



January 2020

# Conejo Valley

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

Newsletter of the Conejo Valley Branch of the Music Teachers Association of California

## Next Meeting January 23, 2020

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Fireside Room  
8:30 am Board Meeting 9:00 am General Meeting



"**Yanna Liebes**, a long time former member of our branch passed away recently. Many of us have fond memories of her warmth and generosity. She taught piano and art at her studio in Westlake Village and was always supporting the MTAC events. She considered her students to be her kids and was very passionate in her teaching. She loved going to concerts, art exhibitions, loved nature, loved to entertain and was a great cook. She was a lovely lady and will be remembered by her many students, colleagues and friends." Rememberances of Ornela Ervin



## LOCATIONS

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*  
1 W. Avenida de los Arboles  
Thousand Oaks 91360

*United Methodist Church*  
1049 South Westlake Blvd.  
Westlake Village 91361

*T.O. Civic Arts Plaza*  
*Scherr Forum Theatre*  
2100 T. O. Blvd  
Thousand Oaks

*LDS Church*  
3645 N. Moorpark Rd.  
Thousand Oaks, 91360

*Cal Lutheran University*  
60 W Olsen Rd,  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

*Hillcrest Center for the Arts*  
403 W. Hillcrest Dr.,  
Thousand Oaks, 91360

## Branch Officers 2019/20

### President:

Susan Mastrodonardo  
[susan.mastrodonardo@gmail.com](mailto:susan.mastrodonardo@gmail.com)

### Vice President:

Ruth Kuo  
[ruth\\_kuo@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth_kuo@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Brad Gregory  
[begtzg@verizon.net](mailto:begtzg@verizon.net)

### Membership:

Ornela Ervin  
[OrnelaErvin@verizon.net](mailto:OrnelaErvin@verizon.net)

### Recording Secretary:

Emily Wu  
[emywu15@gmail.com](mailto:emywu15@gmail.com)

### Corresponding Secretary:

Kyung Lee  
[kyunglee330@gmail.com](mailto:kyunglee330@gmail.com)

### Newsletter:

Fredric Beerstein  
[fbeerstein@gmail.com](mailto:fbeerstein@gmail.com)

### Website:

Tachell Gerbert

### Directors:

Ornela Ervin  
[OrnelaErvin@verizon.net](mailto:OrnelaErvin@verizon.net)

Danna Southwell  
[dannasouthwell@gmail.com](mailto:dannasouthwell@gmail.com)

Diana Ray Goodman  
[diana4343@gmail.com](mailto:diana4343@gmail.com)

Carol Lancaster  
[carol@lancasterpiano.net](mailto:carol@lancasterpiano.net)

Kim Munday  
[mrsunday2@gmail.com](mailto:mrsunday2@gmail.com)

# CALENDAR

**PRIVATE TEACHER  
RECITALS – Brad  
Gregory – Hillcrest Dec  
14; HTLC Jan 11**

**CM THEORY TEST  
MAKE-UP – ALL  
INSTRUMENTS –except  
woodwinds- home of  
Danna Southwell - Feb 1**

**CM THEORY TEST-  
Mormon Church – ALL  
INSTRUMENTS –Danna  
Southwell - Feb 8**

**PRIMA VISTA FESTIVAL  
HTLC – Susan M & Ruth  
Kuo –Feb 9**

**EARLY LEVEL  
BAROQUE/CLASSICAL  
FESTIVAL (P-5) HTLC–  
Mike Preddy - Feb 23**

**VOCE competition–  
Feb 15 3PM (changed  
from 2/23). @ CLU  
Chapel (Dec 1) Fred  
Beerstein**

**CM THEORY make up  
test for approved  
woodwinds at Fred's–  
Toby Caplan Stonefield,  
chair- Feb 29**

**CM PIANO EVALUATIONS  
Danna Southwell Mar 7  
& Mar 8**

**CM STRING- UMC –  
Diana Ray-Goodman –  
Mar 14**

**CM WOODWIND  
EVALUATION, CLU –  
Toby Caplan Stonefield  
– Mar 21**

Dearest Colleagues:

We trust that you are all refreshed from wonderful holiday celebration and entering into a new year and decade with utmost enthusiasm and optimism!

As your CM preparation enters its final weeks of preparation, please encourage your students to participate in our branch's first pilot sight reading festival – Prima Vista Festival – to be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 9, 2020 from 2pm to 7pm. Our adjudicator is Joanna Ezrin, who has successfully spearheaded MTAC San Fernando Valley West branch's sight-reading festival. You should have received an email with the registration link which was sent out mid-December. The new deadline is now Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 11:59pm. Participation in this festival will indeed prepare your students for their sight-reading portion of the CM evaluation. We anticipate a robust number of registrants!

