

# Ka Leo Na Mele

Volume 44, No. 2 "The Voice of Songs" a publication by and for the members of HMTA

## Letter from the President: Kay Goshi

Dear Colleagues,

This past March, I had the honor of representing Hawai'i at the Music Teachers National Association Conference held in New York City. Attending the conference with fellow colleagues was truly an exciting and wonderful experience. As the President of HMTA, I attended numerous meetings and sessions where representatives from each division gathered to share their accomplishments, concerns, ideas, and various suggestions to improve the organization.

The conference offered a wide selection of sessions for everyone which addressed all areas of music and teaching. Pedagogy Saturday highlighted topics on performance, technique, artistry, technology, collaborative performances and professional studio issues. An extensive display of new music, method books, and innovative technology were showcased by the numerous publishers.

The master classes featured outstanding clinicians as Menahem Pressler, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Nelita True, Marvin Blickenstaff, and Alexander Kobrin. Their insight, knowledge, and expertise motivated and inspired all in attendance. The MTNA competitions featured fine musicians representing their respective divisions and instruments. Listening to the various competitions, it was clearly evident that the level of teaching and performance has reached an extremely high level of professionalism.

We were extremely fortunate for the opportunity to attend two outstanding concerts featuring pianists

Murray Perahia and Yefim Bronfman and also a live taping of "From the Top" at Carnegie Hall featuring performances by young musicians. An informative and impressive private tour of the Steinway factory gave us an insight into the intricate details necessary for the construction of a Steinway piano.

I would like to encourage all members



photo L-R: Ethel Iwasaki, Joanna Fan, Helen Chao-Casano, Alice Yeung, Carol Nakaganeku, Barbara Dyer, Glenn Nagatoshi and Kay Goshi in front of the LOVE sign on the Avenue of the Americas in NYC.

to attend future MTNA Conferences as it is a refreshing and enlightening experience to be immersed in music, music, and more music related events for a week. The musical experience will leave you totally exhausted or totally energized to implement the many innovative teaching ideas and techniques.

Let us continue to work together to guide, raise, and nurture the "future" generation of musicians and teachers by listening, sharing, and encouraging innovative new ideas. I would like to encourage all members to get involved, whether purely by participation or by helping to organize activities. The executive board would appreciate and welcome your ideas and suggestions as we work together and strive to make a difference for the future generation of musicians.

With Aloha,

### HMTA Executive Board

2011 - 2013

**President:** Kay Goshi

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## MusicLink Foundation



Are you currently teaching a student at a reduced lesson rate? Are you interested in reaching out to a promising student in need through music lessons? **Let MusicLink Help You!** MusicLink began in 1992 as a program of the Virginia Music Teachers Association, seeking a way to offer private music instruction to

students in need by linking them with teachers willing to provide low or no-cost instruction for as long as students wish to learn. After six successful years spreading the program throughout Virginia, MusicLink expanded to the national level in 1998 through support from the Music Teachers National Association Foundation. In September 2001, the program was restructured into the MusicLink Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting you, the music teacher, as you reach out to teach a child in need.

### **The MusicLink Foundation helps you with:**

- Discounted music and materials from major publishers and local dealers
- Assistance in getting practice instruments when possible
- Reimbursement to you for out-of-pocket expenses that you incur on behalf of your MusicLink student
- Summer music camp scholarships for motivated MusicLink students
- Grass roots grants for starting local MusicLink programs

### **To volunteer or register a student:**

1. Log onto [www.musiclinkfoundation.org](http://www.musiclinkfoundation.org).
2. On the Home Page on the left side menu, click on "How to Participate."
3. If you want to volunteer – complete the "Teacher Volunteer Form."
4. If you are already teaching a student at half or less of your normal fee, complete the "MusicLink Registration Form."

