



Palos Verdes/South Bay Alumni Chapter

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

President's Corner

Ok, here we are!!!! December is upon us and concerts featuring holiday music are heard all around us with new notices appearing in our in boxes daily. Since December began on a Saturday, the first round is already complete. But, fear not, you haven't missed out, there's more to come..... which also helps me realize that many of you will not read this until you come up for air after Christmas. I pray that you will have had a joyful season full of the most beautiful music, warm times with your family and friends and now a few free days before we tackle the new year. Speaking of which we have an 11th Night party scheduled for January 5th at the Witherspoon residence. See more details about that later in the newsletter.

November's busy days brought several noteworthy events. A concert at El Camino by **Katsuya Yuasa**, clarinetist and International Artist for this Triennium. A magician on this instrument, he presented a concert worthy of the finest stages in the world.

Next was the **District Conference** held on the campus of the **University of LaVerne**. About 75 collegiates and alumni attended. The largest group was the Beta Alpha chapter with 35+ or - in attendance. How wonderful is that? We heard a welcoming speech from International President, **Rosemary Ames**, conducted the initiation of 11 new members, attended breakout sessions for alumni and collegiate members, sang in a choral group conducted by Jeanine Wagner, hopped, skipped and danced around in the Orff Schulwerk Presentation and then topped off the conference with a concert presented by members. Our own **Anita Chang** played a Schubert Impromptu to perfection.

This past weekend our **Young Performer's Showcase** featured five talented performers from the studios of **Jin Yoo, Mie Shirai, and Pat Maki**. While more performers would have been welcomed the quality of those who performed was very high. Thank you to **Kris Basua** who so ably organizes this opportunity for our students to perform and to Jin Yoo and Mie Shirai who helped with the reception and to Annette Smith who so graciously offers her performing space for this event.

Coming up in January is our **Service Project** that offers a concert to two different Assisted Living Places. The date is January 21st which is the date set aside to honor Martin Luther King Jr. (hence no school). **Mie Shirai** is organizing a concert to be given at Sunrise Assisted Living in Rancho Palos Verdes and I (Lenita) am

organizing one to be performed at **Harbor Terrance** at 2 PM in San Pedro. Both concerts are open to students of all skill levels and ages, any instruments as well as members and patrons who would like to perform. Please contact me with the information as to what you would perform. Recommended time per performer, no more than 6 minutes.

Darlene Vlasek has completed the line up of performers for our Musical Mosaic on February 1 at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Palos Verdes Estates. Please note the change in venue, occasioned by construction at the Methodist church. The concert will include the **Oakwood Brass**, **Mary Lou Newmark**, electric violin, The **Peninsula High School Chorus**, Organist **Lauren James Clark**, and others. You will be receiving information and tickets to sell. This is our primary fundraiser and all proceeds will go to public school music programs in the South Bay area.

Looking way far ahead, be sure to save June 8th for a Benefit Concert honoring four of our most esteemed members, **Mary Feyk**, **Pearl Kim**, **Florine Lambert** and **June Lusk Nelson**. If you would like to help out with arrangements for this concert, please contact me (Lenita).

FIFTH NIGHT PARTY

Our annual holiday party will take place this year on January 5th at the home of David and Lenita Witherspoon, 28 Aurora Drive, RHE. Beginning at 5:30 PM we will enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a delicious potluck dinner at 6:15 PM. (See menu responsibilities at the end of this paragraph). We will be entertained by Akiko Dohi and maybe some others, who knows???? This is just a social time to relax, review the holidays and truly set our faces to the next year. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the nicest people around.

Food assignments are as follows:

A-J – Main course

K – S Desserts

T – Z Salad or Hors d'oeuvres

Bring your favorite beverage to drink and share.

RSVP to Teddy Greenwald or Lenita McCallum

Member News

Mary Feyk has recovered from her hip surgery and is back to driving and gardening.

Elizabeth Kerstein – now teaching music theory in Duarte, sang in the chorus of La Boheme with the Santa Barbara Opera, pictures can be seen on her Facebook page.

Kathy Kerstein is now singing with the Joanna Medawar Nacheff Singers.

For Sale

Patricia Frith (daughter of patron Anne Destabelle) is offering a **Kawai digital piano** for sale. Model CN2, 2006. Original price was \$1400, asking \$700. Specifications follow. Please call 310-490-2368 to arrange to see it.

Action: 88 key advanced hammer action IV
Max Polyphony: 72 Reverb: 3 types
Other features: Concert magic (40 songs), Dual, Touch Types (4), Metronome, Tuning, Transpose, MIDI functions
Pedals: 3 (sustain, soft, sostenuto) Speakers: 12cm x 2
Dimensions: 54 3/4" x 17" x 32 3/4" Weight: 87 lbs
Photo below

Sounds: 15
Chorus and effects: preset
Jacks: 2 headphones
Power: 12 watts x 2
Bench included



Pictured at the Torrance Memorial Holiday Luncheon, Lenita McCallum, Lois Tai, Patrons Dr. Patricia Paulsen and Shirley Ho.

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Photos from the Young Performer's Showcase with teachers **Jin Yoo, Pat Maki and Mie Shiai**. **Hostess Annette Smith** is in the front.

Pictures from the District Conference

**Pianist Anita Chang, LaVerne M McCoy,
Ramona Gifford (RIGHT)**

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**Members Marjorie McConnell and La
Verne M. McCoy**

**Debra Shrader, David Champion, Ramona
Gifford and Int'l 3rd Vice President, Marcus
Wyche**





International Artist Katsuya Yuasa, Clarinet, Mary Au, Collaborative Piano