



ALAMEDA COUNTY
EAST BRANCH

Alameda County East Branch Newsletter

October 2019

President's Prelude

Important Dates:

10/14 Fall Social/Lecture

10/28 Branch Recital

2/15 Piano Competition

3/7 CM Theory
3/8 CM Theory

3/21 CM Performance
3/22 CM Performance

4/4 Branch Honors
Recitals

Newsletter Submissions:

Please send any submissions for the next newsletter by **December 1** to Megan Mui, Newsletter Editor at mmmui14@gmail.com.

Dear Colleagues,

In the past two years, we've had nearly 20 new teachers join our big family. It's so exciting to see our branch flourish and I would love to see even more participation in branch activities. Last month, the branch presented our annual YAG concert showcasing teen pianist Catherine Huang. It was inspiring to not only watch her impeccable performance but also the Q&A session as Catherine interacted with the young audience. If you missed it, I hope you can invite your students and come next year!



On October 14, we will have our Fall Social followed by a lecture by Frank Wiens. There aren't many opportunities to meet colleagues with our busy teaching schedules, so please come and mingle with us on this beautiful autumn morning!

As we kick off our 2019-2020 events, I have a humble request: before emailing board members questions regarding Certificate of Merit or any branch programs including the piano competition, please read the guidelines carefully where most answers can be found. While we would love to offer help, please understand that all board members are volunteering their valuable time in addition to their busy schedules to run every program.

Thank you and I hope all of you will have a year of excitement and engagement with Alameda County East - I look forward to meeting you at our branch events! Happy Teaching!

Ewen Tsai, President

Fall Social with Guest Lecturer Frank Wiens

Feb2019

Monday, October 14, 9:00am - 11:30am

Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave, Pleasanton, CA 94566

By Hansen Liu, Vice President

On October 14, our branch will host a breakfast social followed by a lecture by Frank Wiens, Professor of Piano at the University of the Pacific. Professor Wiens's lecture will draw from his experiences and perspective from five decades of teaching and performing. He will cover a broad range of techniques, musicianship, and useful tips for any musician. We will also leave time for Q&A where anyone can pick his brain on any subject related to music. Please join us, get to know your colleagues, and have any questions answered by an experienced and fantastic pianist who has dedicated his entire life to music. Looking forward to seeing many of you here. Please RSVP by filling out a short form for our headcount so we know how much food to prepare: [Click here to RSVP](#)



Frank Wiens was on the piano faculty at Drake University, and since 1976 has been at the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music serving as the head of department for piano, where he received the Research-Lecturer Award and Distinguished Faculty award. He has established a strong reputation as a trusted teacher and mentor of younger talents, and served as an adjudicator in many competitions.

With a performing career that has taken him to Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and throughout most of the United States,

Frank Wiens has maintained an active concert career for more than four decades. Possessing a concerto repertoire of over 35 works, he has been a frequent soloist with symphony orchestras in this country and abroad. His recitals have taken him to major cities such as London, Warsaw, Vienna, Seoul, New York and Los Angeles, as well as to many venues where classical recitals are rarely heard. Believing that the gifts that one has been given carry social responsibility, he has devoted a significant part of his career to benefit recitals for the homeless and most recently for victims of the northern California fires.

Frank Wiens is a pianist known for his strong emotional commitment and virtuosity. His meticulous attention to detail and seemingly effortless control bring out even the most subtle musical elements. Dedicated to bringing his love of the classical piano repertoire to audiences of all levels of concert-going experience, his "nobility of conception" (Los Angeles Times) and command of "tone color" (Fresno Bee) coupled with a "formidable technique" (Sacramento Union) have thrilled audiences on three continents. His ability to establish rapport with an audience with the spoken word is matched by the obvious sincerity with which he communicates the emotional content of each work. (from www.frankwiens.com)

Alameda East Piano Competition 2020

Feb2019

Saturday, February 15, 12:30pm - 6:00pm

First Presbyterian Church Livermore, 2025 5th St., Livermore

We will be holding our 5th annual Alameda East Piano Competition on February 15, 2020 at the First Presbyterian Church Livermore where they have a beautiful Yamaha C7 grand piano.

Students can compete with a single piece less than 8 minutes in length in the following four divisions:

A - 8 - 10 years old

B - 11 -13 years old

C - 14 -15 years old

D - 16 -18 years old

The competition will be open to students of branch members only and we will accept applications through our website beginning **November 10** until **December 10**.

The application fee is \$45.

Last year, we had to close the application early due to the overwhelming number of students enrolled. Please register as soon as possible since space is limited.

We hope many of your students enter the Alameda East Piano Competition!



October Branch Recital

Saturday, October 26, 7pm at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave, Pleasanton



Branch Recitals are a wonderful opportunity for students to get performance experience!

The recital will take place on **October 26** at Lynnewood Church. To register, check your emails for the registration form or log in through our website by **October 16**.

Registration will be considered complete when both the \$5 fee and form are received through the website.

Due to time constraints, please limit repertoire selection to 3-4 minutes and there is an overall limit of 3 students and 10 minutes maximum per teacher.

Around the Community

GOLANDSKY INSTITUTE BERKELEY SEMINAR

Whether you are just beginning to explore the Taubman Approach to piano technique or you have had experience with it, the **Golandsky Institute Berkeley Seminar** offers lectures, demonstrations, master classes and observed private lessons for you to expand your knowledge and skills.

The main seminar will be on Saturday, **November 16** and is preceded on Friday and followed on Sunday by observed private lessons in 2 private studios.

Cost: \$245 for all 3 days or a discounted rate of \$195 if you register by October 26

Location: CSU East Bay Music Department, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd, Hayward

For more information:

visit golandskyinstituteberkeleyseminar.org/ or contact Amy Brookes at aimsta.b@gmail.com.

GHIGLIERI PIANO COMPETITION

The **Sylvia M. Ghiglieri Piano Competition** recognizes the achievement of promising young pianists by promoting the development of their talent and efforts through awards that support continued pianistic training and music education. The competition takes place **Saturday, October 26, 2019** at California State University, Stanislaus in Turlock, in two categories: **Senior Division (ages 16-18)** and **Junior Division (ages 12-15)**. **Register online by October 17.**

Competition details and online registration: <https://www.csustan.edu/music/music-festivals/ghiglieri>

MARILYN MINDELL PIANO COMPETITION

Peninsula Symphony is proud to announce the **2020 Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition** that will take place on **February 22, 2020** at Campbell Recital Hall at Stanford University and the application deadline is **January 30, 2020**.

The Junior (ages 10-14) and Senior Level (ages 15-18) competitions are open to participation for young pianists residing in the Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

Please visit the website for more information regarding application forms, guidelines, and prizes at: <https://peninsulasymphony.org/marilyn-mindell-piano-competition>