As members of MTAC, we are so fortunate to be afforded many growth opportunities offered by our branch and state programs, and by neighboring branches too. Please take advantage of the invitation extended to us by the MTAC Pleasant Valley – Ventura County Branch to attend an upcoming piano Masterclass by James McCormick to be held at the First United Methodist Church located at 1338 Santa Clara St, Ventura from 10am to 12:30pm on Friday, January 10, 2020.

We also want to encourage each of you to attend a very special event hosted by CSUN Piano Department inaugurating the Edward Francis Piano Resource Collection, to be held at Sunday, January 26, 2020 at the Cypress Recital Hall, CSUN. We have been very fortunate as a branch to have had such a visionary leader who has left such an indelible impact and legacy not only on our branch, but the music community at large! How greatly we miss Edward! In addition to attending the event, would you please also consider donating towards the Edward Francis Piano Resource Collection, in honor of his memory? For more information, please read the attached poster.

We enter this new year and new decade with a heart beaming with immense gratitude to all our teacher members who give of their time, talent, resources to make our MTAC Conejo Valley an exceptional branch! May we continue to serve each other, our students and their families with utmost excellence and joy!



Susan Mastrolonardo and Ruth Kuo.

## ASCAP Submissions: Do the Right Thing.

Did you know that US Copyright Law states that composers must receive a royalty when their work is performed? ASCAP protects the rights of its members by licensing and distributing royalties for the performances of copyrighted works.

ASCAP members make their living writing music, many of whom are also MTAC members. ASCAP exists to ensure that music creators are paid when their works are performed publicly. Rental or purchase of sheet music does not authorize its public performance.

MTAC has an ASCAP Copyright License, and covers each and every MTAC member for all branch and individual performances. However, in order for ASCAP members to receive royalties from the performances of their works, we must submit programs to the state office. This is where I need your help.

Throughout the 2019-2020 season, I'll collect TWO copies of each program and send them to the MTAC state office on June 30. As a reminder, these can be studio recitals, masterclasses, festival, and any other performances.

For the convenience of our branch members, there are several ways to submit your programs:

1. Send them to or drop them off at my home: Caitlin Boruch, 1258 Rotella Street in Newbury Park, CA 91320.
2. Give them to me if you see me in any capacity (MTAC festivals, performances, around town). It is the responsibility of the festival chairs to turn in the programs, but at the festivals where my students perform, I'm happy to arrange to pick up the two copies of every performance.
3. Collect them throughout the season and hand them to me at the MTAC luncheon and general meeting in May.
4. Email them in PDF format to [caitlinwb@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinwb@gmail.com)

Thank you for your help in ensuring our composers collect the income they have earned.

Caitlin Boruch

## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

*presents**Edward Francis Piano Resource Collection  
Inaugural Celebration*  
JANUARY 26, 2020

John Jorgenson Gypsy Jazz Quintet

2:00pm

Cypress Recital Hall

Admission: \$45

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)

Piano Resource Collection Open House &amp; Reception

4:00-6:00pm

Cypress Hall 239

Memorial Tribute Recital by Colleagues of Edward Francis

6:30pm

Cypress Recital Hall

Free Admission

[To make a donation in memory of Edward Francis,  
please click here.](#)Sarkis Baltaian, Mona De Cesare, Ornela Ervin, Julia Heinen, Diane Ketchie,  
Erika Kirkpatrick, Wojciech Kocyan, Kyung Lee, Kristi Lobitz,  
Dmitry Rachmanov, Francoise Regnat, Yasha Yakhnis

All proceeds will benefit the Edward Francis Piano Resource Collection.

# MTAC CONEJO VALLEY 2019-2020 Calendar

Branch meetings;

Sept 26 (Danna's), October 24 (Hillcrest), Dec 5 (Danna's), Jan 23, Feb 27, Mar 26, Apr 23, May 28

Events and branch programs. Please sign up students on our excellent website,  
[www.mtacconejovalley.org](http://www.mtacconejovalley.org).

