



April 2020

Conejo Valley

www.mtacconejovalley.org/

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

April Board Meeting via Zoom on April 23, 2020 at 8:30am
Please join Zoom meeting with Meeting ID 317 544 126

April General Branch Meeting, Thursday April 23, 2020 at 9:00am. Please join Zoom meeting with Meeting ID: 360-877-424

Branch Transfer Period is from May 1 to July 15th. Please make this request in a timely manner while paying your renewal through your Teacher Portal during the aforementioned time period.



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

Vice President:

Ruth Kuo
ruth_kuo@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Brad Gregory
begtzg@verizon.net

Membership:

Ornela Ervin
OrnelaErvin@verizon.net

Recording Secretary:

Emily Wu
emywu15@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary:

Kyung Lee
kyunglee330@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Fredric Beerstein
fbeerstein@gmail.com

Website:

Tachell Gerbert

Directors:

Ornela Ervin
OrnelaErvin@verizon.net

Danna Southwell
dannasouthwell@gmail.com

Diana Ray Goodman
diana4343@gmail.com

Carol Lancaster
carol@lancasterpiano.net

Kim Munday
mrsunday2@gmail.com

CALENDAR

**TBA- KOOLFEST
JAZZ, BLUES, POP
FESTIVAL (All levels) –
Mike Preddy**

**TBA-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, June 19 & 21,
July 24 & 26**

Dear Teachers
What an unraveling month March has been!

ONLINE TEACHING ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (OTAM)

Yet, it is most encouraging to see our MTAC Conejo “Valiants” coming together to overcome any obstacles that come in our way of teaching – even COVID19! Thank you so much, Stephanie Emery, for conducting such an informative online teaching video-conference. Please be sure to join the Facebook Group “MTAC Conejo Valley Online Teaching Support Group” administered by Stephanie Emery and Katya Solovskaya to post your questions or tips so that we can help each other’s online teaching experience until this pandemic is over!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce our Nominating Committee chaired by Fred Beerstein, Gloria Hillard and Debbie Seimer in search for our Branch’s New President, Vice President and Hospitality Chair for the 2020-22 Term. Should you be willing to serve our branch in this capacity, please contact the Nominating Committee. For the 2018-20 term, thank you for entrusting Ruth, Sheryl and I to these positions. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve our branch and have grown so much. However, it is time for other members to step in and bring our amazing branch to new heights!

BRANCH EVENTS

As things are evolving every day, please actively look out from any updates via email from the Chairs of our Branch events. Event Chairs will notify you 2 weeks prior to the event or registration deadline.

APRIL BRANCH MEETING

Please plan on joining us via Zoom for our April General Meeting on Thursday, April 23 at 9 am. We plan to vote on our branch policy and procedures. Please take a moment to review the branch policy and procedures, with recent additions in capitalized red fonts. Once voted in by general membership, we will publish these policies and procedures on our branch website, giving everyone easy access to the objective expectations that will facilitate the continual smooth operation of our branch!

As a teaching community, we are confident that we will overcome this pandemic - TOGETHER! Please know that we are here to serve you during this trying times, and do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or help!

So blessed to call you Colleagues, 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

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

Caitlin Boruch

Postponed and cancelled events.

•cancelled- THE SOUTHERN CALIF. JUNIOR BACH FESTIVAL FOR STRINGS, WINDS & VOICE
From Toby Caplan-Stonefield (FlutistToby@gmail.com)

•cancelled -Music for flute and Piano by women composers on:Sunday, March 22, 2020 Time:2:00pm -
4:00pm Community Room City of Camarillo Public Library

•cancelled- I regret to inform the Conejo Valley MTAC that our **YAG recital and awards presentation**
planned for May 1st has been cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Information on the distribution
of physical awards will be disseminated in the future.

Heidi Lyn Williams piano.poet.88@gmail.com>YAG chairperson

Thousand Oaks Philharmonic www.TOPhil.org

•postponed-Due to the current health crisis Opus 57 is rescheduled. Please note that to maintain the
association between the Opus name and its program content Opus 58 will take before Opus 57.