### **Questions or need Assistance?**

Contact Eileen Knox, NCTM at 503-466-2964 or e-mail: [EileenKnox@frontier.com](mailto:EileenKnox@frontier.com)

**Every child deserves the opportunity to nurture his or her musical talent to its full extent. You can make a difference!**

*Join over 1700 teachers nationwide who have helped a needy student realize their dream of having music lessons and help us meet our goal of reaching 5,000 by the end 2012 – MusicLink's 20th Anniversary. ❖*

## 2012 Aloha International Piano Festival

The 7th Annual Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) will take place from June 16-23, 2012 at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu. Featured artists include pianists Kevin Kenner, Jon Nakamatsu, Sara Davis Buechner, Lisa Nakamichi, as well as pianist/composer John Bayless and violinist Iggy Jang.

A limited number of students will have the opportunity to study in the Aloha International Piano Academy during Festival week. Students will receive three private lessons (one hour) with a Festival guest artist, as well as admission to all concerts and recitals, performances in masterclasses and workshops. The competition fee is waived for any Piano Academy student who would also like to participate in the 2012 Aloha International Piano Competition.

**Application deadline for the Competition & Academy is April 30, 2012. Application form and information are available at [alohapianofestival.com](http://alohapianofestival.com).**

*The AIPF Calendar of Events includes:*

- June 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**AIPF Competition Solo Division**— free admission.
- June 17, 2 p.m.  
**Father's Day Celebration! AIPF Winners' Concert**, general admission: \$10
- June 18, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Masterclass by Sara Davis Buechner**  
Admission: Adults \$15, Students \$5
- June 19, 7:30 p.m.  
**Evening of Chamber Music with Jon Nakamatsu, Iggy Jang and Lisa Nakamichi**  
Admission: Adults \$25, Students \$10
- June 20, 10:00a.m - 12:30p.m.  
**Masterclass with John Bayless**  
Admission: Adults \$15, Students \$5
- June 21, 7:30 p.m.  
**Kevin Kenner in Recital**  
Admission: Adults \$25, Students \$10
- June 22, 10:00a.m - 12:00p.m.  
**Chopin Workshop by Kevin Kenner**  
Admission: Adults \$15, Students \$5
- June 23, 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.  
**AIPF Competition Concerto Division**— free admission.
- June 23, 7:30p.m.  
**AIPF Grand Finale Extravaganza!**  
Admission: Adults \$25, Students \$10

**For more info, go to: [alohapianofestival.com](http://alohapianofestival.com)❖**

## A Celebration of Ellen Masaki

Ellen Masaki will be honored and remembered with two upcoming events, both of which will be held at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Orvis Auditorium. The first event, to be held on **June 24, 2012** is a "marathon" of live music featuring former Masaki students, some of who presently study with Thomas Yee, (Associate Professor of Piano at UH Manoa) and guest artists. The time for this event is yet to be determined. The second event, to be held

on **July 1st at 4PM** is a solo piano recital by concert pianist Sean Kennard. Sean began studying piano with Ellen Masaki at age 10. Three years later he gave a recital at the Academy of Arts in Honolulu performing the 24 Chopin Etudes. He went on to study at the Curtis Institute of Music, the College of Charleston and the Juillard School. He has won awards in numerous competitions and enjoys performing solo recitals, chamber music and concertos around the world. For more on Sean, go to [www.seankennard.com](http://www.seankennard.com).

If you would like to participate, perform or help in any way, contact Nancy Masaki at [masakischoolofmusic@gmail.com](mailto:masakischoolofmusic@gmail.com). Photos (with captions and dates) as well as fondest recollections are being collected for a bulletin board which is being created for the event. Please e-mail those to Nancy as well. All proceeds for these events will go towards ensuring the future of the Masaki School of Music and Music Education. Save the dates for **"A Celebration of Ellen Masaki!"** ❖



Sean Kennard with Ellen



Ellen Masaki with Artur Rubenstein

## Hawaii Symphony Orchestra Offers Student Discount Tickets

[www.hawaiisymphonyorchestra.org](http://www.hawaiisymphonyorchestra.org)



If you are a full-time or part-time student of any age, you may purchase ten dollar student tickets (with a valid ID) for all Hawaii Symphony Orchestra Masterworks concerts in the spring 2012 season. Here's how:

