



MTAC Orange County Branch Notations

THE PROMOTION OF MUSICAL CULTURE – THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC EDUCATION

IN THIS ISSUE

CM Dates and Details

Next deadlines – repertoire entry, applications for convention, branch honors, schedule requests. See article for details.

Page 3

Senior Recital

Invite your seniors to celebrate their musical achievements at our annual Senior Recital



Page 5

Branch Composition Contest

Details regarding the upcoming VOCE Branch Audition.

Page 5

Notes from the President

by Dr. Kevin Kwan Loucks

Dear Orange County Branch,

I hope that all of you are having a great start to 2017! Last month we were treated to a highly informative program at Fields Pianos in Santa Ana courtesy of Dr. Jennie Morton, doctor of osteopathy. I think everyone in attendance will agree that it was one of the most relevant and educational presentations we have had; don't miss our next program featuring composer Dr. Daniel Luzko at Fields Pianos on February 1st.

Thank you to those of you that have taken the time to fill out the Branch surveys that have begun to circulate. If you haven't done so already, I urge you to take a short moment to fill one out - your answers will help provide critical insight that our leadership will use to better serve you. Physical copies will continue to be made available at our meetings as well as a link to an online version that will be forwarded to you by Kathlyn Grabenstein.

I am also pleased to announce that our newly updated website will be activated in the next few weeks boasting updated functionality and full social media integration. We will send additional details once it is made live; I am

confident that you will all be impressed with the final product.

Lastly, I would like to share that we are investigating some exciting partnerships with a few select arts organizations that will greatly enhance our monthly programs and widen our collective networks. Branches do not typically engage in these types of relationships, but doing so will most certainly provide immense

benefits to both our teacher community and our students. I'm

looking forward to sharing these and other

developments the coming

with you in weeks.

Until our next meeting,

Dr. Kevin Kwan Loucks



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Presenters: Dr. Daniel Luzko

Monthly Meeting

Join us at Field's for our February Meeting. Get last minute instructions regarding CM and VOCE, as well as the student workshops, Bach Festival and more. Our program features composer/conductor Dr. Daniel Luzko on improvising and composing at the piano.

Program

Dr. Daniel Luzko, Composer –
Presentation on “Composing at the Piano, Great Potentials of Improvising”

Dr. Daniel Luzko teaches Harmony and Music Composition at Irvine Valley College since 2000. Among his distinctions are: the prestigious “First Prize” in the Villa de

Madrid Composition Competition, Premio Nacional de Música from the Cabildo of Paraguay, and a Gold medal for one of his works choreographed in the CIAD Dance competition in Athens, Greece. In addition, his music was recently performed at the “Renku” Festival in Nagoya, Japan; at the Federation Square concert hall in Melbourne, Australia; Festival Latinoamericano de Musica in Caracas, Venezuela as well as in Bogota, Colombia. Daniel has lectured in Vienna, Austria; Warsaw, Poland; Madrid, Spain; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and throughout Latin America on varied musical topics. Since 2010 Daniel has directed and performed at festivals of Paraguayan music, dance and art in cities such as Philadelphia, New York, Los Angeles and Miami. Daniel is also an orchestra conductor and directs orchestras in Paraguay featuring his own music as well as standard orchestral repertoire.



Certificate of Merit

Judi Moore, Chair

The universal deadline, January 15, came and went. Thank you to all those teachers who got their work request form in on time. Hopefully all students are enrolled, finally!

Student evaluation schedules, along with student labels, will be mailed on January 31. Your students' evaluation date and time will be available on your Teacher Portal February 15. Our chairs will be their busiest over the next few weeks, trying to get ready for CM evaluations. We will do our best to keep you informed.

Schedule preferences had to be requested online by January 15. However, there is no guarantee your request will be honored. Remember, if your student has a conflict, you must e-mail Nancy Hsu, the earlier the better. Once the schedule is made, there are no changes.

Parents will also be able to know their student's evaluation day and time by going onto their Parent Portal beginning February 15. There will be a check-in form for them to print out to take to the evaluations. It will include the locations and directions where the evaluations are being held.

Teacher Work Requests

Teacher Schedules e-mailed February 1, 2017

Teacher work schedules will be e-mailed by the Scheduling Chairs. If there are any questions, contact them directly.

Piano Scheduling Chair: Jessica Bang
bang.jessica@gmail.com

String Chair: Beata Kardewicz
beatakardewicz@yahoo.com

Woodwind Chair: Alice Yu
ayuhsiu@gmail.com

Voice Chair: Alice Yu
ayuhsiu@gmail.com

All teachers are responsible for showing up to work on time. With over 1500 students testing, we really need all the help we can get. Remember that you may send a high school student to be a runner or door monitor in your place. It is your responsibility to make sure they show up, or you will be fined.

