



Ka Leo Na Mele

Volume 44, No. 1 "The Voice of Songs" a publication by and for the members of HMTA

Letter from the President: Kay Goshi



Happy New Year! May 2012 bring you the very best and a year full of happiness! As we welcome the new year, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Executive Board and to you, the members of the Hawai'i Music Teachers' Association. Everyone's

contributions have made HMTA an active and wonderful music organization.

Our 44th annual HMTA convention held in November 2011 culminated a year of activities which began with the Joyce Yang concert co-sponsored with the University of Hawai'i Outreach College and a mini Pianomania encore performance at the Aloha International Piano Festival. Featured events at our 44th HMTA Convention were the Parade of Young Musicians' auditions and recitals, a master class for the non-competitive student, a session with Julie Moon, physical therapist, and a concert by our convention artist, Michael Sheppard.

The chilly weather of Las Vegas greeted us as eight of our Hawai'i students advanced to compete in the Southwest Regional Division competitions. Hawai'i was well represented with our dedicated, talented student winners Noe Baladad, Minhoo Suh, Evan Lin, Ayami Hatanaka, Andrew Ramos, and representatives: Yunkyung Park, Tyler Ramos and Annie Kwok. I would like to express my sincere

congratulations to the students and their teachers for their dedication and commitment to make beautiful music. You have truly made Hawai'i proud!

Attending the Southwest Presidents' meeting proved to be refreshing and extremely enjoyable as we shared our state's

accomplishments, problems, and suggestions amid laughter and fellowship. It was evident that each state shared a common goal to provide interesting, stimulating, motivating events and activities for all teachers and students.

The word is out and New York is the place to be in March 2012 as it will be the site of the MTNA National Conference. In addition to the numerous exceptional conference events, you can experience all that New York has to offer in your free time.

The Executive Board will continue to strive to provide events which will benefit all members. Please share your ideas and suggestions regarding areas of interest and how we can better improve the organization.

Hope to see you at the various concerts and recitals in support of live music, and at the many events and activities for the coming year. Working together, we can and will make a difference in 2012!

Aloha, Kay

HMTA Executive Board

2011 - 2013

President: Kay Goshi

Co-1st VP: Glenn Nagatoshi

Co-1st VP: Barbara Dyer

2nd VP: Sheryl Shohet

3rd VP: Christine Suehisa-Jang

Secretary: Elsa Serion

Treasurer: Alice Yeung

Parliamentarian: Carol Nakaganeku

Immediate Past

President: Helen Chao-Casano

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Enclosed Flyer: Soyeon Lee, piano recital ticket order form



The **2012 MTNA National Conference** in New York City is fast approaching! The Conference will take place March 24–28 at the Hilton New York, located on the Avenue of the Americas.

Register by **February 14** to receive a lower rate.

For more information and to register, go to: <https://members.mtna.org/conference2012/registration.html>.

HMTA 44th ANNUAL CONVENTION RECAP

The HMTA 44th Annual Convention took place on October 29 - November 20, 2011. Events were planned to provide students and teachers opportunities to learn and grow from clinicians and from each other. Below is a short recap of the events.



Front Row: Kay Goshi, Shizuko Mukaida, Joanna Fan, Alice Yeung. 2nd Row: Lynn Kimura, Yumiko Demiz Yagi, Carol Nakaganeku, Ethel Iwasaki, Renee Teruya. 3rd Row: Jeannette Chun, Diana Canada, Lyuba McSwain, Maria Rios, Helen Chao-Casano, Sheryl Shobet, Ralph Hedges, Christine Suebisa-Jang, Bichuan Li, Elsa Serion. Photo taken at the HMTA Meeting and Wellness Workshop.

October 29: Parade of Young Musicians' Auditions.

109 piano students participated in these non-competitive auditions. Students received comment sheets and the opportunity to perform in concert.

October 30: HMTA Annual Meeting and Wellness Workshop.

A review of HMTA's 2011 activities was shared along with reports of upcoming events. The minutes from the 2010 Annual Meeting were read. Members enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Waiālae Country Club, as well as an informative workshop presented by physical therapist, Julie Moon.

November 11: HMTA Junior Artist Piano and String Competitions.

55 piano students and 39 string students participated in these competitions. See page 3 for a complete listing of winners.

November 11: Convention Artist Piano Recital, Michael Sheppard.

The audience was treated to an evening of Mozart, Chopin and Liszt with a transcription of the Harry Potter themes for dessert!

November 12: MTNA Piano and String Competitions.