Opus 58 -Friday, June 19 at Camarillo United Methodist Church at 7:30pm Sunday,
June 21 at Bank of America Performing Arts Center Thousand Oaks at 2:30pm

Opus 57-Friday, Rescheduled to July 24 at Camarillo United Methodist Church at
7:30pm. Sunday, Rescheduled to July 26 at Bank of America Performing Arts
Center Thousand Oaks at 2:30pm

*postponed-CM STRING- UMC – Diana Ray-Goodman – Mar 14 to ?

•postponed-CM WOODWIND EVALUATION, CLU – Toby Caplan Stonefield – Mar 21 to ?

•cancelled-CM HONORS RECITAL– Nina Kelly – HTLC Mar 28; Hillcrest Mar 29

• cancelled-CM WOODWIND HONORS RECITAL, HTLC - Ann Erwin – March 30

** still active-**FESTIMANTIC!** (5-10) – Ornela Ervin & Nina Kelly – Youtube Posting Dateline: April 1

•postponed-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JR. BACH FESTIVAL(SCJB) (5-10) Hillcrest– Michael West Apr 4 (**Mar
15)

•cancelled-**FESTIMANTIC HONOR RECITAL**, HTLC – Nina Kelly & Ornela Ervin – April 26

•cancelled-YOUNG ARTIST RECITAL/BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY, HTLC – Heidi Lyn Williams – May 1

•postponed-SCJB REGIONALS- UMC Ventura – Mona DeCesare – May 9

TBA- **KOOLFEST JAZZ, BLUES, POP FESTIVAL** (All levels) Alton Hall, UMC– Mike Preddy – May 17 (**May 2)

PLANNING MEETING, Ornela's – June 4

THOUSAND OAKS PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS – Jan 10 & 12, ~~April 17 & 19~~, June 19 & June 21, July 24 & 26

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.

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 15)
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

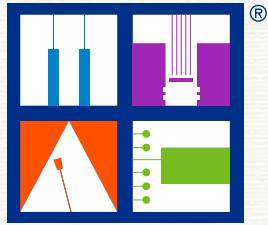
** 11:59pm

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 website to enter students in the programs and events.



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CONEJO VALLEY BRANCH



BANNER

Dear Susan Mastrolonardo,

Thank you for leading the banner project. Finding the artist/designer was an inspiration. Now we can display this beautiful banner with its included stand at our official events next year. Six feet tall and three feet wide, it will dress up every occasion for us. I think it's airy whimsy adds to the graphic foundation that so well represents our mission.

Fred Beerstein, editor



ADVANCED CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2020

We are excited to announce that Mona DeCesare will be joining the ACMF committee! Her rich experience with Contemporary festivals at other organizations will definitely help our branch festival to achieve new heights. Welcome, Mona! Together with Ornela Ervin, Kyung Lee, Kim Munday and myself, we are looking forward to another amazing year of contemporary music festival in the Fall.

The revised Not Allowed Composers List has been emailed to all teachers on March 31. The newly-added composers are printed in red. A copy has been attached below.

The "Repertoire Approval Process" has started and will last till June 4. Teachers are encouraged to email Emily Wu (emywu15@gmail.com) for approval on their potential music choice, especially when in doubt. In case the piece is not accepted, student still have many months to learn and prepare a new piece until the event. Once the registration is due in October, students with "not eligible" pieces will be automatically disqualified. After the summer, teachers are welcomed to continue to consult the committee regarding repertoire.

Tentative date of Preliminary Event: October 24-25, 2020 @ Hillcrest Center for the Arts
Gold Medal Festival: Date TBA @ Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

