



Conejo Valley

www.mtacconejo.org/

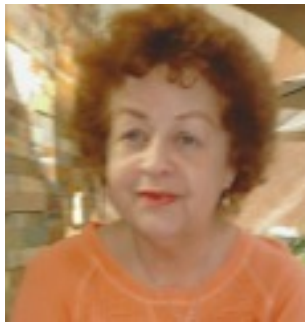
MARCH 2016

MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WWW.MTAC.ORG

Next Meeting, March. 24, 2016

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Fireside Room.

8:30 - 9:00 Board Meeting
9:00 - 10:15 General Business Meeting
10:15 Express Program (when scheduled)



GREETINGS TEACHERS:

Our next meeting will be at HTLC March 24 in the Fireside Room on Thursday morning.....board meeting 8:30 and General meeting 9am.

We had an excellent turnout of 24 teachers on Feb. 25 when our Express Program featured Edward Francis and his guest E.L. Lancaster discussing the music of J.S.

Bach: His Ornamentation and Style. Many new volumes of Bach's music were shared as well as books all passed around. Thank you Edward for arranging this for us!

Mike Preddy won the Mystery Prize which was an assortment of organic rice and grains from Trader Joes.....all items I love to use in my cooking.

Please see the rest of Carol's message on p.2 and Edward Francis' information about the 50th celebration on p. 8

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
60 W Olsen Rd,
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Branch Officers 2015/16

Co-Presidents:

Carol Lancaster
carol@lancasterpiano.net

Edward Francis
edwardfrancis@roadrunner.com

Vice President:

Ornela Ervin
OrnelaErvin@verizon.net

Treasurer:

Debbie Siemer
debbiesiemer@gmail.com

Membership:

Susan Mastrotonardo
frank_mastro@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary:

Michael Preddy
michaelpreddy@hotmail.com

Corresponding Secretary:

Kyung Lee
kyunglee330@gmail.com

Hospitality:

Elinor Martin
iluv88keyz@pacbell.net

Newsletter:

Wendy Velasco
mundmusic@verizon.net

CALENDAR

Additions and/or
corrections in magenta

March 5: Strings CM
Performance Evaluations
(UMC)

March 13: Voice CM
Performance Evaluations

March 5: Woodwinds CM
Performance Evaluation (Cal
Lutheran)

March 12-13: Piano CM
Performance Evaluations

March 19, 10:30-6: Branch
CM Early Levels (1-4)
Honors Recitals (HTLC)

March 20, 2:30-8: Branch
CM Advanced Levels (5-10)
Honors Recitals (HTLC)

**March 20, Festimantic
payment due**

TBA: S.C. Regional Strings
Junior Bach Festival (El
Camino College)

March 24: Branch Meeting
HTLC

**April 1, Festimantic
posting deadline**

April 9, 10:30-8: Branch Jr.
Bach Piano Festival (HTLC)
Chair: Cheiko Boman &
Mona DeCesare

April 15: Deadline for
Convention Applications,
\$30 per student, no late
applications

April 15: Deadline to apply
for Make-up evaluations
(High School only)

At our next meeting we will be discussing our upcoming 50th Anniversary celebration April 17 at Edward's house. If you have some ideas for that day please email them to our board.....everyone please set aside that Sunday for this important milestone in our history.

Here is the latest news from Susan Mastrolonardo about dues: Our board has voted to raise dues by \$3 to \$6 depending on membership status: Active, Provisional and Cal Plan members dues will go from \$28 to \$34. Student members and active members over 70 will go from \$14 to \$17 and active members over 80 pay 0.....no change. The state needed this information by Feb. 28 so we had to make a quick decision.

Our next EXPRESS PROGRAM will be a panel discussion when everyone can weigh in on our topic: "Teaching Trifles, Perplexing Pupils, Studio Savvy."

Please everybody send in your special question or concern you would like discussed to either Ornela Ervin ornelaervin@verizon.net or to me Carol Lancaster carol@lancasterpiano.net and we will put together a list of topics. This is a chance for new teachers to hear many great ideas from our experienced veterans. Summer teaching, studio policy, special materials for squirrely beginners, start thinking and come and share your ideas.