WOMEN COMPOSERS FESTIVAL (All levels) HTLC – Ann Erwin - Sept 22 (Deadline Sept 6, 5pm)  
EARLY LEVEL CONTEMPORARY FESTIVAL (P-4) HTLC – Mike Preddy - Oct 20 (\*\*Oct 5 )  
ADVANCED CONTEMPORARY FESTIVAL (5-10) Hillcrest– Kim Munday - Oct 26 & Oct 27(\*\*Oct 6)  
TO PHIL CONCERTO SOLOIST AUDITIONS CSU Northridge – Ornela Ervin – Nov 9  
CONTEMPORARY GOLD MEDAL FESTIVAL(5-10) TOCAP – Ornela Ervin - Nov 10  
PRIVATE TEACHER RECITALS – Brad Gregory – Hillcrest Dec 14; HTLC Jan 11  
CM THEORY TEST MAKE-UP – ALL INSTRUMENTS except woodwinds – Danna Southwell - Feb 1  
CM THEORY TEST- Mormon Church – ALL INSTRUMENTS –Danna Southwell - Feb 8  
PRIMA VISTA FESTIVAL HTLC – Susan M & Ruth Kuo –Feb 9  
EARLY LEVEL BAROQUE/CLASSICAL FESTIVAL (P-5) HTLC– Mike Preddy - Feb 23 (\*\*Feb 8)  
VOCE competition– Feb 15 3PM (changed from Feb 23). Chapel CLU (\*\*Dec 1)- Fred Beerstein  
VOCE non-competition performance– ( Feb 15, 3PM). Chapel CLU (\*\*Jan 15)- Fred Beerstein  
CM THEORY make up test for approved woodwinds at Fred's– Toby Caplan Stonefield, chair- Feb 29  
CM PIANO EVALUATIONS – Danna Southwell – Mar 7 & Mar 8  
CM STRING- UMC – Diana Ray-Goodman – Mar 14  
CM WOODWIND EVALUATION, CLU – Toby Caplan Stonefield – Mar 21  
CM VOICE – Heidi Yost - To be determined  
CM HONORS RECITAL– Nina Kelly – HTLC Mar 28; Hillcrest Mar 29  
CM WOODWIND HONORS RECITAL, HTLC - Ann Erwin – March 30  
FESTIMANTIC! (5-10) – Ornela Ervin & Nina Kelly – Youtube Posting Dateline: April 1  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JR. BACH FESTIVAL(SCJB) (5-10) Hillcrest– Michael West Apr 4 (\*\*Mar 1 )  
FESTIMANTIC HONOR RECITAL, HTLC – Nina Kelly & Ornela Ervin – April 26  
YOUNG ARTIST RECITAL/BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY, HTLC – Heidi Lyn Williams – May 1  
SCJB REGIONALS- UMC Ventura – Mona DeCesare – May 9  
KOOLFEST JAZZ, BLUES, POP FESTIVAL (All levels) Alton Hall, UMC– Mike Preddy – May 17 (\*\*May 2)  
PRIVATE TEACHER RECITAL– Brad Gregory – HTLC May 16th & June 6th; Hillcrest May 31.  
PLANNING MEETING, Ornela's – June 4  
THOUSAND OAKS PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS – Jan 10 & 12, April 17 & 19, June 19 & June 21  
CONVENTION 2019,Hilton Los Angeles Airport– July 3 to July 7

\*5pm

\*\* 11:59pm

Other Events:

TO Phil Fundraiser, Oct 13; Gala March 8

Abbreviations; HTLA (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church), Hillcrest (Hillcrest Center for the Performing Arts), CSUN (California State University Northridge), TOCAP (Thousand Oaks Performing Arts Center), Mormon Church (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 3645 N Moorpark Rd, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360), UMC (United Methodist Church, 1049 South Westlake Blvd. Westlake Village 91361), TBD (to be determined).

Please contact the chair or go to our [mtacconejovalley.org](http://mtacconejovalley.org) website to enter students in the programs and events.



# FOR SALE

## Piano for sale.- baby grand Gulbranson

Beautiful 90 year old classic baby grand. Medium walnut with double legs, Asian motif carvings. Gorgeous music stand. Matching bench with pristine upholstery. Good tone except lowest octave is muddy. New action and hammer felts. Very clean inside. Come over and test it out near DMV. Starting bid \$900. Highest bid on /15/20 takes it.

Thank you very much.

Cathy Leung  
805-616-1790



# Peace In Concert 2020

**Saturday, February 1, 2020, 3:00PM**  
**California Lutheran University**  
**Samuelson Chapel**



This concert includes MTACconejovalley members Tomiko Taylor, Fred Beerstein, Eric Johnson-Tamai, Christine DeKlotz, Dana Rouse, and others.

The new Prima Vista Festival deadline sign-up is **NOW** on .....

**Sunday, January 19, 2020 at**

## **PRIMA VISTA FESTIVAL**

We are excited to hold MTAC Conejo Valley branch's first pilot sight-reading festival!

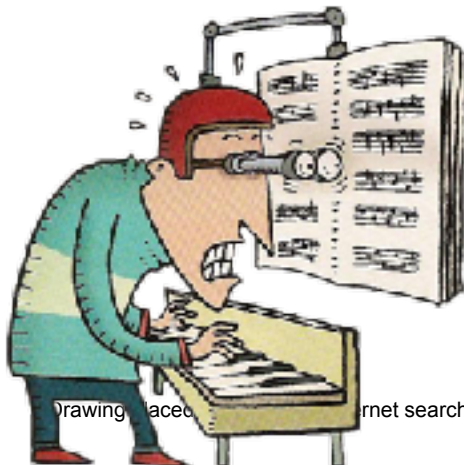
The objective of the **Prima Vista Festival** is to motivate students to improve their sight-reading abilities as well as prepare for the sight-reading portion of their Certificate of Merit exam. Students from Preparatory to Level 6 will be given 2 examples with a 30 second preview time per example. Students Level 7 and above will be given 1 example; Level 7 students will have preview time of 30 seconds; Level 8 and above students will have with a preview time of 45 second.

