



Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter

Newsletter - November 2021

Discovering Ways to Connect through Making Music

From the keyboard of the President:

LaVerne M. McCoy



Hello to all Mu Phi Members and Patrons. In the month of October, we presented “A Golden Benefit Concert” on, Saturday the Sixteenth at 5:00 PM at St. Luke’s. We honored two of our very distinguished members, David Champion and Annette Smith. The Benefit Concert was both fulfilling and rewarding. Our fundraising efforts were surprisingly rewarding. The simple face to face gathering was so warming and enriching that the glow remained for several days later. Many of our members signed-into the convention offerings. Lorna Katz, the Business Delegate, David Champion, LaVerne M McCoy, Darlene Vlasek were also in attendance. Members in Our Chapter were awarded eight Certificates. These will be mailed to the recipients as our in-person meetings are not as frequent as we would

desire. We have been reaching the goals that we’ve planned on our calendar with ingenuity and creativity. Our Tech capabilities are ever expanding as we learn more technology with each venture or event. Musical Mosaic performers are booked and the posters have been designed and printed. We are on the way to new beginnings. The PV/SB members who reside in Rancho Palos Verdes attended the Mayor’s luncheon on the 19th of November. During our the November general meeting we observed Founder’s Day celebration. Please plan to attend the YPS concert at St. Peter’s by the Sea on December 4, 2021 at 3:00 P.M. We will be having the holiday party in January.

Please advise Michelle Hazen and LaVerne M McCoy of your performances. We would love to advertise and support you.

November 2021

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JMNS Choral Concert

Joanna Medawar Nacheff Singers will return to the stage with Handel's most famous choral work "Messiah." This oratorio holds the prestigious place of being the only composition that has been performed continuously since its premiere in 1742. JMNS Will perform highlights from all three parts accompanied by a professional orchestra and four soloists.

Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 7pm.
*Armstrong Theatre 3330 Civic Center Dr.
Torrance, CA 90503*



Benefit Concert Memories Shared by Anne Destebelle

Marshall Bialosky was mentioned twice during the tribute to David. It brought a memory from a great many years ago. I have always worked full time and with a young child at home, I could not find time to sing with a choir. Somehow I found a singing class at Dominguez that started at noon and ended at 12:50. I arranged my lunch hours to be able to race over to Dominguez to take Marshall's singing class for several semesters. I loved it but naturally could not continue that frantic effort to bring music into my life during those years.

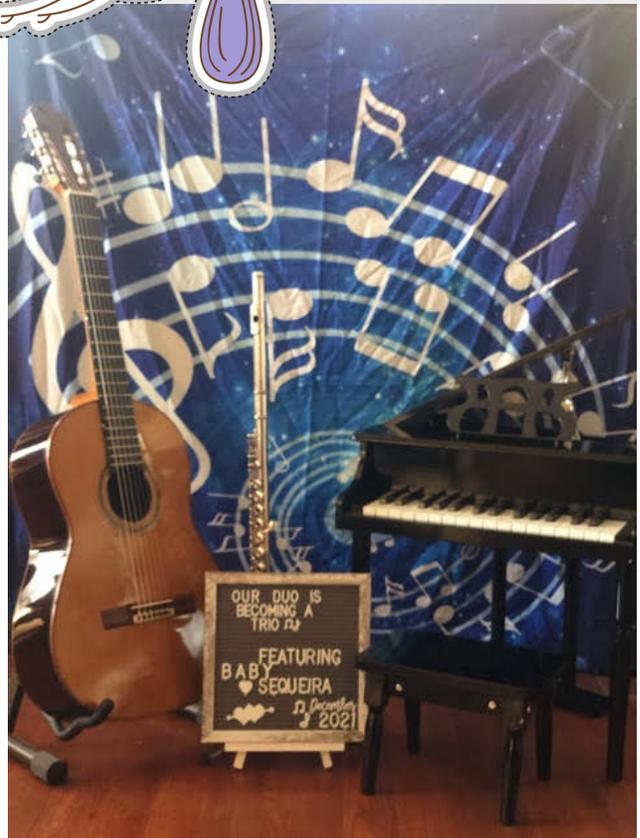
Many years later I found that Marshall was my neighbor. He loved to walk and so do I and occasionally we would meet on the street. Sanjo Bialosky is still our neighbor and I see her occasionally. Thanks for that memory and thanks for the splendid day.

