



ALAMEDA COUNTY  
EAST BRANCH

# Alameda County East Branch Newsletter

February 2018

## President's Prelude

### Important Dates:

- 2/3-4** - CM Theory Test
- 2/17-18** - CM Performance
- 3/3** - Branch Honors Recital
- 4/7-8** - Panel Finals
- 4/15** - Alameda County East Piano Competition
- 4/21** - Teen Recital
- 4/28** - 30th Anniversary Teacher's Concert
- 5/5** - Frederic Chiu Lecture and Recital
- 5/14** - May Luncheon
- 5/19** - Ensemble Recital

### Newsletter Submissions:

Please send any submissions for the next newsletter by **March 31** to Megan Mui, Newsletter Editor at [mmmui14@gmail.com](mailto:mmmui14@gmail.com).

### Dear Colleagues,

Greetings!

Looking forward to the months ahead, we will have our third annual Alameda East Piano Competition on April 15 at Amador Theater in Pleasanton. This competition is open only to students of the Alameda County East Branch. Unlike many other competitions, it is not only for the elite and unusually gifted, but for any student who can practice and memorize one solo piece or movement from a larger work at their level. Please consider entering many of your students.

On Saturday, April 28th, we will be holding our 30-Year Anniversary Teacher Concert at Las Positas College. There will be nine performing groups featuring piano, voice, violin, and cello presenting a wide range of repertoire from Baroque to Contemporary. This should be a fun evening to enjoy wonderful music and connect with colleagues. Please mark the date on your calendar and don't forget to invite your students and families!

Happy teaching and my best wishes to all students with their CM exams and evaluations this month.

Sincerely,

**Ewen Tsai, Branch President**

[ewentsai@hotmail.com](mailto:ewentsai@hotmail.com)

## Adult Performance North

The MTAC Adult Performance North program will be held this year on March 10, 2018 at Contra Costa College in San Pablo and is open to adult students and teachers. This is a wonderful opportunity to perform, play in a master class, and receive private instruction and feedback from this year's judges and teachers Dr. Omri Shimron, Dr. Victoria Neve, and Diane Hidy.

The registration deadline for participants and auditors is quickly approaching on **February 15** - if you are interested, please check for an email that was sent out containing the application form and judges' biography or contact Jennifer Griest, State Chair at [jgriest@contracosta.edu](mailto:jgriest@contracosta.edu).



## 30th Anniversary Concert Teacher Concert

Saturday, April 28 at Las Positas College, Main Theater

In celebration of our branch's 30th anniversary, we will be holding a free concert open to the community on Saturday evening, **April 28** featuring branch teachers!

This will be a fun and exciting event and we hope to see you and your students there!

## Branch Recitals

Please consider having your students perform in the upcoming branch recitals. There are two more scheduled this year: **Teen Recital** on April 21 (tentative) and **Ensemble Recital** on May 19.

This is a great opportunity for students! Keep a look out for more information as we approach these dates. We had 17 teen students perform at Sunol Memory Care for community service in the December Teen Recital and 25 students perform in the January Branch Recital.

## Studio Openings

**Mary Beth Cheney** has an opening in her studio for an advanced or intermediate piano student.

Please contact Mary Beth at [nolanmarycheney@gmail.com](mailto:nolanmarycheney@gmail.com).

Thank you!

The poster features a large treble clef on the left, with several colorful musical notes (yellow, red, blue, green) floating around it. The background has a repeating geometric pattern. A large black silhouette of a piano keyboard and body is on the right side. The text is arranged in a clean, modern font.

Alameda East

# PIANO Competition

4 AGE DIVISIONS

- A - 8-10
- B - 11-13
- C - 14-15
- D - 16-18

OPEN ONLY TO STUDENTS OF  
MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF  
CALIFORNIA ALAMEDA COUNTY EAST BRANCH  
TEACHERS. ONE SOLO PIANO WORK OR MOVEMENT.

APPLICATION FEE - \$40.  
SOME HALF PRICE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE  
BASED ON FINANCIAL NEED.

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN IN EACH DIVISION.

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 1PM~ 6 PM

AMADOR THEATER,  
1155 SANTA RITA ROAD,  
PLEASANTON, CA

2018

The third Alameda County East piano competition will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at Amador Theater in Pleasanton. We are honored to have Dr. Omri Shimron and Dr. Namiq Sultanov be our judges this year.

The application period will be open on **February 15** until March 15. There is an application fee of \$40 per student. Teachers can fill out the application form and make an online payment by logging into the [Online Forms and Payment](#) section on our [website](#).

If anyone is interested in being the competition chair in 2019, please contact current chairs:

**Kayo Hsu**  
[kayohsupiano@yahoo.com](mailto:kayohsupiano@yahoo.com)

**Masako Udagawa**  
[masako.udagawa@gmail.com](mailto:masako.udagawa@gmail.com)

# Frederic Chiu Lecture and Recital

Saturday, May 5, Lecture: 10:30 AM - 12 PM at Las Positas College, Main Theater  
Recital: 8:00 PM at Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St, Livermore

From Tai-Cheng Chen:

On May 5, Saturday, 10:30-12 AM, we shall have the privilege to hold our branch's third and last lecture of this season at Las Positas College's Main Theater in a joint venture with Del Valle Fine Arts and Las Positas College. Concert pianist Frederic Chiu will give a workshop consisting of a lecture and coaching in the morning. In the same evening, he will be performing a recital at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. To learn more about this event and to purchase tickets, please visit: <https://lvpac.org/event/frederic-chiu/>

Parking at Las Positas College is \$2.00 cash.

To purchase tickets for the concert:

Call: 925.373.6800

Click: [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org)



## Richard Cionco Lecture Recap

From Tai-Cheng Chen:



In cooperation with Las Positas College, our branch hosted a lecture by Richard Cionco, pianist and professor at CSU Sacramento on January 22.

Thanks to this joint venture we were once again able to enjoy the luxury of LPC Main Theater while hearing familiar dances of our time illustrated and beautifully played on a Steinway concert grand by our guest speaker.

In his lecture "All Things 3/4," Mr. Cionco discussed the idea of triple meter in music and how the concepts of meter, rhythm, and tempo influence the character of dance music across different eras of classical music. Some dances he talked about were the **Menuet, Courante, Sarabande, Landler, Scherzo, Waltz, and Mazurka**. We are very fortunate to have had Mr. Cionco share his knowledge with us!