Our festival adjudicator will evaluate students based on the CM Sight-Reading guidelines documented on Pg 17 of MTAC Piano Syllabus 2012. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to each participating students.

**Who may enter:** CM Registered Piano students of all levels.

- **Deadline to apply:** 01:59 PM, January 19, 2020. Prima Vista Application link
- **Fee:** \$14.00 per performer.
- **Date and Time:** Sunday, Feb 9, 2020, 2:00-7:00 p.m. Exact performance time will be assigned.
- **Location:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1 Avenida de los Arboles, Thousand Oaks
- **Arrival time:** no less than ten minutes prior to assigned start time.
- **For any questions, please contact Susan Mastrolonardo at**  
[susan.mastrolonardo@gmail.com](mailto:susan.mastrolonardo@gmail.com) or (805)231-7876.

11:.







The Conejo Valley Flute Society (founded in 2002 and directed by Toby Caplan- Stonefield) - in it's recent Winter Holiday Workshop Program featuring flute Students and area flutists is shown here. We are always looking for new members. For more information please contact [FlutistToby@gmail.com](mailto:FlutistToby@gmail.com)

VOCE updated again - branch only registration by 1/15/2020  
branch and state audition/performances February 15, 2015 at CLU.3PM  
(Fred Beerstein)

Chamber Music including Voice Orchestral Instruments (and pianists!)

Dear Teachers,

The MTAC State VOCE program is a prestigious competition for vocalists, strings, winds/brass, and chamber ensembles. Finalists from the local branches throughout California compete to attend the final round in April. The winners from that round will go on to perform at the State Convention where they can receive cash prizes. The Conejo Valley MTAC runs a festival that incorporates the first round of the State competition alongside "Branch-Only" events.

The **MTAC branch only VOCE** program is an alternative or preparatory recital program for piano four hands, vocalist soloists, string soloists, winds/brass soloists, and chamber ensembles made up of any combination of instruments. It is meant to mirror MTAC State VOCE competition without the high level rigor. It includes a later registration date which is now listed on the branch website. State VOCE is enrolled only on the state website. Teachers registering students for **MTAC branch only VOCE** need to pay fees on this branch event registration page and be supported by fees paid by participants to the teacher. The Conejo-Valley MTAC runs this festival that incorporates the first round of the State competition alongside this branch only event.

From <https://www.mtacconejovalley.org/product/voce-festival/> Updated 12-30-2019  
Sincerely,

Fred Beerstein, VOCE Chair 2020  
[fbeerstein@gmail.com](mailto:fbeerstein@gmail.com), 805 625-2616

•From State VOCE

Voice, Orchestral instruments, Chamber Ensembles  
(Prize money for student state winners)

The VOCE program had another banner year, featuring many promising ensemble and solo performances. This year, many branches also held their own non-competitive VOCE events, giving students who were not ready to compete a chance to perform and introduce them to the VOCE program.

[Kathy You Wilson](#) or VOCE State Chair, Southern California, [Tina Yoo](#).

[programs@mtac.org](mailto:programs@mtac.org)

THE SOUTHERN CALIF. JUNIOR BACH FESTIVAL  
FOR STRINGS, WINDS & VOICE

From Toby Caplan-Stonefield ([FlutistToby@gmail.com](mailto:FlutistToby@gmail.com))

Is open to MTAC students under the age of 19 (Voice under the age of 25). There are Junior and Senior Categories. These Regional Festivals, with 3 Judges each, require original works – written for that specific instrument or voice. Fees are \$35. for Soloists, and \$60. Total for Ensembles. 45% of the Regional Medalists may be chosen to then go on to the Complete Works Festivals. (Usually in Oct.)

The Wind and Voice Regional Festival will be May 3, 2020 at Citrus College, Glendora, Calif. 91741 That Chair person is Emily An, 1787 Van Dusen Rd. La Verne, Calif. 91750 - 909 568 6394

The String Regional Festival (including Guitar & Lute) usually in April (date not yet available) will be at Pasadena City College, Westbrook Hall. Chairperson is Cheryl Scheidemanla, 1141 S. Oak Knoll Ave., Pasadena, Calif. 91106 - 626 585 8894

Applications are due the month before both Festivals. Diana Ray Goodman [diana434@gmail.com](mailto:diana434@gmail.com) may be able to help you with the Strings.

For complete information go to the web site [SCJBF.org](http://SCJBF.org)