



# Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter

## Newsletter – December 2019

*Finding Friendship  
and Harmony through Music*

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### **FROM THE PRESIDENT, Lenita McCallum**

#### **Enduring Values**

**Music, Friendship and Harmony—a commitment for Life**

**“We are the founders for the future.**

**Invest in Mu Phi Epsilon.**

**Commit your time, your talents,  
and your influence to create new members.**

**Bring them into the membership  
and help to develop artistic endeavors  
in all people you encounter.”**

I loved these words from Ann Gibbens Davis as quoted in the Fall issue of *The Triangle*. She is an ACME Honoree, pianist extraordinaire and a Mu Phi through and through. At this time of year which will be flooded with Music of every genre, take a moment to: consider *your* part in keeping music alive, to savor *your* part in encouraging all things musical in our community, to find inspiration to continue *your* musical path in whatever ways are open to you.

**We are: Musicians for life, not just for a season**

**Music teachers for life, not just for a few (or many) years**

**Music lovers for life, we need the sustenance music brings**

**Musical friends for life, as we meet and grow old making music together**

**Musicians, whose lives throb with the pulses and beats of music**

**Musicians for life and also**

**Mu Phi’s for life, Symbiosis in Action!**

## Chapter News

At our meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> we honored those listed below who have been faithful members for 30-50 years. Not everyone was able to be present, but it was touching to hear their reminiscences on “Music, Friendship and Harmony” in their lives. Linda Cohen, who was unable to attend, sent written thoughts which are included in this newsletter.

Deborah Aitken  
Emily Anderson  
Lenee Bilski  
David Champion  
Linda Cohen  
Gail Mellert

Ramona Gifford  
Teddy Greenwald  
Harold T. Johnson  
Emily Lacina  
Pat Maki  
Vicki Muto

Joanna Nacheff  
Carla Sedlacek  
Leslie Sharp  
Ann Terrill  
Darlene Vlasek

We were also treated to Pat Maki’s (a last-minute hostess replacement -- thank you, thank you) famous banana pudding and Carla Sedlacek and Nancy Carr’s other yummy offerings. Mu Phi are good cooks, no doubt. The program on “Managing Stage Fright” was well received with several personal comments from those attending attesting to the ways it affects them as performers or teachers.

## Member and Patron News

*From Linda Cohen:*

Dear Carla and Lenita,

I am so very sorry that I will be unable to attend this Sunday's Founders' Day Meeting due to my continuing health problems. In my absence, please feel free to share my thoughts:

Music has always filled my life with great joy. As a member of Mu Phi Epsilon, in addition to being inspired to become a better musician, I have, also, been inspired to improve my character by following the examples that have been set by our members--positive role models who promote the ideals of our fraternity.

During my 43 years of membership, one of the ideals of Mu Phi that has made a difference in my life is **FRIENDSHIP**. Since 1976, when I joined the newly-formed Gamma Sigma Chapter of Mu Phi at CSU, Dominguez Hills, and during my years of membership in the Palos Verdes/South Bay Alumni Chapter, I have had the opportunity to experience wonderful friendships with talented musicians who are generous and kind and are devoted to enriching the lives of others with their music, hard work, and excellent organizational skills.

I will never forget all of the help that I received from the Music Department faculty and the Palos Verdes Alumni Chapter while I was a music student at Dominguez Hills when we formed Gamma Sigma in 1976. I was the founding president, and yet, I knew absolutely nothing about the skills required to lead a collegiate organization, conduct a ritual, or organize a concert! I was amazed by the hard work and the kindness that were shown to me by the P. V. Alumni and Dominguez

faculty members, both women AND men. (Men were not allowed to join Mu Phi until the following year.)

In August 1977, I had the pleasure of representing Gamma Sigma at the 7th International Convention of Mu Phi Epsilon in Kansas City, Missouri, where I had the opportunity to meet musicians from all over the world! Our collegiate chapter was honored with two awards--quite a distinction for a chapter that was only a year old!! This recognition would not have been possible without all of the support from Dominguez faculty members and the P. V. Alumni Chapter!!

I will always be grateful for the **FRIENDSHIP** of the members of Mu Phi Epsilon. Enjoy your Founders' Day, 2019! Congratulations on another successful year!

Sincerely,  
**Linda Cohen**

- Please note the preferred email for Kristal Basua: [kbasua@gmail.com](mailto:kbasua@gmail.com)
- New address for patron: Nancy Backes, 4800 N. 68<sup>th</sup> St. #352, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
- It is with regret that we note the passing of Gerri Flynn, on November 19, 2019, a past International Executive Secretary of the fraternity.



*Gerri Flynn*

*Terri, Rufus, and Lenita at the Peninsula Symphony Salon, Oct. 2019*



## Anli's Autumn of Concerts

Anli Lin Tong recently appeared in a Guest Artist Residency at **Interlochen Center of the Arts** in which she gave a solo piano recital as well as a master class for students at Interlochen Arts Academy. A highlight of her recital program was the Schubert Fantasie in F Minor for Four Hands: Anli performed it with Dr. Michael Coonrod who was Anli's teacher when she herself was a student at IAA during her senior year in High School. In advance of her Interlochen appearance, Anli gave a preview of her program at a private concert (at Ramona

1. Ramona introducing Anli
2. Lois Tai, Lina Lee, Anli and Una Tchen
3. Anli with violinist Chyi-Yau Lee and cellist Elizabeth Su after Piazzolla's Four Seasons of Buenos Aires
4. Lenita gave a poignant reading of poetry
5. Anli and her former teacher at Interlochen Arts Academy after their performance of Schubert Fantasie in F Minor for Four Hands



Gifford's lovely home) on November 8 and again at Liya International Performing Arts Foundation in San Gabriel on November 10. Lenita McCallum gave a poignant reading of the poetry that was paired with five Rachmaninoff piano works performed by Anli at the piano. Anli wishes to extend her deep appreciation to all who donated to the **Mieczyslaw Munz Society** in honor of Anli's early mentor at the Juilliard School.