12 piano students and 9 string students competed in these competitions. See page 4 for a complete listing of winners.

November 13: Piano Master Class for Non-Competing Students.

Joanna Fan and Kay Goshi presented this insightful masterclass for students who do not compete in competitions. Following the master class, the audience was treated to an impromptu question and answer session with Joanna and Kay.

November 13: Parade of Young Musicians' Concerts.

Three well-attended recitals were presented in Orvis Auditorium featuring all of the Parade of Young Musicians participants. Each student performed and received a certificate of recognition at the concert.



Student performers show off their certificates of achievements and take one final bow at the Parade of Young Musicians' Concert.

November 20: HMTA Honors Concert.

Winners from the HMTA Junior Artist Competitions were featured in this concert. MTNA competition winners also performed one selection each as a preview for the MTNA Winners' Concert which took place on January 2, 2012. See page 4 for more info.

2011 HMTA JUNIOR ARTIST COMPETITION WINNERS

The HMTA Junior Artist Competitions took place on November 11, 2011 at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Music Department. Congratulations to all teachers and student participants! Photos of each group follow each level's results. Thank you to Mr. Eddie Baladad for once again taking all of the photos at the HMTA Honors Concert!

PIANO RESULTS:

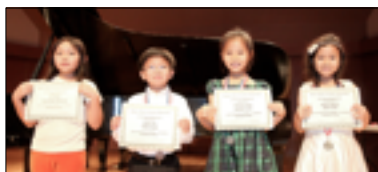
PRE-LEVEL

- 1st:** Makoto Murata (*Bichuan Li*)
- 2nd:** Kyra Lung (*Joanna Fan*)
- HM:** Raina Lun (*Renee Teruya*)



LEVEL ONE

- 1st:** Sophie Nguyen (*Joanna Fan*)
- 2nd:** Christine Dong (*Bichuan Li*)
- 3rd:** Cedric Yeo (*Bichuan Li*)
- HM:** Shawn Jun (*Thomas Yee*)
- HM:** Erin Nishi (*Rosy Wang*)



LEVEL TWO

- 1st-tie:** Susanna Niu (*Ernest Chang*)
- 1st-tie:** Colin Yeo (*Bichuan Li*)
- 2nd:** Josette Huang (*Joanna Fan*)
- 3rd:** Jeremy Lee (*Bichuan Li*)
- HM:** Clarice Huang (*Joanna Fan*)



LEVEL THREE

- 1st-tie:** Susan Kong (*Bichuan Li*)
- 1st-tie:** Lauren Nguyen (*Joanna Fan*)
- 2nd:** Samuel Chen (*Joanna Fan*)
- 3rd:** Huijin Kim (*Christine Lee*)
- HM:** Queenie Huang (*Joanna Fan*)



LEVEL FOUR

- 1st:** Sophie Kim (*Ernest Chang*)
- 2nd-tie:** Lawrence Ong (*Thomas Yee*)
- 2nd-tie:** Shandee Teruya (*Thomas Yee*)
- HM:** Kathy Kwok (*Joanna Fan*)



HIGH SCHOOL STATE

- 1st:** Rachel Tom (*Thomas Yee*)
- 2nd:** Kienen Koga (*Thomas Yee*)
- 3rd:** Noel Lee (*Ernest Chang*)
- HM:** Harrison Oshiro (*Lisa Nakamichi*)



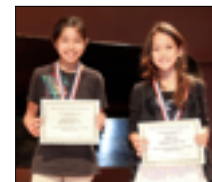
LEVEL II

- 1st:** Minseon Kim (*Sheryl Shohet*)
- 2nd:** Pablo Rubin-Jurado (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)
- HM:** Theresa Madrigal (*Sheryl Shohet*)
- HM:** Eugene Son (*Nancy Masaki*)



LEVEL III

- 2nd-tie:** Zelda Cole (*Colin Belisle*)
- 2nd-tie:** Amy Kaneshiro (*Lifen Anthony*)



LEVEL IV

- 1st:** Joseph Fujinami (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)
- 2nd:** Angela Yang (*Katharine Hafner*)
- HM:** Erika Lin (*Katharine Hafner*)
- HM:** Andrew Ma (*Ignace Jang*)



STRING RESULTS:

PRE-LEVEL

- 1st:** Ylang Guo (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)
- 2nd:** Hinano Kawaiaea (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)



LEVEL I

- 1st:** Cedric Yeo (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)
- 2nd:** Maya Chang (*Nicole Routman Ebisu*)
- 3rd:** Mayuko Ikeda (*Colin Belisle*)



HIGH SCHOOL STATE

- 1st-tie:** Iris Kuo (*Katharine Hafner*)
- 1st-tie:** Blaise Tesoro (*Sheryl Shohet*)
- 2nd:** Adrian Cole (*Colin Belisle*)
- HM:** Youngbin Kim (*Lifen Anthony*)
- HM:** Jason Rhodes (*James Stanford*)



2011 MTNA COMPETITION WINNERS

The 2011 MTNA Competitions took place on November 12, 2011 at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Music Department. Congratulations to all teachers and student participants!