- **Last Minute:** Student rush tickets are available at the Blaisdell Concert Hall's Ward Avenue Box Office two-hours prior to each concert. A \$1 per ticket service fee applies.
- **Advance Purchase:** Student tickets can be purchased in advance by phone or in-person from the **Hawai'i Symphony Box Office: (808) 593-9468 or 848 South Beretania, Suite 303 in the Hawai'i Opera Theatre office.** A \$3 per ticket service fee applies.
- **Parents, guardians and chaperones** also have a new option for bringing students to the Hawai'i Symphony. When an adult purchases a full-price ticket for their personal use, they can purchase \$10 student tickets for the students in their ohana. Everyone will be seated together. This program is open to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, music teachers, mentors, and anyone who wants to bring a student to the symphony and enjoy a concert together. Please note, these tickets must be purchased in advance through the Hawai'i Symphony Box Office. ❖

## HSO Concert Calendar

### Masterworks Concert Calendar:

- Sunday, April 22 at 4PM and Tuesday, April 24 at 7PM  
Sarah Hicks, conductor  
Joe Burgstaller, trumpet
- Friday, May 4 at 8PM and Sunday, May 6 at 4PM  
Junichi Hirokami, conductor  
Manuel Barrueco, guitar
- Sunday, May 13 at 4PM and Tuesday, May 15 at 7PM  
Maximiano Valdes, conductor  
Zuill Bailey, cello
- Saturday, May 19 at 8PM and Sunday, May 19 at 4PM  
Jung-Ho Pak, conductor  
Jon Kimura Parker, piano

### POPS Concert Calendar:

- Thursday, April 26 at 7PM  
Mary Wilson
- Thursday, May 31 at 7PM  
Jimmy Borges
- Sunday, June 10 at 7PM, Waikiki Shell  
Kenny Loggins
- Sunday, June 24, Waikiki Shell  
TBA
- Wednesday, July 4, 6PM, Waikiki Shell  
Amy Hanaiali'i and Friends

*All concerts are held at the Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall, 777 Ward Ave., Honolulu, HI, 96814 unless otherwise noted.* ❖



## Too Many Records: Confessions of a Pianophile

by Robert Larm, clarinetist with the Royal Hawaiian Band

Vladimir Ashkenazy; Wilhelm Backhaus; Daniel Barenboim (early EMI cds and later DVD set); Alfred Brendel (two cycles); Rudolf Buchbinder; Claude Frank; Richard Goode; Friedrich Gulda (three different cycles!); Wilhelm Kempff (mono and stereo cycles); Steven Kovacevich; Paul Lewis; Louis Lortie; Yves Nat; Alfredo Perl (a very underrated player); Artur Schnabel. These pianists' recordings are just the complete Beethoven Sonata sets in my piano collection which probably numbers well over a thousand CDs and DVDs that are scattered throughout my house. Is it an obsession or a disease? I hope you would consider it the former and not the latter.

My fascination with the piano started in my undergraduate years when I heard John Browning perform the Barber Concerto with the Honolulu Symphony. It wasn't the Concerto that left a lasting impression but his encore: Chopin's Nocturne in D flat major. His limpid tone floated through the hall creating a truly magical moment. My next live "piano moment" was hearing Maurizio Pollini do a solo recital in Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor. His playing verified the high regard he holds with critics, musicians and pianists. What a rendition of Schubert's Wanderer Fantasy. (He also brought along his personal piano technician who's work on the Hamburg Steinway caused the doors to be opened twenty minutes late. And the technician continued working during the entire intermission! I guess very few pianists are allowed this luxury.)

At the moment these are six recordings which I find very interesting and suggest you check out.

1. GYORGY CZIFFRA. Liszt's Grand Galop Chromatique. You will probably think this DVD performance is just a joke or one of the most

incredible displays of technical facility every filmed. Warning: It's like riding a roller coaster without a safety harness. I wonder what Liszt would think? (MEDICI ARTS)

2. MARC-ANDRE HAMELIN performing his own etudes which make Godowsky's Chopin Etudes seem like they come from a Robert Pace book. Isn't it sickening that he can play anything and ALSO be quite a witty composer? (HYPERION)
3. MISCHA LEVITZKI. Chopin Prelude in A major, Op. 28, No. 7. Genius and virtuosity in understatement. Priceless. (NAXOS HISTORICAL)
4. SVIATOSLAV RICHTER. Beethoven's Appassionata Sonata. I have never heard a more exciting live performance. I wish I were there. (BMG MELODIYA)
5. EMIL GILELS. Grieg Lyric Pieces (Notturmo). Some of the most beautiful playing ever recorded. Turn off the lights and just listen. (DG)
6. GLENN GOULD. Goldberg Variations (1981 recording). So what if he used the same aria twice. What else can I say that has not already been written or said? SUI GENERIS.