Sincerely,
Emily Wu, ACMF Chair



Contemporary Music Festival - Not Allowed Composers List

Agay, Denes
Albeniz, Isaac
Alcon, Susan
Alexander, Dennis
Altman, Laurie
Applebaum, Stan
Archer, Violet (No for piano only)
Arensky, Anton
Baker, Martha
Barber, Samuel (Excursion is allowed)
Barratt, Carol
Bastien, James and Jane
Beach, Amy
Beard, Katherine
Beattie, Donald
Becker, Barbara
Berger, Jean
Berlin, Boris
Berr, Bruce
Beyer, Emil
Blok, Vladimir
Bober, Melody
Bolcom, William
Brown, Timothy
Brubeck, Dave ("*Seriously Brubeck*" and "*Nocturnes*" by Alfred pub. are allowed)
Byers, Rosemary
Camilleri, Charles
Campbell, Carol Jones
Carrriño, Maria Theresa
Caramia, Tony
Cento, Robert
Chagy, John
Chaminade, Cecile
Chatman, Stephen
Clarke, Lucia
Coburn, William
Colley, Betty
Confrey, Eward Elzear Zez
Corea, Chick
Crawley, Clifford
Crosby, Anne
Cuellar, Martin
Debussy, Claude
Dett, Nathaniel
Dittenhaver, Sarah Louise
Dohnanyi, Ernst von
Eckstein, Maxwell
Eurina, Ludmila
Evans, Bill
Faber, Nancy
Falla, Manuel de
Feliciano, Richard
Fennimore, Joseph
Frerichs, Doris
Frid, Grigori

Ganz, Rudolph
Garcia, will
George, Jon
Gerou, Tom
Gershwin, George
Gillock, William
Glaser, Katherine
Glazunov, Alexander
Glover, David Carr
Goldston, Chris
Goldston, Margaret
Granados, Enrique
Grill, Joyce
Grossman, Eward
Grove, Roger
Guastavino, Carlos
Haddad, Don
Herrarte, Manuel
Harry, B.
Hartsell, Randall
Hergo, Jane
Holland, Sam
Janacek, Leos
Jones, Ronald
Joplin, Scott
Karp, David
Kessler, Minuetta
Kocour, Mike
Konowitz, Bert
Kraehenbuehl, David
Kubik, Gail Thompson
Lampkin, John
Last, Joan
Lauer, Elizabeth
Lebeda, Miroslav
Lecuona, Ernesto
Linn, Jennifer
Mailman, Martin
Martin, Jean
Mathers, Carolyn Jones
MacDowell, Eward
MacLean, Edwin
Mauldin, Michael
Maykapar, Samuel
Mechem, Kirke
Mehegan, John
Middlebrook, Mamie
Mier, Martha
Miller, Beatrice
Miller, Carolyn
Minsky, Larry
Morris, Valarie
Moszkowski, Moritz
Murray, M.
Murow, Christine
Nazareth, Ernesto
Niamath, Linda
Nibley, Reid

Nielsen, Carl
Norton, Christopher
O'Hearn, Arletta
Oldham, Kevin
Olson, Kevin R.
Olson, Lynn Freeman
Owens, Terry Winter
Palmer, Willard Aldrich, Jr.
Parker, Mary Ann
Patterson, Loma
Pease, Joyce
Pearce, Elvina Truman
Piazzolla, Astor
Poe, John Robert
Rachmaninoff, Sergei
Ravel, Maurice
Rebikov, Vladimir Ivanovich
Reger, Max
Reidling, Jack
Renfrow, Kenon D.
Respighi, Ottorino
Reubart, Dale
Piazzolla, Astor
Richie, Marjorie
Rocherolle, Eugenie R.
Rollin, Catherine
Rubenstein, Beryl
Sanucci, Frank
Satie, Eric
Say, Fazil
Schwenk, Deborah
Scriabin, Alexander
Shaak, Bernard
Sheftel, Pual
Smith, Gail
Starer, Robert (Adv. pieces are allowed)
Stewart, Frank
Strommen, Carl
Swift, Newton
Tan, Chee-Hwa
Tansman, Alexander (Adv. pieces are allowed)
Telfer, Nancy
Tsitsaros, Christos
Van Horne, Robert
Valenti, Michael
Vandall, Robert
Verhaalen, Marion
Watson Henderson, Ruth
Waxman, Donald
Williams, John
Yeager, Jeannie

(Revised 2020)

Ineligible Genres

•Pedagogy works •Film music •Rearrangements •Jazz, Blues, Rag, Rock, Pop etc. •Romantic idioms
•Pieces under level 5

Specific Repertoire NOT Allowed

Kabalevsky, Dmitry – Pieces for Children Op.27; Variation of Russian Folksong Op.51
Khachaturian, Aram – Adventures of Ivan #1 & #2

CONEJO VALLEY MTAC PRESENTS:

Online Teaching Assistance Committee

This Committee has been created to support all our teachers to transition smoothly and efficiently to teaching online while social distancing and “safe-at-home” orders are in place for our area.

