



YOUTHMUZE



Newsletter



Winter 2022/2023

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Editor's Note

Winter 2022/2023



Hey YouthMuze readers!

First off, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and a great start to 2023! But secondly, I'm so excited to welcome you back to the winter edition of our newsletter!

Here at YouthMuze, we've been working hard to continue to find new and better ways to share our passion for music with the community. I hope this newsletter will inspire you to do something musical today! From listening to a piece from our Musical Moments, to checking out some upcoming events in the area, there are endless possibilities :) And once again, if you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to youthmuze.team@gmail.com.

See you next time!

Victoria



Teacher Spotlight

Ms. Vera Kong

Instrument: piano

Website: <https://www.verakongpianostudio.com/>



YM: How long have you been teaching?

VK: I have been teaching piano full time since 2008 when I returned to Santa Barbara after my graduate studies at Manhattan School of Music in New York.

YM: What is the most valuable piece of music advice someone has given you?

VK: “[My piano teacher in college told me to] guard yourself from distractions and do your work first. It helped me set my priorities correctly and accomplish more by doing less.”

YM: What do you find most fulfilling about teaching?

VK: Helping students reach their fullest potential and realize that they can achieve bigger things with diligent work and good training.

YM: Do you have any special/inspirational stories to share?

VK: I have many, but I am most inspired witnessing my current and former students nurture the seed I help them plant, creating their own compositions, winning awards, founding their own organization such as YouthMuze, continuing their piano studies, and sharing their knowledge with others.





Ask Our Team!

Question: What is an interesting or funny story you have from a previous performance?



Sofia Elena Lara

Position:

Communications Director

Instrument: Violin

“The school orchestra’s first ever performance as an ensemble was a competition, and it was definitely nerve wracking. Especially for me, since I value the chemistry I have with people that I’m playing with and we’d only known each other for a couple months. As we were about to go on stage, one of the other girls(who I became good friends with) and me were so nervous that we just started laughing like crazy backstage, to the point that the crew was looking at us like we were crazy. But in the end the performance went well.”

“When I used to be in Santa Barbara Strings (over three years ago) we used to play the Star Wars theme during every winter concert and the conductor’s two youngest kids used to dress up as Yoda and Darth Vader and fight with light-sabers in front of the orchestra. It was always cute and a heartwarming way to end the concert.”



Charlotte Choi

Position: Vice President

and Instructor

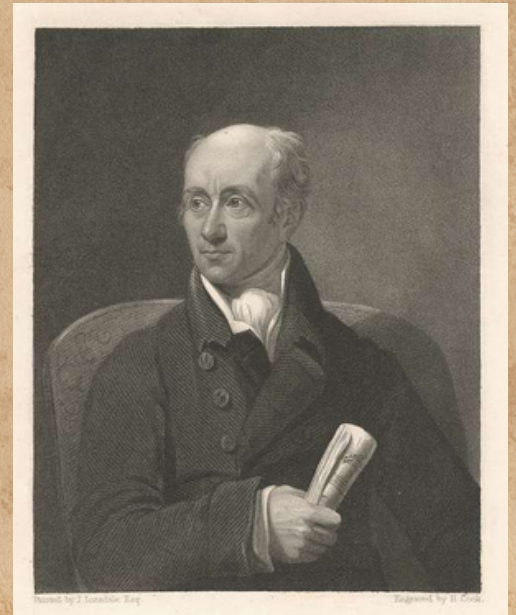
Instrument: Cello

Muzio Clementi

1752-1832

Italian composer, virtuoso pianist, and conductor of the Classical Era

Famous Compositions: series of piano sonatas, *Gradus ad Parnassum* (a collection of studies for the piano), 2 Capriccios



Clementi was encouraged to study music by his father, and at a young age was brought to England to advance his studies. He spent his early years as a performer, and later toured Europe numerous times.

On one of these occasions, he entered a musical contest with Mozart- while Clementi was enthusiastic and greatly admired Mozart's playing, Mozart seemed unimpressed. He later commented that Clementi was a mechanic, who played with no taste or feeling.

However in later years, Clementi's influence could be found in some of Mozart's compositions, as well as those of Beethoven and Chopin. He also took up conducting and teaching.

In 1798, Clementi began manufacturing pianos and publishing music-he edited, interpreted, and had full publishing rights to all of Beethoven's music in England. Meanwhile, his piano business had flourished and he made important improvements in the construction of the piano.

Musical Moments!



To explore . . .

The Muller Family Sound Track at MOXI

At the biggest exhibit on the first floor of MOXI, you can explore the inside of the Giant Guitar, play with the Sound Machine, learn to create your own sound effects, and more!



To listen to . . .

Vienna New Year's Concert

This annual concert of classical music is performed by the Vienna Philharmonic every year on the morning of New Year's Day in Vienna, Austria. The concert programmes always include pieces from the Strauss family, as well as other Austrian composers.



Upcoming Events



Santa Barbara Youth Symphony Concert

Sunday, May 7, 2023 4pm

Lobero Theatre
(admission is free)

Santa Barbara Strings 2023 Spring Concert

Saturday, May 13, 2023 6pm

Hahn Hall,
Music Academy of the West

Santa Barbara Strings Spring Chamber Music Showcase

Sunday, May 21, 2023 4pm

El Montecito Presbyterian Church, Sanctuary
(free event - email sbstrings@gmail.com for more
information)

Special Updates

In January, YouthMuze co-founders Grace Hu, Tara Pinsker, and Charlotte Choi participated in the Zeta Nu Women Educators talk.

The Zeta Nu Chapter is a part of the Delta Kappa Gamma organization. DKG is a international society for key women educators, promoting professional and personal growth.

We at YouthMuze “feel so fortunate that such a wonderful group of past and present educators are still committed to encouraging students in the community to contribute, be creative, and make a difference. They have been so gracious in letting us share YouthMuze's story and mission with them, and their kindness and support helps improves YouthMuze's experience for all.”



Thank you
Zeta Nu !!!