PIANO RESULTS:

JUNIOR LEVEL

1st: Noe Baladad (*Thomas Yee*)
Alternate: Kai Wong (*Joanna Fan*)
HM: Jasmine Blust (*Ann Tanabe*)

SENIOR LEVEL

1st: Evan Lin (*Joanna Fan*)
Alternate: Tyler Ramos (*Thomas Yee*)
HM: Christe Yeo (*Bichuan Li*)

SENIOR DUET

Representatives: Tyler Ramos and Annie Kwok (*Thomas Yee*)



YOUNG ARTIST

1st: Andrew Ramos (*Thomas Yee*)
Alternate: Han Xu (*Scott McCarrey*)

STRING RESULTS:

JUNIOR LEVEL

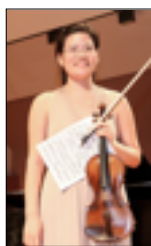
1st: Minhoo Suh, cello (*Jonas Carlson*)
Alternate: Brent Ramos, violin (*James Stanford*)



photo L-R: Andrew Ramos, Noe Baladad, Minhoo Suh, Ayami Hatanaka, Evan Lin

SENIOR LEVEL

1st: Ayami Hatanaka, violin (*James Stanford*)
Alternate: Roy Nakamaejo, violin (*Ignace Jang*)



YOUNG ARTIST

Representative: Yunkyung Park, violin (*Ignace Jang*)

All first place winners performed on the **MTNA Winners' Concert** on January 2, 2012 at Orvis Auditorium. A portion of the ticket sales was given to the winners. In addition,

a travel grant was given to the winners to aid in their travel to the MTNA Southwest Division Competitions.

At the **MTNA Southwest Division Competitions** which took place on January 6-8, 2012 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, our Hawaii students competed with students from California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

HERE ARE THE RESULTS FROM THE MTNA SOUTHWEST DIVISION COMPETITIONS:

JUNIOR PIANO

Noe Baladad received Honorable Mention.

SENIOR PIANO

Evan Lin was the alternate.

SENIOR DUET

Tyler Ramos and Annie Kwok were the alternates.

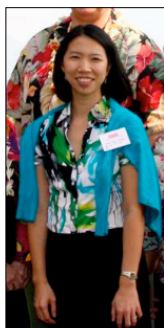
YOUNG ARTIST PIANO

Andrew Ramos was the alternate.

JUNIOR STRINGS

Minhoo Suh received Honorable Mention.

VOTE for HELEN!



HMTA is proud to announce that one of our own, Helen Chao-Casano, has been nominated as a candidate as **Director of the Southwest Division of MTNA for the 2014-2016 term**. We hope that Helen will join the leadership ranks of MTNA at the national level, like another of our own, current MTNA Board of Directors member Ethel Iwasaki. Your vote will make a difference!

About Helen: Helen Chao-Casano, NCTM, is the director of Punahou Music School in Honolulu. She holds degrees from Crane School of Music and Northwestern University. Chao-Casano also completed performance studies at the St. Petersburg Piano Institute. She has taught at Northwestern University Music Academy, DePaul University, Brigham Young University-Hawaii and University of Hawaii at Manoa. "I believe that nurturing music in our communities and continual professional development are key reasons for MTNA membership. I have served as president of the Hawaii MTA (2000-2002, 2008-2010) and look forward to bringing my perspective as an arts administrator, piano teacher and musician to serve MTNA on the division level," she says.

Voting for the the Southwest Division Director position will begin in February 2012, and we need your votes! **Please go on-line at www.mtna.org and VOTE FOR HELEN!**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UPCOMING HMTA STUDENT RECITALS

➔ **Sunday, March 4, 2012, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Room 36, 4PM** (*deadline to submit students is February 25, 2012.*)

➔ **Sunday, May 6, 2012, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Room 36, 4PM** (*deadline to submit students is April 28, 2012.*)

To submit students, e-mail Elaine Lu at: violaine4@yahoo.com or call her at: 422-2926. Each teacher can submit 10 minutes worth of music on a first-come, first-served basis. There is a \$3 fee per student. Please hand deliver a check made payable to HMTA to Elaine at the recital. A reception will follow the recital and Elaine will let you know what to bring.