Who is my favorite classical pianist of the recording era? SVIATOSLAV RICHTER. He only plays what he wants to plays and it shows.

There is so much more I want to discuss so this is TO BE CONTINUED! Please feel free to e-mail me at [rlarm@hotmail.com](mailto:rlarm@hotmail.com) with any comments you might have. I hope this clarinetist hasn't stirred up the pot too much!❖



## Helen Chao-Casano Named Southwest Director-Elect

The 2012 MTNA National Conference at the Hilton New York was a very memorable and wonderful experience. The speakers, workshops, and master classes were of the finest calibre. Everyone enjoyed the conference as well as what New York had to offer...operas, Broadway musicals, recitals, concerts, museums, and restaurants galore.

This conference ended Ethel Iwasaki's term as Southwest Director, and she



*photo L-R: Alice Yeung, Ethel Iwasaki, Joanna Fan, Kay Goshi, Helen Chao-Casano and Glenn Nagatoshi at the Steinway & Sons factory in Queen's New York. They saw how pianos were made from start to finish.*

was succeeded by Cheryl Norman of Utah. Helen Chao-Casano has officially begun her term as the Southwest Director-Elect and will become the Division Director at the MTNA National Conference in Chicago in 2014.

The next MTNA National Conference will take place at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California from March 9-13, 2013.

- Ethel Iwasaki

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Blue Coral Trio

**Bichuan Li, piano, Elaine Lu, violin,  
Pauline Bai, cello**  
**Friday, April 27, 2012**

**7:30 PM, Orvis Auditorium**

**\$12 general admission**

**\$8 students, seniors, UH faculty/staff (ID  
required)**

The Blue Coral Trio's debut performance will feature selections including piano trios by Piazzolla and Mendelssohn.



Pianist **Bichuan Li** is a member of the piano faculty at the University of Hawai'i. Violinist **Elaine Lu** graduated from the prestigious Shanghai Conservatory of Music in China. She received her Masters degree in Music Performance from the School of Music, University of Oregon. She

has served as the Assistant Concertmaster for the Eugene Symphony and Opera in Oregon. Elaine has also performed with the San Francisco Tour Opera, Sacramento Philharmonic and Opera and the Napa Valley Symphony Orchestra. Since moving to Hawaii in 2008, Elaine joined the Honolulu Symphony. Currently she is a faculty of the Punahou's Music School where she teaches both violin and viola to students ranging from kindergarteners to high schoolers. Cellist **Pauline Bai** received both her bachelor and master of music degrees from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and acted as a Lecturer in Violoncello at the Conservatory for three years. She continued her studies with Eleanore Schoenfeld, Rod McGrath and Rajan Krishnaswami in the US and Australia starting in 1997. She then performed with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra in Perth during the 1999/2000 season and joined the Honolulu Symphony in 2001. She also has been serving as the cello instructor at Brigham Young University-Hawaii since 2007, and is currently a cello faculty at the Punahou Music School and Chaminade University of Honolulu.

### UH Pianists Present Chopin and Scriabin Preludes

**Monday, April 30th, 7:30 PM in Orvis  
Auditorium and**

**Saturday, May 5th, 11:00 AM at the Honolulu  
Museum of Arts**

For the Second Annual Piano Project at UHM, approximately 30 piano majors from the UH Music Department present a concert of the 24 Chopin and 24 Scriabin Preludes. Join us as we explore the Prelude as a stand-alone piece by these giants of the Romantic Era.