## From **Darlene Vlasek**, Musical Mosaic Chairperson

Many years ago, a very bright lightbulb lit up the sky in the area of the Southern regions of LA County. This light was the brilliant idea to present an eclectic concert for the community which would feature acclaimed professional musicians and award-winning young performers in small vignettes, and the proceeds would be donated to the local public schools for their music programs. Even the name of the concert was a brilliantly inspired idea: the Musical Mosaic. Every year since that bright light illuminated the imagination of our chapter's leaders, the Musical Mosaic has thrilled, inspired and excited our audiences. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been donated to music programs that thankfully, have assisted in keeping music alive on most school campuses.

This next year will be no exception!!! On SATURDAY afternoon, Feb. 1, 2020, our audience will be treated to some of the most outstanding and enjoyable music they have been privileged to hear. Beginning at 4:30 PM, our concert will feature the principal trombone of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and his adorable and masterful harpist wife, an exuberant quintet of reed instruments, one of our own virtuosic concert pianists, an outstanding young saxophonist and an amazing ensemble of young choral singers. The location is the Rolling Hills United Methodist Church. Tickets are presale, \$25; at the door, \$30; middle and high school ages, \$10 and younger children are free. Let's fill the house so we can keep filling our schools with the joy, enrichment and educational benefits of music!

Mu Phi members will receive 5 tickets to sell to friends, relatives, neighbors, business associates, colleagues, students, anyone who wants to enjoy a great afternoon that also includes delectable refreshments. Let's all sell, sell, sell, so we can celebrate, celebrate, celebrate!

Thank you for doing what you can to support this great cause.

## Community Service Project

### January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 -- Opportunities for Performances at Two Assisted Living Homes!

Our chapter will present two concerts for Assisted Living Homes in our Area.

1. **Sunrise Senior Living** on Hawthorne Blvd, 1:30 PM. Contact **Mie Shirai** to put musicians (or yourself) on the program.
2. **Harbor Terrace** in San Pedro, at 3 PM. Contact **Emily Anderson** to participate in the program.

Use the attached form (in pdf form, separate from the newsletter) to register your students to perform (no charge). Students will receive a certificate awarding four hours community service time for participation in this concert. The following information will be needed:

Name of Member/Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

NAME and CONTACT INFO \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUMENT(S) PERFORMANCE TIME (how long?) \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

## **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 3 PM -- **Young Performer's Showcase** at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 2200 Via Rosa, Palos Verdes Estates

Chair: **Kristal Basua**

Reception: **Jin Yoo** and **Teddy Greenwald**

December 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 PM – Holiday Party at the home of **Paul and Carol Levin**

Program: **Maurice Suhre**, piano plus Singalong!

Bring your instruments to share!

It will be a potluck, assignments to be announced later

*Newsletter Deadline – Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>, pub. Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>*



*4th grade students at Mira Catalina trying out the new alto recorders (purchased with an MPE Schools Grant in 2019).*



*Anli with mentors at Ramona's*

## **Mu Phi Mall**

One way we are making a few extra dollars for our chapter is to have a display of goods for sale at each meeting. So far Pearl Kim has been the main donor of these items, but if you have things of value that you would like to donate to our chapter, please let us know so we can plan for space to display them. If you want them back if they don't sell, you'll need to be responsible for picking them up. Otherwise, we will donate them to Goodwill at an appropriate time. Contact Lenita or Ann Terrill if you have any questions about this.

November 13, 2019

## Greetings

Friday, November 13, 1903 was not just another day at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. The day marked a significant milestone in the local community and beyond as the day Mu Phi Epsilon was founded. This November 13 is a special day for all of us as we reflect on our individual contributions to furthering music appreciation in our communities and our world. You prove everyday that the greatest joy in what we do in the name of music, is how we feel in giving of ourselves and our talents.

While we celebrate our legacies, we also look to them as steppingstones to the future. Keeping in mind the values our founders called for in 1903, we find new ideas and strengths to continue to encourage and support each other, our chapters, and our world.

As we celebrate 116 years of Mu Phi Epsilon, I encourage everyone to think about how you are continuing to carry out the aims and ideals of Mu Phi Epsilon. Be thankful for your gift of music. Rededicate yourself to the future and how you can continue to share and grow through music.

What a grand celebration we will have in 2020 at the triennial convention in Grapevine, Texas. The future of Mu Phi Epsilon and music in our world, begins with you! We'll see you there.

On behalf of the International Executive Board, I wish you a very happy Founder's Day!

Rosemary Ames  
International President, Mu Phi Epsilon

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## Humor corner

### YOU MIGHT BE A "MUSIC THEORY GEEK" IF . . .

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- -your favorite pickup line is, "What's your favorite augmented sixth chord?"
- -you can look at a piece by Bach and say, "You know, I think he could have gotten a much better effect this way . . ."
- -you like to march around your room to the rhythms of Stravinsky's "Le Sacre du Printemps."
- -you love to quote Walter Piston.
- -you long for the good old days of movable G-clefs.
- -you like polytonal music because, hey, the more keys the merrier.
- -you dream in four parts.