Quote of the Month: "Man's peculiar privilege is walking erect, on two feet and thereby being forced to stretch his hands upward to heaven. This conquering of gravity, space and height, as well as of horizon, is essential in violin playing." Sir Yehudi Menuhin

PROCEDURE FOR USE OF THE HILLCREST CENTER FOR THE ARTS

If you would like to schedule a recital using the Hillcrest Center for the Arts please use this procedure.

1. Please e-mail Danna Southwell and let her know that you would like to reserve for a recital.
2. Danna will then submit your name to the administration
3. You will then need to go onto the website – hillcrestarts.org -and go to Facility Rental and see what is available and the cost.
4. You then can call 805-381-2747 and set up your recital. DO NOT CALL THEM BEFORE DANNA HAS SUBMITTED YOUR NAME.

Danna is the MTAC liason for the Hillcrest Center for the Arts. Please follow the above directions and please make sure that we respect their rules so that we may continue our relationship with them.

Danna Southwell
Dannasouthwell@hotmail.com

CALENDAR

April 15-17: T.O. Phil
Concerto Performances
Opus 45

April 17: 50th anniversary
celebration for members
plus one (afternoon, location
TBA)

April 23: Festimantic
Romantic Festival (HTLC)

April 28: Branch Meeting
(HTLC)

May 14 or 15: Coolest
Jazz Festival (Keyboard
Concepts) Chair Mike
Preddy

TBA: Bach Regional Festival

May 20, 6:30-9: Young Artist
Guild, & Branch Awards
Ceremony (HTLC)

May 21, 10:30-8: Private
Teacher Recitals (HTLC)

May 22, 2:30-8: Private
Teacher Recitals (HTLC)

May 26: Branch Meeting &
MTAC Luncheon, HTLC

June 2: Planning Meeting,
Edward Francis' home

June 5: CVYO Performance,
T.O Performing Arts Center

July 1-5: Convention in Los
Angeles (Airport Hilton)

July 15-17: Opus 46 TO Phil
Concert

Spring Break:

3/25-4/11

Last Day Class:

all districts out by 6/10

V.O.C.E.

Vocalists, Orchestral instrumentalists,
Chamber music, Ensembles



Vocal Judge, Erica Lazerow Davis &
Violin Judge, Fung Ho with voice students
of Marlene Feldman and MaryAnne Donat



Chamber Ensemble participants coached
by Teresa DiTullio and Wendy Velasco

VOCE Branch Only Competition Winners

Intermediate Vocals (17 and Under)

First Place: Sanaz Bashiri
Second Place: Brittney Jimenez
Third Place: Amber Jimenez

Intermediate Ensemble

First Place: piano trio: Jessica Yuan, Kalie Turner,
Donovan O'Brien
Second Place: violin duet: Annie Sun & Lois Bai

Junior Violin (12 and under)

First Place: Skyler Lee
Second Place: David Shiang

Intermediate Violin (13-15)

First Place: Sarah Shiang
Second Place: Donya Hezaway
Third Place: Clare Wang

Senior Violin (16-20)

First Place Stephanie Chang

Intermediate Cello

First Place: Esther Kim
Second Place: Jennifer Cao
Third Place (tie): Conor Bohman
Third Place (tie): Josh Magpantay

Summary:

This was our first year with a new format. We did not have any State participants because our one entry was withdrawn due to injury. However, we had a wonderful day of 16 branch competitive entries and 7 masterclass entries. Competitive students each received comments from 2 judges and a certificate. Teachers, parents and students who witnessed the masterclasses found them incredibly inspiring.

The day ran very smoothly but it was a fairly long day. The events ran from 11:00-4:30. For future years, we may need to consider how we will deal with more entries. A masterclass really can't go a lot longer than 2 hours for the teacher's sake so we may need to limit entries if there are too many.

Sincerely,
Wendy Velasco



Some of the string participants with Cello
Judge, Marek Szpakiewicz



Southern California Junior Bach Festival

PIANO

BACH only

Co-Chairs: Mona DeCesare mwdecesare@roadrunner.com & Chieko Boman, chieko4piano@gmail.com co-chairs

Date: **Saturday, April 9, 2016**

Place: Holy Trinity Church

Registration Deadline: March 12, 2016

Fee: \$32 (ONE check to Mona DeCesare by March 19)

Registration, rules and guidelines: Go to SCJBF.org

Branch rules:

- 1) No Anna Magdalena pieces.
- 2) Requests are limited to AM or PM with valid reasons.
- 3) Students who fail to attend their assigned recitals are subject to disqualification.
- 4) Teachers who enter students are expected to work on the festival day. If you cannot work on the festival day, you will need to send in a substitute.