UPCOMING HMTA EVENTS

• HMTA Membership Luncheon

➔ Thursday, February 9, 2012, Wai'oli Tea Room, 10AM - 1PM. See page 7 for more information and the registration form.

• HMTA Outreach Gathering for West Oahu

➔ Sunday, March 4, 2012, at the home of Sheryl Shohet, 94-1058 Oli Loop, Waipahu, HI, 1:30PM.

If you live in zip codes 96797, 96789, 96707, 96791, 96706 and 96712, you're invited to this outreach gathering. The purpose of these outreach gatherings is for members to voice their opinions, concerns and suggestions for events, workshop topics, concerts, or other activities that may be of interest to the membership. To attend, e-mail or call Glenn Nagatoshi by February 26, 2012, len131@aol.com or 398-4252

UPCOMING CONCERTS

• Soyeon Lee, solo piano recital



➔ Saturday, February 25, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 7:30PM.

First prize winner of the prestigious 2010 Naumburg International Piano Competition, Korean pianist Soyeon Lee has been hailed by *The New York Times* as a pianist with "a huge, richly varied sound, a lively imagination and a firm sense of style," while *The Washington Post* has lauded her for her "stunning command of the keyboard."

For additional information, go to: <http://www.outreach.hawaii.edu/community/programs/2012/EVENT-EV0011642T.asp>

HMTA members/parents/students will receive discounted ticket prices with advance purchase. Ticket form is located on the enclosed flyer. Deadline to order advance tickets: February 11, 2012.

• Yang Jing, pipa



➔ Friday, March 2, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 7:30PM.

World renowned pipa virtuoso Yang Jing visits Orvis Auditorium for an exciting concert of new works. Featured performers include violinist Iggy Jang, violist Anna Womack, cellist I-Bei Lin, and soprano Rachel Schutz. Six world premieres by UH composers Donald Womack, Thomas Osborne, Jeffrey Myers, Takeo Kudo and Byron Yasui, as well as Yang Jing's own award-winning modern pipa standard "Dance Along the Old Silk Road" will be performed.

\$12 general admission, \$8 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID required)

• Soyeon Lee, piano master class



➔ Thursday, March 8, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 7-9PM. FREE ADMISSION.

• **Jonathan Korth, solo piano recital**



➔Saturday, March 10, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 7:30PM.

Jonathan is the Assistant Professor of Piano at UHM Music Department. He enjoys a multi-faceted career as a soloist, chamber musician, collaborator, and teacher, having performed recitals across the United States, Canada, and France to critical acclaim.

\$12 general admission, \$8 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID required)

• **Thomas Yee, solo piano recital**



➔Sunday, April 1, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 4PM.

Currently, Thomas is enjoying his eighth year at UH and is presently Associate Professor and Associate Music Department Chair.

\$12 general admission, \$8 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID required)

• **UH Symphony Orchestra**



➔Monday, April 16, 2012, Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall, 7:30 PM.

Henry Miyamura, conductor. Violin Concerto: Three Visions (World Premiere) by Michael Fomai, featuring Ignace Jang, violin

\$15 general admission, \$10 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID required)

\$5 UHM Music Majors

• **Blue Coral Piano Trio**

➔ Saturday, April 21, 2012, BYU-Hawaii, 7:30PM.

➔ Friday, April 27, 2012, UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium, 7:30PM. \$12 general admission, \$8 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID required)

Bichuan Li, piano, Elaine Lu, violin, Pauline Bai, cello. The Blue Coral Trio's debut performance will feature selections including piano trios by Piazzolla and Mendelssohn.

Message from the Southwest Director: Ethel Iwasaki

First of all, I wish to congratulate our students and teachers, who recently competed in the 2012 Southwest Competitions recently in Las Vegas. All but two placed as first alternates or honorable mention. Most impressive was their presence at the competition venue...well behaved and supportive of each other.

The year 2011 has been quite a tumultuous one after the board decided to eliminate all non-piano competitions, except for ensembles. E-mails and letters were sent to each board member from July through December. Because of this huge outcry from all sectors of the organization, including Hawai'i's petition, the board voted in December to reinstate all competitions. Consequently, a national committee will be formed to improve the competitions financially and qualitatively. The Southwest presidents recommended that each state have the authority to deny a representative if s/he does not meet a high standard of performance.