WHAT WE DO:

- Assist in setting up technology for online teaching,
- Provide advice on what platforms to use and how to set them up,
- Exchange tips and ideas,
- Facilitate friendly communication on matters of distance learning/teaching,
- Create supportive virtual environment and sense of teaching community in unusual circumstances.

HOW TO GET HELP:

- Please get in touch with Stephanie Emery for advice on technology and set up at stephanieemerymusic@gmail.com,
- Join us on Facebook – find MTAC Conejo Valley Online Teaching Support Group, click “join” and wait 24 hours to be accepted. As soon as you are accepted, please start posting your questions and/or comments!
- Email Katya Solovskaya with general questions on how to get further advice or how to join Facebook support group at pianowithkatya@gmail.com.



We are here to help and support all of you during these difficult times!

What you'll need for online lessons

It's easy and you can most likely just use the equipment you already have!

1. **Laptop, tablet or smartphone** with the camera set up like the photo below (or close to this).
 - a. A Laptop or Tablet is preferred, since the screen will be bigger.
 - b. Zoom software downloaded onto the device *in advance* of the first lesson. You can download Zoom online at zoom.us and/or download it from the app store onto your phone or tablet. Choose "Zoom Cloud Meetings" to download from the app store.
 - c. Pencil, eraser, 3 different color highlighters or colored pencils at the piano/keyboard. Please also have page flags for marking the pages to practice.
 - d. A metronome
 - e. A Parent standing-by or observing for at least the first few lessons (particularly for younger children), possibly longer if it's helping the student practice at home and/or stay focused.
 - f. Meeting ID # _____ placed somewhere easy to see or find.

3. High speed internet connection.



I take notes and text or email them to you each week so the student has an assignment sheet. Please print these off so the student knows what to practice each week.

For best results, please turn off all other applications before starting the lesson and if possible, keep others on your wifi from streaming video during the lesson. If you know you have fast internet, then the latter might not be an issue. But if you know in general that your internet is not the fastest, or if you usually experience "freezes" on your screen when trying to stream video, you will want to consider keeping others off streaming videos on other devices during the lesson.



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Downtown Los Angeles. Photo by Ted Soqui for KCRW. March 16, 2020

Dear colleagues,

There is this thing called Zoombombing going around. Zoombombing is when an unauthorized person or stranger joins a Zoom meeting/chat session and cause disorder by saying offensive things and even photobombing your meeting by sharing pornographic and hate images.

Please click on the link below. It shares ways you could prevent it from occurring during your Zoom sessions.

Kyung Lee

<https://techcrunch.com/2020/03/17/zoombombing/>

•••around the web•••

Nicole Newman: Yoga for Musicians (and How to Keep Stress and Tension from Creeping into Your Practice) by **Rob Knopper & Noa Kageyama** just went live! Click the box below to join them then click register.

Let me in →



With all the uncertainty in the world at the moment, kids getting on each others' nerves with no school to go to, and restaurants, bars, and gyms temporarily shutting their doors, it can be easy for tension to creep into our backs and shoulders and necks (and faces, according to said kids), and start to affect our practice in a negative way.

So if you've found yourself feeling pretty angst-y, and not sure how to get back to a more physically and mentally centered place, join Rob Knopper and Noa Kageyama for a live Q&A with flutist-turned-yoga educator **Nicole Newman**, who will share tension-relieving yoga stretches and positions specifically for the unique needs of musicians, that you can use whether it's a stressful week of rehearsals, or a stressful week of having no rehearsals and no idea when that's going to change...

And yes! Please do wear comfy clothes for the session so that you can do some yoga live with Nicole! And no, we won't be able to see you, so not to worry!