Reminders:

PRINT OUT YOUR STUDENT LIST. Check that all students were successfully registered. If any of your students' names do not appear on this list, their registrations are not complete.

Delete all students who are not participating this year.

The Regional Festival is in May, 2016 at the First Methodist Church in Ventura. Each performer will pay \$10 to cover the cost of regional registration.

If you have questions, please email Chieko or Mona.

Certificate of Merit

Piano Branch Honors Reminders:

To earn Branch Honors Gold Seal on CM Certificate:
Score 80% or higher on Theory Test
Prep through ADV
Earn 4+ or higher on evaluator-selected memorized CM piece (it will be on the CM form)
Earn Average, Good, Excellent on Sight Reading
Earn Good or Excellent on Technique
Piano- Repertoire must be Excellent or Good

Honors Piece must be memorized.

To Perform in one of the Honors Recitals, the same rules apply EXCEPT

Rating of piece must be 5+, 5, and maybe 5-.
5- will determined when all entries are calculated.

The links will be available on Sunday night, March 13th.

Branch CM Honor Recitals:

New Early Level Preparatory through Level 4 on Saturday March 19th which will be held at Agoura Hills Keyboard Concepts between 1:30-5pm.

Advanced Level 5 through ADV on Sunday March 20th at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks.

At this time it would be advisable for you to ask your students if they are indeed available to perform on March 19 or 20 (depending on level) if they are selected as the entry deadline is right after CM Tuesday March 15th. There will be no exceptions to this deadline.

Keep in mind the piece is chosen by Evaluator, not the teacher and needs to be rated 5+, 5, or 5- for performing eligibility. This information should be readily available on each student's evaluation form.

Teachers will use a link to enter their students' information. (The links will be sent just after CM Evaluations end). Links will be customized for each of the two CM Honors Festivals. Please choose the correct link for each student according to their level. There is the likelihood of having students on both days because of varying levels. Please be available on both days if you have students on both days.

Please familiarize yourself with the links. The forms are simple. You will only have two days after the conclusion of CM to enter your information since the honors recitals are only one week after CM. No exceptions. Entry deadline is Tuesday March 15.

Questions?

Advanced level: Nina Kelly emmajen@roadrunner.com
Early Level Prep through 4: Anahit Agdaian. anahit.agdaian@gmail.com

YOUNG ARTIST GUILD AND BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY

Friday night May 20, 6:30 pm at HTLC



Featured performer, Pianist Athena Tsianos, is a proud Kovner Fellow and Vergottis Scholarship recipient at The Juilliard School, where she studies under the tutelage of Robert McDonald. Her competition prizes include first place in The Rosalyn Tureck International Bach Competition, where she was also awarded the prize for best performance of a contemporary piece; first place in the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition; finalist in National YoungArts; and first place in competitions held by The Music Teachers' Association of California. She has appeared in such venues as Chapman University's Salmon recital hall, Hahn Hall in Santa Barbara, LAMCA's Bing Theater, and the Lincoln Center. As concerto soloist, Athena has appeared with the Young Musicians' Foundation Debut Orchestra and the Bellflower Symphony Orchestra. As a chamber musician, she has been coached by figures such as Donald Weilerstein, Clive Greensmith, and Jerome Lowenthal. She has extensively studied with Bernadene Blaha, and her masterclass teachers have included Kevin Fitz-Gerald, Leon Fleisher, and Jerome Lowenthal. Athena has been a participant in Southeastern Piano Festival, Sejong International Music Festival held at the Curtis Institute of Music, and The Music Academy of the West.

YouTube Festimantic! Romantic and Impressionistic Festival, Saturday, April 23rd at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Entry Deadline & Fees due on April 1st

**** Please use the following new LINK to enter all information:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175EpuJwxQy0mvQKao4gzpmbGTyDBoh4nsw5b-TlhpsA/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

You will see this same link listed several times, for easy access!

Teachers only, not students, will enter student information rather than sending the students' URL links to Nina Kelly. Do NOT send the URLs to Nina Kelly. Use the link provided to copy and paste the videos into.

Thank you for your patience & we are looking forward to the Festimantic! programs.

Edward Francis and Nina Kelly,
Co-Chairs of Festimantic!