Registration for the MTNA National Conference is still open. Besides workshops, master classes, and competitions, Steinway and Sons will host tours of its factory and exhibitors will display and sell new products. There will be ample time to explore the city attend concerts and shows, and dine at famous restaurants.

As my term as Southwest Director comes to a close, I wish to thank HMTA and the entire Southwest Division for giving me this wonderful experience.



SW Division Presidents Row 1 left to right: Cheryl Norman (SW Director-Elect), Ethel Iwasaki (SW Director), Kay Goshi (HI), Cheryl Thornton (NV). Row 2 left to right: Chyleen Lauritzen (AZ), Sue Field (CA), Coila Robinson (UT), Ronald Grinage (NM)

My mahalo and aloha, Ethel C. Iwasaki

DEREK POLISCHUK PEDAGOGY WORKSHOP RECAP



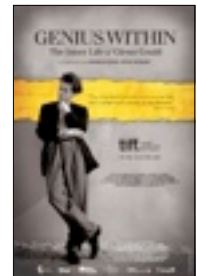
On January 10, 2012, Derek Polischuk, an assistant professor of piano and director of piano pedagogy at the Michigan State University College of Music, presented an HMTA sponsored workshop at UH Manoa, Orvis Auditorium. The topic of his workshop was technique. It was an inspiring and informative workshop on the history of technique and also how to teach technique to students from their very youngest years.

Polischuk opened his workshop by stating that as teachers, our goal is to cultivate in our students a vivid imagination and good listening skills. "All technique comes from a place of imagination and creativity," said Polischuk. He went on to say that the student has to have an ability to imagine an unfolding story as they play. To enable the student to listen well, he gave tips for the student to record themselves and also to practice away from the piano to help them to hear internally before actually touching the keys.

The three items on Polischuk's technique list that he requires from each of his students are: 1) maintaining heavy arms at all times, 2) having firm fingertips, and 3) keeping fingers down into the keys, which can be tested by pressing on the students' fingernails as they press the keys. Fingers should not slip off the keys too easily.

Polischuk's simple approach to technique is something that every teacher could instill -- of course, it takes time, repetition, patience and constant reminding -- but it can be done, with a little imagination!

Polischuk's Picks: *Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould*, documentary (2009); Liszt technical exercises, and Otto Ortmann's, *The Physical Basis of Touch and Tone*, which can be found on the web at: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/2424518/The-Physical-Basis-of-Piano-Touch-and-Tone>.



HMTA MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON - FEBRUARY 9, 2012



This luncheon will give members the opportunity to mingle and network. Bring a friend and/or a prospective new member! A workshop entitled "**Keys to an Organized Office**" will be presented by Ellyn Sollars of Declutter 2 Design. To read more about Ellyn go to www.declutter2design.com.

When: Thursday, February 9, 2012
Where: Wai'oli Tea Room
 2950 Manoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96822
Time: 10am - 1pm
Cost: \$18 / lunch and workshop
 \$10 / workshop only
Deadline to register: February 3, 2012
 Lunch will include an entree as well as a beverage



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Check one (✓)

Workshop only (\$10)

Lunch and Workshop-if selected, please choose an entree. **(\$18)**

Please indicate your choice of entree: (✓)

Wai'oli Chicken Curry Salad

Roast Beef with au jus on a Baguette

Quiche of the Day and Salad

**Mail this form and check made payable to HMTA to Alice Yeung
 (P. O. Box 346, Pearl City, HI, 96782) by February 3, 2012.**

Snapshots



Iolani Orchestra recently won the 2011 Midwest Clinic competition which provided them the opportunity to perform at the 2011 Midwest Clinic Conference in Chicago this past December. They were the first orchestra from Hawaii ever to win this competition. Congratulations to Iolani Orchestra and their conductor, HMTA member, Katharine Hafner.



UH music student Tanya Pescht gets HMTA convention artist Michael Sheppard's autograph after his recital.



Surprise! Jeannette Chun and Bichuan Li enjoyed a surprise birthday cake at the HMTA Annual Meeting on October 30, 2011 at the Waialae Country Club.

Ka Leo Na Mele

a publication by and for the members of the Hawaii Music Teachers Association

Ka Leo Na Mele is now a triannual publication. To submit articles, announcements, photos, etc., for the May-August 2012 issue, e-mail Christine Suehisa-Jang at csuehisajang@gmail.com

or snail mail to 1758 Ala Aolani St., Honolulu, HI, 96819 by

April 15, 2012.

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