CM Results

March 8, 2017

CM results will be available March 8 online for teachers only. Parents will be able to view CM results March 15 on their Parent Portal. This is done intentionally. If you have any question or find an error in your student's results, contact the CM Chair immediately. We want to correct any mistake before the parent is notified. The deadline to report database entry errors is May 31, 2017

Branch Honors Festival

Application deadline: March 12, 2017

Festival: March 25, 2017

There was some confusion in the past regarding the student's school grade for Honors Festival eligibility. It would seem that a first grade student would never be testing at level 5. We heard your complaint and have tried to make it more acceptable by raising it to grade 5. The CM level is still level 5, however. All other requirements remained the same. The Honors Festival requirements are posted under the gold ribbon marked “Information.” Students must also receive a rating of good or excellent in Sight Reading, Technique, and Performance. Remember, only grade 7 and above will be able to play in the Honors Festival. There just is not enough room to accommodate everyone. All students will receive an honors seal for their CM Certificate. If your student is recommended for Branch Honors, you must confirm online by March 12, if your student wants to be in the festival. The Festival Recital will be held at Chapman University on March 25, 2017.

Meeting Information:

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

- **Board Meeting** 9:15 AM
- **Social hour** 10:00 AM
- **Meeting** 10:20 AM

LOCATION

FIELDS  PIANOS
HOME OF STEINWAY

Convention Recitals

Application deadline: April 15, 2017

Payment deadline: April 15, 2017

If your student is recommended for a convention recital, you must confirm online. The Parent must also pay the \$30 application fee through their Parent Portal by April 15. The Convention Recital Final Schedule will be posted on the State website May 15. The 2017 MTAC Convention will be held, June 30-July 5 at the Santa Clara Hyatt Regency and Convention Center.

CM Make-up Evaluations

Application deadline: April 15, 2017

Completion deadline: May 15, 2017

Only high school students with a valid excuse are eligible for CM make-up Evaluations. The application will be available online. It must be filled in and signed by the CM Chair. There is an application fee. All make-ups must be completed by May 15, 2017.

CM Evaluation Dates and Locations

February 25: Piano Evaluations, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa

February 26: Piano Evaluations, California State University, Long Beach

February 26: Piano Evaluations, Orchepia School of Music, Diamond Bar

February 25/26: Piano Theory Tests Whitney High School, Cerritos

March 4: Piano Evaluations, Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa

March 5: Piano Evaluations California State University, Fullerton

March 5: Strings, Woodwinds, Voice Evaluations and Theory, CSULB

2016-2017 CM Calendar



Feb. 15 Evaluation Schedule available online

Feb. 18/19, 25/26 Piano Panel Regional South

Feb. 19 Strings Panel Regional South

Feb. 26 Winds and Voice Regional South

Feb. 25/26 Branch Piano Evaluations, OCC, CSULB, Orchepia

Branch Piano Theory Tests
Location: Whitney High School

Mar. 4/5 Branch Piano Evaluations
Location: OCC, CSUF

Mar. 5 Strings, Winds, Voice Branch Evaluations and Theory Tests, CSULB

Mar. 8 CM results available online for teachers only

Mar. 10 Deadline for Panel Final Application. No late applications.

Mar. 12 Deadline to enter Branch Honors Festival application

Mar. 15 CM results available online to parents

Mar. 25 Branch Honors Festival

Apr. 2 Deadline for completion of Theory make-ups

Apr. 5 Theory test materials available for pick-up

Apr. 15 Deadline for Convention applications. Deadline for parents to pay \$30 Convention application fee.

Apr. 15 Deadline to apply for make-up evaluations (MUP) for high school students only with valid excuse.

May 15 Deadline for completion of MUP evaluations

May 15 Convention Recital Final Schedule posted on the State website.

May 31 Deadline for teachers to report database entry errors.

May 31 Deadline to enter MUP results.

June 30-July 5 Convention 2017 at the Santa Clara Hyatt Regency and Convention Center.

Adult Performance

Learning music does not end in childhood...MTAC offers the Adult Performance program for adult students and teachers. Each solo or ensemble participant prepares three compositions and can receive individual evaluation, study with a private coach, participate in a master class, and perform in a recital. Auditors are welcome at master classes and recitals. Recital participants may also be considered for the Adult Performance Recital at the State Convention.

Participant Requirements:

- Adult student at Intermediate level or higher (avocational)
- College student majoring in music; professional performer (vocational)
- MTAC teacher-performer

How to Apply:

Contact your State Chair (below).
Registration deadline is February 15.