YouTube Romantic and Impressionistic Festival 2016 Guidelines:

Please read carefully!

Important information:

\$24 Entry Fee due to Nina Kelly, Postmarked April 1st, 2016

Entry Deadline using new link: April 1, 2016

LINK: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175EpuJwxQy0mvQKao4gzpmbGTyDBoh4nsw5b-TlhpsA/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

Mail checks or deliver to:

Nina Kelly
209 W. Columbia Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-3212
or they can be given to her at MTAC meeting.

Eligible repertoire: Romantic and Impressionistic Style Music

Piano and other instruments: Level 5 and up.

Voice: Level 3 and up.

Teachers, use this LINK to enter students' URL and all information:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175EpuJwxQy0mvQKao4gzpmbGTyDBoh4nsw5b-TlhpsA/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

*** Please do NOT send the URLs to Nina Kelly as we are using a new form this year.

If you already have emailed URLs to Nina, please go to the link to re-enter all the information. ***

Here are the procedures for the 2016 YouTube Festimantic! Romantic and Impressionistic Festival. Your students can record and quickly upload their Romantic or Impressionistic style pieces to participate in the 2016 YouTube Festimantic! Romantic and Impressionistic sponsored by the MTAC-Conejo Valley Branch.

In order to participate in the festival, you or your students will have to have the ability to upload their videos onto YouTube. On the www.youtube.com page, there is a link to "create and account," or "upload." Anybody who is going to participate will have to go to this page and do what is necessary for posting a video. Simply click onto the link and follow the directions. It should be quite simple.



There are instructions on the YouTube website to help you if you need it.

There are many ways to do this and it would be pretty unusual to have a student or parent who cannot do this. If they cannot upload videos, they will not be able to participate in this program.

All students have to record their piece, then will need to upload their own videos. There are several security features that can be chosen. One can choose to keep the video very secure and to limit the amount of views. Please leave enough freedom to allow our three judges to watch the video as well as your teacher. Once the URL link has been established by YouTube, please send the link to their teachers, who will then enter the URL and other pertinent information in the following LINK: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175EpuJwxQy0mvQKao4gzpmbGTyDBoh4nsw5b-TlhpsA/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

Once the video is uploaded, it will be given a URL address. Use the URL to watch the video you uploaded to be sure it plays correctly. (YouTube will automatically assign your video a URL address.) Once you have that address (which will be unique), you should send that address to your TEACHER, to verify its quality.

TEACHERS are to write ONE check to MTAC, just like we do for CM, & send/deliver it to
Nina Kelly 209 W Columbia Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 Checks accepted at meetings too.
No checks from parents will be accepted, only checks from teachers.

Since each video will have its own URL, there is no need to have any identifying sign or speaking on the video. The judges will receive a numbered list with the URL addresses and the name of the pieces being performed. We will retain the name of the student and teacher. We will ask the judges to rate the performances and give a numerical score. Once they have fully completed their task, we will collect the scores and a committee will put together the honors festival, in the same fashion that we do with the Contemporary Music Festival.

Rules of video taping:

When making the video, students are to be videotaped using a single camera, at an angle that shows the instrument, face and hands clearly.

The camera should be stationary, on a tripod, or steady surface, not hand-held or moved around. No editing is allowed. A clear view of the student's profile or front view (if an instrumentalist or vocalist) and their hands, this way immediate identification can take place if there is a question of matching the video to the student.

All memorization rules for the Contemporary Music Festival apply here as well.

In the past, YouTube had a maximum duration for videos, but this has changed. Your entire piece should be recorded and uploaded without difficulty.

If the student is playing a piece with multiple sections, a 4-minute time limit is the rule.

A single movement or a single work that exceeds the 4-minute time limit is allowed.

These are the same rules as with the Contemporary Festival.

All instruments levels 5 and above; Voice, levels 3 and above, are eligible.

The timetable is listed below:

- Videos posted onto YouTube by April 1st.

Use this LINK: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/175EpuJwxQy0mvQKao4gzpmbGTyDBoh4nsw5b-TlhpsA/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link

- Application fees to Nina Kelly due April 1st (if checks are not received or postmarked by this date, URL addresses of that teacher's students will be removed from consideration.)

The fee is \$24 per student-payable MTAC-Conejo Valley due April 1st (from the teacher... participants will reimburse the fee to their teachers)

- We hope to announce the Recital participants within two weeks of this due date.