LA REINA
Chamber Music Workshop

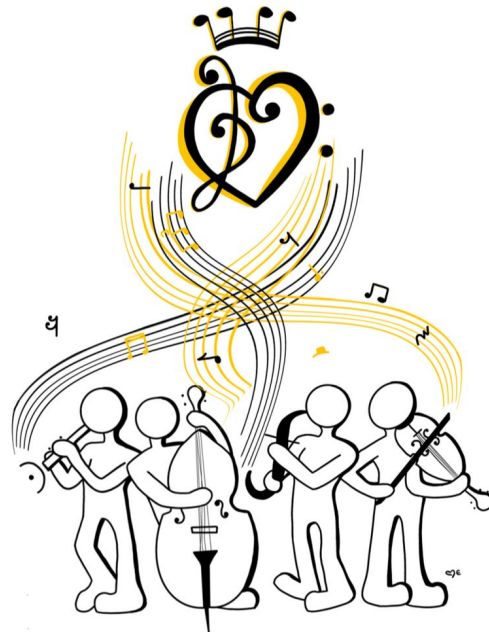
July 13-18, 2020

Open to students entering grades
6-12 with at least two years
experience on their instrument

July 13-17, 2020 2-5 P.M. Sessions
July 18, 2020 2 P.M. Final Concert

At La Reina High School
106 W Janss Rd, Thousand Oaks

Collaboration with other Musicians
Instruction from Workshop Faculty
Guest Artists, Special Topics and
more!



\$375 per performer. Sibling discounts and student internships
available. Registration deadline: May 1. For more information and
to register, visit: lrcmworkshop.org

Communication

Collaboration

Challenge

Nominations for 2020-2021 Conejo Valley MTAC leadership

We are indeed fortunate to be members of the Conejo Valley Branch of MTAC because the branch offers members and students so many opportunities to grow musically. To continue as a branch, we need members to volunteer to serve as officers for the next two years. This could be the time for you to share your voice in leading our branch. Your nominating committee is happy to give you information on the different positions. Please contact one of the following.

Debbie Siemer 707-616-6936 debbiesiemer@gmail.com
Fred Beerstein 805 625-2616 fbeerstein@gmail.com
Gloria Hilliard 818 512-4473 glomusic49@gmail.com

ARTICLE VI BRANCH OFFICERS

Section 4. President; Qualifications. The President shall be the principal officer of the Branch and shall have general supervision, direction, and control of the business, activities, officers, and personnel of the Branch. The President shall preside at all meetings of Branch Board and members' meetings. The President, in consultation with the Branch Board, shall appoint committees as necessary, and shall be an ex-officio member of any committees except the Nominating Committee. The President is authorized to co-sign with the Treasurer checks issued by the Branch, and shall sign (or co-sign with Secretary) contracts and written instruments that have been approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Vice President. If the President is absent or unable to act, the Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President and, when so acting, shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon, the President. The Vice President shall have such other powers and perform such duties as from time to time may be prescribed by the Branch Board of Directors, or these Bylaws.

Hospitality Chair- The following is not a board position, but we also need someone to volunteer as our hospitality chair and be responsible for refreshments at our meetings. Please let us know if this is a way you would like to help the branch. This can be filled by one person or they may have assistants.

Dear MTAC Membership, Parents, and Students,

The MTAC State Office is committed to serving our membership and students through this Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. We have been working diligently with the State Board and Program Chairs to ensure that the MTAC Programs are updated as soon as possible.

Based on new recommendations made by the state and local government health agencies in San Francisco County and with health and safety in mind of the staff in mind, the **MTAC State Office will be working remotely through April 7.**

During this time, the MTAC Online Store has closed and we will not be accepting any phone orders or State Honors Seals orders. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

The team will still be available from Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm via email and the phone numbers below.

For general membership questions: membership@mtac.org

For technical support questions: support@mtac.org

For Certificate of Merit Program questions: cminfo@mtac.org

For questions about Adult Performance, Piano Concerto & Solo, and VOCE: programs@mtac.org

A colleague sent me the following link to a recording of **Happy Birthday in the style of 10 composers, from Bach to Steve Reich**. As a bonus, there is instant stylistic analysis on screen as the music is played on the piano.