Chopin's Preludes, Op. 28, give a wide-ranging view

of his compositional output, demanding musical and technical variety of the pianist; some Preludes are tremendously difficult and unrelentingly dramatic, while others are often played by novices and have charm in their simplicity. As Liszt said, these Preludes are "poetic, analogous to those of a great contemporary poet, who cradles the soul in golden dreams, and elevates it to the regions of the ideal." Early in his life, Scriabin hoped to emulate Chopin and composed many works inspired by his idol. Scriabin's Op. 11 Preludes mirror Chopin's in key and structure, but the result is very different. Tuneful and poetic, these hint at what is to come in Scriabin's Music with chromaticism, beauty, and lush harmonies. This is a unique opportunity to hear these gems paired together on one concert!

Organized by UH faculty **Jonathan Korth** and **Thomas Yee**, admission is free to both concerts (only need to pay for entry at the Museum of Arts), so bring as many as are interested. More information can be found at: <http://hawaii.edu/uhammusic/events/2012-04.htm#Piano>

### Hilo Palace Theatre Fundraiser

**Quack Moore and Anthony Maroudas, pianists**  
**May 4th at 7 PM: First United Protestant  
Church, 1350 Waianuenue Avenue, Hilo**

Join Quack and **Anthony** as they perform a duo recital (one piano-four hands) to raise funds for a new roof for the Palace Theatre in Hilo, Hawaii. Works by Schubert, Brahms, Milhaud and Rachmaninoff will be performed. Purchase tickets at the door.

*Windward Arts Council Celebrates it's 20th Anniversary of  
Music Education in the Windward Community with:*

### **A MUSICAL ODYSSEY, INTERNATIONALE & AMERICA'S JAZZ**

**Saturday, May 26, 2012, 7:30 PM**

**Calvary Episcopal Church, 45-435 Aumoku  
Street, Kaneohe**

**(Across Chevron Station & McDonald's  
Windward City Shopping Center)**

**Admission: Free**

**Call: 247-0610 for more info**

Featuring Musicians from the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra; Bai He, Hawaii Opera Theatre; Hawaii Ballet de Corps Dancers; Honolulu's Finest Jazz Artists- Les Peetz, piano; John Kolivas, bass; Chuck James, jazz drums; Aaron Cardenas, classical guitar and Tom Holowach, narrator.

### **HMTA Student Recitals**

The May student recital has been cancelled. Student recitals will resume in the Fall.❖

## Parade of Young Musicians

HMTA is planning another Parade of Young Musicians --DUETS ONLY!-- for your piano students who do not participate in the HMTA or MTNA competitions. Students will perform their duet(s) for an appointed instructor and receive critique to help elevate their performance and to provide encouragement and positive reinforcement. Two weeks after their assessment, all interested students will be given the opportunity to perform in the Parade of Young Musicians' Concert which will be held at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Orvis Auditorium. (Assessment sheets will be given to the teacher of the participating students prior to the concert.) Each student will receive a certificate to commemorate their participation in this event. The date and time is yet to be determined and will most likely take place from mid to late September.

All students of current HMTA members may participate. For the neighbor island members, please note that assessments will be done there. Travel to Oahu would only be necessary for the concert.

This event will give non-competition students the opportunity to perform and be recognized for their hard work and to work together as a team.

The fees to participate are as follows: Elementary Level: \$30 per pair; Intermediate Level: \$35 per pair and Late Int./Early Advanced: \$40 per pair. Each teacher will be allowed to submit students totaling a maximum of 7 minutes playing time and each pair may play a maximum of two duets. If a teacher does not have two students who can play together, the teacher may play with their student. The fees remain the same. Other requirements are that each student participant and each participating teacher will be required to sell 3 tickets each. Ticket prices are: \$8/general admission/seniors; \$5/students; free, age 3 and under.

***For more information, contact Carol Nakaganeku at [carolnakaganeku@hotmail.com](mailto:carolnakaganeku@hotmail.com), (ph)988-7154 or Jeannette Chun at [j.chun11@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:j.chun11@hawaiiantel.net), (ph)839-5525. ❖***

### **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 Sept-Dec 2012 issue, e-mail Christine Suehisa-Jang at [csuehisajang@gmail.com](mailto:csuehisajang@gmail.com)

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

**August 15, 2012.**

Hawaii Music Teachers Association  
c/o Christine Suehisa-Jang  
1758 Ala Aolani St.  
Honolulu, HI 96819