
Dec 5	Dec 9
no meeting in Jan.	Jan. 5 (Thursday)

Send your articles, photos, and teacher news as .doc or .pages attached to email if possible. You may also send them to Whittier Branch Newsletter 10711 Ashworth Circle, Cerritos, CA 90703-2600 (a call to alert me that you're mailing something would be helpful)

Email Address

You can help decrease our mailing costs if you will keep us up-to-date when you change your email address, when you move to a new "snail mail" address, or when you change your phone number. Tell someone....

email the **new contact info** to Tammy at tammystsai@yahoo.com.

This way, when we have something to announce, you'll be among the "first to know."

Thanks!

Officers & Directors

2011-2012

- President:** Tammy Tsai
Vice President: Paul Concepcion
Recording Secretary: Kay Pech
Corresponding Secretary: Jane Oertel
Membership Secretary: Robin Curtis
Treasurer: Caroline Su
Board of Directors:

Ardes Abad, Diana Chang,
 Patricia Lawson, Tom Strout

Committee Chairs 2011-2012

- Advertising**
 Robin Curtis, Art Mautner
Bach Festival
 Keyboard: Suzanne Wong
 Flute: Christina Ho
 Strings: Diana Chang
Certificate of Merit
 Keyboard: Jane Oertel
 Instrumental: Diana Chang

- Branch Honors**
 Wai Meng Leong

- Certificates**
 Roger Oertel

- Community Outreach**
 Julie Bai

- Composers Today**
 Tom Strout

- Branch Concerto**
 Caroline Su

- Contemporary Festival, Piano**
 Ardes Abad

- Winter Festival for Strings**
 Tammy Tsai

- Courtesy/Hospitality**
 Jane Oertel

- Entertainment Books**
 Tom Strout

- Master Class**
 Keyboard: Lisa Szu Huang
 Flute: Patricia Lawson
 Strings: Sarkis Salamanyan

- Musicales**
 Elizabeth Wilson

- ASCAP**
 Robin Curtis

- New Member Orientation**
 Robin Curtis

- Newsletter and Website**
 Kay Pech

- Program Chairman**
 Paul Concepcion

- Senior Competition**
 Kaining Lin

- VOCE**
 Sarkis Salamanyan

- Yearbook**
 Ardes Abad, Paul Concepcion & Tammy Tsai

Entertainment Books

One way to help the Whittier Branch, yourself, and your students to save money is to purchase an Entertainment Book. These books contain many super ways to save money on all sorts of purchases, from 2 for the price of one in fast food and good restaurant establishments, to big savings on movie and sporting events, to mention just two categories. Prices for a year of savings book in various areas are as follows:

Los Angeles, Pasadena, Long Beach – \$30;
 San Gabriel Valley - \$30;
 Orange Co. - \$35.

Email Tom Strout at tbars@charter.net to place your order. Books are dated the first of November, so the sooner you get them the more opportunity for savings. The Whittier Branch receives a portion of the purchase price and the more books we order the higher percentage we retain of the sales.



Looking for your Yearbook?

Just give Jane Oertel a call: 714-879-1533. She has all of those not yet picked up at her home. Tell her when you'll come by to pick it up and she'll leave it by her front door. OR.... even better.... come to our October 24 meeting and pick up *your* copy!



State Convention Award Winners

At our September General Meeting President Tammy Tsai presented these State Convention Awards to Julie Bai for *Community Service* and Ardes Abad for *Outstanding Yearbook*.

Julie & Ardes, thank you for your service to Whittier Branch



Attendance Chart Online

You can check your attendance by looking at our Whittier Branch Website <www.mtacwhittier.org> and clicking on the link to download the current .pdf showing your attendance for the past twelve months. Attendance Rules are on page 11 of last year's Yearbook. To be eligible to enter students in Whittier Branch Events, teachers must retain Active Branch Status by attending a minimum of three meetings per year.