Brilliant, and a great and needed distraction from the news of the day.

Oops, I just remembered that we are supposed to be washing our hands to two run-throughs of this very song. But don't think about that, just enjoy the creativity and skill of the artist.
John

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToO7OXDiV04&feature=youtu.be>

Sent: Sat, Apr 4, 2020 7:00 am
Subject: CM Convention Recitals Canceled



Music Teachers' Association of California®

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT®

Dear CM Teachers,

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the current local and State mandated Shelter-in-Place order, **the 2020 Certificate of Merit Convention Recitals will be canceled.**

This change is only for the 2020 CM Recitals and does not affect other Convention events or the 2020 Convention at this time. More details about the 2020 Convention will be released soon.

Convention recitals that are canceled included:

CM Theme Recitals

CM Festival Recitals

CM New Materials Recitals

CM Ensemble Recitals

For students whose evaluations were postponed due to the current Shelter-in-Place mandates, evaluations will resume in early June. More information will be provided at a later time.

Students who are intending to apply for a Make-Up Evaluation will be provided more information when the regular CM Evaluations are scheduled.

On behalf of the CM Council and the State Office, thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time.

Sincerely,

[CM Council and MTAC State Office](#)

POLICIES AND PROTOCOL

Branch MTAC Bylaw Branch Policies

Recital Guidelines for Students and Parents Recital Guidelines for Teachers

Dress Code and Decorum

Photocopy Policy

Communication Protocol Branch Preamble

Branch Code of Ethics

BRANCH POLICIES

Recital and Festival Guidelines for Students and Parents

- No entering or exiting during a performance. Please only enter or exit between performances or during applause.
- Students are to remain for the entire program.
- Guests are requested to remain seated for the duration of the entire program. Young children are discouraged from attending the program if they cannot sit quietly through a complete program. Parents should be prepared to take noisy younger siblings outside, if needed.
- All electronic devices of performers must be left with parents or guardians before performances.
- All electronic and any sound making devices should be silenced during the recital.
- For non-competitive festivals, non-flash photography and videotaping photography is allowed. However, please remain in your seat or move behind the audience while taking photo or videos. No videotaping of students other than your own child. No photography or videotaping is permitted for competitive festivals.
- Respectful behavior is always encouraged.

Recital and Festival Guidelines for Teachers

For non-competitive festivals, each teacher must be willing to do whatever jobs as assigned by the Festival Chair to ensure that festival runs smoothly. For competitive festivals, all teachers entering students are required to work on the day of the competition and/or fulfill other duties

assigned by the Festival Chair. Proxies are permitted. If a teacher fails to fulfill their appointed duties, teacher's participation will be restricted for the following year.

CM TEACHER WORK ASSIGNMENTS ARE BASED ON NUMBER OF REGISTERED STUDENTS – NO EXCEPTIONS. A NON-PARTICIPATING WORK FEE, ESTABLISHED BY BRANCH BOARD, WILL BE IMPOSED FOR TEACHERS WHO FAIL TO FULFILL THEIR WORK REQUIREMENTS. PROXIES, APPROVED BY CM CHAIRS, ARE PERMITTED.

Teachers are responsible for instructing each student and family about recital dress code and etiquette. If dress code and etiquette is not met or upheld, the Board will counsel teachers as needed.

For festival payment, please make one online payment by registration deadline. **NO REFUNDS FOR DROPPED STUDENTS.**

All evaluation forms will be collected by the Festival Chair, sorted by assigned teachers, and distributed to participating teachers within one week of the event.

Decisions of judges are final.

Dress Code and Decorum

It is requested that students show respect for their judges, audience, fellow performers and the festival by following the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) Conejo Valley dress code and decorum stated as follows:

For boys: Slacks with belt and tucked-in buttoned shirt with collar. Dress shoes with black socks. Jacket and ties are encouraged.

For girls: Dresses or skirts that are not short or tight, dress pants and blouse with dressy shoes. Not Allowed: Shorts, T-shirts, blue jeans, sports uniforms, flip flops and Crocs, white or colored sneakers are not allowed, with the exception of black sneakers. Dress Code reminders will be given to students who don't abide by the Branch's dress code.