Evaluation dates for 2017:

Southern California – March 19, 2017
Chapman University, Berteau Hall
Registration fees are non-refundable.

Adult Performance State Chair:

Alison Edwards,
aedwards@fullerton.edu

Convention 2017 - Santa Clara

Plan to join your colleagues at the annual MTAC convention, to be held at the Santa Clara Hyatt Regency Hotel from June 30 - July 4, 2017.

Convention Artists

The Cheng-Chow Trio



The Cheng-Chow Trio, made up of Canadian and American pianists, has performed unique programs of music for one to six hands, to the delight of audiences throughout the United States and Asia. To see three multi-international competition-winning pianists jockeying for position at the same piano is a rare sight indeed. The fact that this virtuosic show of force is usually shared with a packed hall, and that the artists seem to enjoy their collaboration as much as the audience, is less surprising if you are familiar with **Angela Cheng**, and twin brothers **Alan Chow** and **Alvin Chow**. The three got to know each other when they studied at the same time at The Juilliard School, and their performances feature them in different combinations on two pianos and in spectacular arrangements which feature all three artists at the same piano. It all makes for an enjoyable and

inspiring experience for the audience and performers alike.

Trio 180



Trio 180, the faculty piano trio-in-residence at the University of the Pacific's Conservatory of Music, is dedicated to their roles as performer, proponent of new music, and educator. In addition to giving concerts and master classes throughout the United States, the trio has been featured on concert series in Mexico and Canada. Of Trio 180's eponymous debut recording, *Strings* wrote, "the trio's pleasing musicality and deft, splendid playing is overall transporting." Concert seasons have included numerous performances for Composers, Inc. in San Francisco and Berkeley, a concert tour to Vancouver, Canada, and performances across California, including concerts at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento and the Sundays Live series at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Trio 180 has enjoyed their trips to Maryland, where they played on the prestigious concert series *Sundays*



Student Workshops

BARBARA BRUCE AND CAROLYN HAILEY

Saturday Feb. 4th at 3:00pm, Anaheim Public Library. Address is 500 W Broadway at Harbor.

Teachers, I'll need student name, age Or grade, and name of piece and composer. Recital dress.

Deadline for this information e-mailed to Barbara Bruce is Feb. 1st, Wednesday. We look forward to hearing you play!

Senior Recital

by Marie Djang and Barbara Bruce

The Senior Recital and Banquet will be held at the Anaheim United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The program will be at 3:30 pm, followed by dinner at 5 pm. In order to receive the Senior Medallion and a gift from the branch, seniors must be Level 7 and above and have passed three out of the last four years of CM.

(Senior year participation is required.) Senior who qualify but cannot perform at the recital will receive the

medallion only. The recital is open to all CM seniors L7 and above, (including those who do not qualify for the medallion or senior award.) Teachers will receive further information after CM.

This is a Very special evening, during which we celebrate our students' musical achievements and their years of dedication studying their instruments. Please encourage your seniors – who are our guests at dinner – and their parents to attend!



BACH FESTIVAL

by Susan Bana

REGISTRATION CLOSED

Monday, February 6, 2017

ORANGE COUNTY BRANCH BACH FESTIVAL Saturday, March 18, 2017

Chapman University

FEES \$30.00 All Categories

\$25.00 Teacher Non-involvement Fee

MAIL Student fees and teacher non-involvement fees, (those who cannot assist on March 18th), along with a copy of the registration report to:

Susan Bana
2804 N. Kingsgate Dr.
Orange, Ca. 92867

REGISTRATION: Can be found at www.scjbf.org. Click on Registration and Announcements to familiarize yourself with the registration process. Online Registration Instructions for teachers requires several steps as well as the registration of each student.

Please do not assume that your student is registered without completing the identification of the work(s) to be performed.

There is listed repertoire that requires the correct key, BWV or Anhang number. If this is NOT complete the registration of that student is incomplete.

COMPLETE WORKS AUDITION

Files for a printable copy can be found at this site in two formats. Please refer and download a copy for your studio.

The Thematic Index in (PDF) format can be found on this page for those participating and performing repertoire from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 5 minute time limit
- One or two pieces at the Branch Festival
- Anhang #113- 132

NOTE: Those students performing works from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook will receive comments from our judges and an opportunity to be introduced to more advanced repertoire.

RULES AND GUIDELINES: These can be found on the Bach home page with printable versions available for teachers to print. **PLEASE** read and familiarize yourselves with the festival.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!!



Concerto Competition

by Wendy Chen

This program was created to encourage the study of concerto in original form. All instruments are accepted including voice. It is an open competition which offers the opportunity to perform in a real concert setting instead of just an audition.