Young Performers Showcase

Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 3:00 PM, our Palos Verdes South Bay chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon will host the *YOUNG PERFORMERS SHOWCASE*. The event will be held live in Reeves Hall, a large community room with a grand piano, located at *St. Peter's By The Sea Presbyterian Church, 6410 Palos Verdes Drive South, Rancho Palos Verdes.*

Member News

Congratulations to the Sequeiras and their newest member of the family, expected to be here this December!



GOLDEN MEMBERS BENEFIT CONCERT

On a very warm sunny afternoon live music was again heard in the land as we celebrated two of our most distinguished members, Annette Warren Smith and David Champion. The side patio of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church served as a stage for accolades richly deserved and music delivered by former students of those being honored.

President LaVerne M. McCoy began the afternoon by welcoming everyone and reminding us of the importance of events like this where we actually get to perform or listen to music that soothes our souls and cheers us and carries us through the life's dark hours. A letter from Kurt Alexander Zeller, International President of Mu Phi Epsilon, congratulated our honorees on their many achievements and embodiment of the ideals of the fraternity, Music, Friendship and Harmony.

Able emceed by Lenita Witherspoon and David himself we heard stories of how these two had prepared hundreds of students to enjoy a lifetime of music making of the highest caliber.

Annette's former student Jeralyn Glass displayed her beautiful voice, her dramatic abilities and sparkling personality in two groups of songs chosen from American standards. She recounted her first meeting with Annette and how much later in her career lessons even occurred "trans-atlantically" by telephone when Jeralyn was engaged in singing in Europe. Bob Remstein provided crisp and innovative accompaniments for her and for Annette herself who treated us to one song sung and two bits of piano playing which demonstrated her still strong keyboard skills at age 99+. Gary Smith capped off the salute to Annette with reminiscences of what it was like to grow up in the home of Paul and Annette Smith and he also told of how he is following their great heritage by bringing music to many people as a pianist and member of a duo. Bravi tutti!

David took over the mike to introduce our own member Leslie Sharp, piano, who was joined by Kathy Bailey, mezzo soprano, and Roberto Miranda, bass, in jazz trio renditions of beloved standards. Former student and member Carla Sedlacek got to hear her composition, Huachacan Serenade beautifully performed by Kathy and Leslie. What a pleasure for us all.

We were regaled with stories of David's persistence in the development of the Music Department at CSU Dominguez Hills, of his caring actions as a professor and mentor to other faculty and students alike from member Dr. Joanna Nacheff, Dr. Sally Etcheto and Dr. Cecilia Riddell. Each of them recounted examples of the many ways he fostered their talents and skills and was a never ending source of encouragement.

To cap off the afternoon a reception donated by members Elizabeth Turner, Teddy Greenwald and Ramona Gifford was enjoyed by all those present. We are grateful for their generosity.

A side event, the sale of the piano music from the teaching studio of member Pearl Kim, was on display thus creating additional possibilities for attendees to augment their personal keyboard libraries or purchase music for their own studios and at the same time increasing our fund support in our community.

Others on the committee and helping present this event were Kathy Kerstein, Michelle Hazen, Norika Sato, Laverne M. McCoy, Carla Sedlacek, Paul Irving and Lois Tai. We also appreciate the many members and friends who donated to the event which should realize about \$1500 for our philanthropies.

Lenita





MPE AT RPV MAYOR'S HONOREE LUNCHEON 11/19/2021