Branch Photocopy Policy

Our branch will abide by MTAC's "No Unauthorized Photocopies" policy. No photocopies are allowed with the exception of page turns and out of print material. Purchased online copies may be used with proof of purchase.

Lines of Communication Protocol

It is inappropriate for any parent or student to directly contact the Festival Chair or any board officer. By entering students, the participating studio teacher is agreeing to act as liaison regarding all concerns, suggestions, questions or requests from their studio parents or students. Teachers, please remember to delete the email addresses of the chairs when forwarding information to your parents and students.

Any communications, questions, or concerns regarding any branch program (e.g. payment, registration, policies and procedures, etc.) from parents or students must first be directed to the student's own teacher. Most questions and potential issues can be resolved at this level. Questions that cannot be resolved by the teachers shall prescribe to the following line of communication: (1) Parent to Teacher, (2) Teacher to Festival Chair. If needed, (3) Festival Chair to Branch President.

Branch Preamble

We, the members of the Music Teachers' Association of California, having dedicated ourselves to the advancement of the standards in music education shall: Maintain the highest moral standards and conduct towards colleagues, students and

the community; Participate in the activities of the Association; and abide by branch policies, rules and procedures; Respect the dignity and work of our colleagues;
Develop and maintain a professional relationship between teachers and students; Encourage, guide and develop students toward fulfillment of their musical potential; Participate in and encourage students to be involved in community music activities

Branch Code of Ethics

Therefore, be it resolved that it shall be unethical for a teacher or institution: To do personal proselytizing of students from classes of others;

To accept a pupil if aware of indebtedness to a former teacher;

To disparage the work of a competitive teacher;

To make specific promises and hold out illusory hopes to students.

<https://youtu.be/OvvsiyV9ev8>

This video can help with online set up for Zoom. Please visit the Facebook MTAC Conejo Valley Online Teaching Support Group for more help.

Dear VOCE Teachers and students,

The MTAC State Office and VOCE State Chairs have been carefully monitoring the Coronavirus/COVID-19 epidemic throughout the State. State and local government health agencies have been adjusting their precautionary measures with additional social distancing mandates. MTAC's priority is the safety of our students, teachers, and evaluators, and adhering to the local health mandates helps to protect them and the surrounding community.

Based on new recommendations made by the state and local government health agencies in your county and with health safety in mind, the MTAC State Organization is modifying the VOCE finals. You will be receiving instructions for online video submission in lieu of live finals.

We will be using the platform Acceptd and will send you detailed instructions on how to upload your competition pieces very soon.

With the great concern for the welfare of our members in the at risk categories and accompanists who might not want to record in their home or the students' homes, we are forgoing the use of accompanists for VOCE solos except for voice participants.

Voice participants in both categories have the option to still work with their accompanist or perform a capella or a pre-recorded accompanist.

Solo Instrumental Categories will need to upload their performances without an accompaniment.

For ensembles, if the students are comfortable with meeting to record their entries, we are able to evaluate these as well. (editor's note- not recommended)

Mark Lybarger-Monson <marklybargermonson@yahoo.com>

Apr 4, 2020, 9:38 AM (1 day ago)

Dear Music Friends,

I hope and pray that God holds, comforts, blesses, & protects you and yours at this challenging time and always.

I just wrote an Easter song that I want to share with you. It is entitled, "Our King Lives!" Please play, sing, and share this song as inspired.

THREE VERSIONS

I have written three lead sheet versions (basic, simple, and complete) in several keys. I am sending the files as PDFs for ease of sharing and printing. In the simple version, I avoided the modulations, chromatic harmony, vocal harmony, and a tempo change that are present in the complete version. Furthermore, in the basic version, I also avoided chord inversions and syncopations. In the basic

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 4:7, ESV)

Mark Lybarger-Monson, Ph.D.

Pianist ~ Composer ~ Instructor

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Editor recommendation: If you have access to “FaceTime” on your equipment, a sufficient music lesson can be a phone call away.