Date: [June 17, 2017](#)

Location: Chapman University

Registration: [April 15-April 30](#). More instruction and will be posted in future Notations.

Fee: \$50 per student

Divisions: Based on the age [on May 1st](#)

- Division I: Ages 12 and under
- Division II: Ages 13-15
- Division III: Ages 16-18
- Division IV: Ages 18 and older

Time limit: 12 Minutes

Prizes: in each division

- 1st place \$300,
- 2nd place \$250
- 3rd place \$200
- Honorable mention \$150

All players will receive a medal or trophy

Rules and Regulations:

Must provide your own accompanist, teachers may not accompany their own students. Playing without an accompanist will be disqualified. All pieces must be memorized. All pieces must be in original form, no transcriptions. Last year's winner may enter but with a different piece. All decisions are final.

Composers Today

by Laurie Fischer-Blaisdell

Composers Today Branch Composition Contest

Do you have students interested in composing? We have a small Orange County Branch Composition Contest

that's perfect for your composers! The deadline is March 30th and it is a small contest just for students (ages 6 to 18 years) in the Orange County Branch. All participants receive written



comments from a professional evaluator along with a certificate. The judge will also select a 1st and 2nd place winner to earn a trophy in each division. Please email Laurie for the registration form. laurieannfischer@yahoo.com or call 714-392-5026

Composers Today Festival Recital

Our annual CT Festival Recital will be Sunday, May 28th at 2:00PM at Chapman University. It is a recital open to all students who entered, CT Evaluations, CT State Composition Contest and the CT Branch Composition Contest.

MTAC Orange County Branch Scholarship

by Wendy I. Chen

Scholarship Chair 626-217-5830



If you have seniors in your studio who are going to be a Music Major for Fall 2017, they can apply for the scholarship from MTAC. Here is the information for Scholarship Guidelines: (Deadline for Application is April 15, 2017 postmark)

1. He/She must be accepted as music majors at a two or four year college, university, or conservatory
2. Double majors will not be considered.

3. In Certificate of Merit, the recipient must have completed successfully, including the senior year. Level 9 for piano and other instruments, and Level 6 for voice.
4. Scholarship winners and their teachers will be notified of their award after Board approval at the May, 2017 meeting.
5. Scholarship checks will be sent to the student upon written verification of enrollment as a music major by the college, university, or conservatory.
6. The deadline for claiming scholarship money is October 15, 2017.
7. Please download the scholarship application from www.mtacoc.org and click "Forms & Documents".

BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15TH

MTAC Orange County in Social Media

Dr. Kevin Kwan Loucks,
kloucks88@gmail.com

If you're a Facebook user, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/MTACOCBranch/> and click "like"; for Twitter users, please visit <https://twitter.com/mtacocbranch> and click "follow".

These social media pages are here to promote branch activities and highlight the diverse achievements of the people in our community. If you have some exciting news, a fun story, student achievements, or pictures of a recent event that you would like shared, please send the information you would like posted to Dr. Kevin Kwan Loucks at kloucks88@gmail.com with "MTAC OC Branch" in the subject line, and it will be posted within 24 hours.

See you online



Contributions to the Newsletter

If you have an article for the newsletter or information that would be valuable to the membership, please send this information to me by the 15th of the previous month. You may email it to

nwoo@southwestconservatory.net, or by mail, send to Nancy Woo, c/o Southwest Conservatory, 18430 Brookhurst Street, Suite 101, Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Please use the subject "MTAC Notations" in any email correspondence.



MTAC OC Board of Directors

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Monthly Programs 2016-2017

September 14, 2016

Piano Master Class for Baroque Music
Chapman University James Bonn

October 5, 2016

CM Preparation
Fields Piano
Judith Moore & Nancy Hsu

November 2, 2016

Piano Master Class for Latin American Music –
Chapman University
Eduardo Delgado

***December 7, 2016**

Trio Celeste, piano trio
Baker Studio
*update

January 11, 2017

Dr. Jennie Morton, Osteopathy –
Workshop on “Injury Prevention and wellbeing of all
performing artists”
Fields Piano

February 1, 2017

Dr. Daniel Luzko, Composer – Presentation on “Composing at the
Piano, Great Potentials of Improvising”
****Fields Piano – Change in venue**

March 8, 2017

Dr. Rebecca Sherburn, Soprano, Dr. Louise Thomas, Piano
Chapman University

April 5, 2017

Arsen Jamkotchian, Piano
Chapman University

May 3, 2017

Ning An, Piano
Chapman University

June 7, 2017

Scholarship Winners Recital
Judith Moore Studio

MTAC Orange
County Branch
Notations

18430 Brookhurst Street, Suite 101
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

[Addressee]
[Street Address]
[City, ST ZIP Code]