- Festimantic! Honors Recital will be at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on April 23rd.



THERE ARE NO REFUNDS ONCE THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE PASSES AND FEES ARE PAID. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Good luck to all, and let's have a great time with this festival.

Thank you!

Your program chairs can answer any questions that may not be covered in these instructions. They are:

Edward Francis edwardfrancis@roadrunner.com



Happy 50th Anniversary MTAC-Conejo Valley Branch!

It was in April of 1966 when 12 music teachers banded together and formed the Conejo Valley Branch of the Music Teachers' Assn. of California. We are celebrating our 50th year of charter in 2016 and a major celebration is in order.

All branch members are invited to a special day of events on April 17, 2016. The celebration committee is made up of co-presidents Carol Lancaster and Edward Francis, as well as VP Ornela Ervin. This gala celebration committee knows exactly what it takes to arrange an enjoyable celebration. You will want to join your fellow members and enjoy some grand events.

At 2:30 in the afternoon, the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic will be performing its OPUS 45 concert at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. All seven featured soloists are students of branch members! The TOPhil is offering 2 free tickets to the concert to every member of the branch. All you need to do is reserve your tickets by using this invitation rsvp (by email).

Immediately after the concert, at the home of co-president Edward Francis, the branch will host a delicious dinner for members and their guests. There is room for quite a few members and their guests, but there is a limit, so please rsvp as soon as possible. If we get close to being full, an update will be sent via email so that the last seats can be reserved. We don't want anybody to be disappointed.

Members can choose to attend both concert and dinner, or individual events.
Please RSVP by April 10.

Yes, please reserve 1 ticket _____ U or 1 + guest _____ for the April 17, 2:30 concert at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza-Forum Theatre

Yes, please reserve 1 place _____ or 1+ guest places _____ for dinner, after the concert at 5:00pm at the home of Edward Francis. 1304 Marian Ave., Thousand Oaks 91360

Name(s) of concert goers:

_____ Limit of 2 total

Name(s) _____ dinner
reservations: _____ Limit of 2 total

You can send an email with your choices and reservations to edwardfrancis@roadrunner.com

Be sure to put in the subject area: MTAC-Conejo Valley 50 Anniversary rsvp

Looking forward to hearing from all members! Your Gala 50th Year Celebration team!



Shared Notes

From the Studio of MaryAnne Donat

MaryAnne Donat MA Director of **The Art and Music LLIRA Teaching & Performing Academy** of Simi Valley announces the new program of renting the Academy's studio to all members of the MUSIC TEACHING ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA for their recitals and events. The Studio is located at the Simi Town Center Mall, 1555 Simi Town Center Way, Unit #295 Simi Valley. It just 5 mins off the 118 Freeway.

The studio can fit approx.75 chairs. Also available available for recitals and the days of the Certificate of Merit Exams.

The studio makes available 2 pianos one grand concert piano.

For price and availability information please contact: MaryAnne at 805.357.3424 or email at maryannedonat@sbcglobal.net

MaryAnne Donat, MA Director
Arts and Music Llira Teaching and Performing Academy
1555 Simi Town Center Way, # 295, Simi Valley



For Sale

Beautiful 2009 Yamaha C2 5'8"

Bought brand new, selling due to move.

Please contact Lisa Phillips for more information at 213-999-9190



Shared Notes

From the Studio of Joyce Geeting



Friday, March 4, 2016, 7:30 pm. Samuelson Chapel. Donations accepted.

The University Symphony The Spring Concert

Junior cello student Samuel Grandfield will be joined by his teacher, Dr. Joyce Geeting, and the University Symphony in the *Concerto for Two Cellos and Orchestra* by Julius Klengel. The program will also include Haydn's *Symphony No. 99* and *Another Waltz* by local composer and University Village resident, Craig Zobelein. The program will conclude with the ultimate in Norwegian music, Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite No. 1*. Veteran faculty member Daniel Geeting will conduct.



Shared Notes



www.newwestsymphony.org

NEW WEST SYMPHONY

MARCELO LEHNINGER, MUSIC DIRECTOR



Thursday, March 31 Santa Monica, 7:30

Friday, April 1 Oxnard, 8:00

Saturday, April 2, Thousand Oaks, 8:00

Schoenberg: Go

Chopin: Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Minor

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4 in F Minor,

Marcelo Lehninger, conductor

Ko-Eun Yi, piano*