

*October 2017*

## *Whittier Branch Newsletter*

### **President's Message**

Greetings, fellow Whittier Branch members. This month there will be no October general meeting. We can stay focused on getting our CM online data done. I sent out a special email on CM to you earlier so you have all the necessary information. I will repeat it in this newsletter. Also, I've been working hard on the website and to the best of my knowledge, the info there is current. If you see something questionable, please let me know.

Robin Curtis, [rcurtispiano@aol.com](mailto:rcurtispiano@aol.com)

### **November General Meeting**

Our first general meeting will be held Monday, November 27, at the home of Robin Curtis. It will start at 10 AM. Our guest speaker will be Carl Matthes and the presentation will be on J.S. Bach. Our upcoming Bach Festival is April 8. Robin's address is 4081 Overcrest Dr. Whittier, 90601.

**Certificate of Merit** The following is from Jane Oertel.

As we write this CM article there are 11 days left to enroll students in CM, Panel, or YAG and meet the deadline of October 31, 2017. To date, not all students' application for CM have been entered. This is also the time you may enter students for Branch Honors and Convention (don't forget Convention Details).

Remember, you may begin entering repertoire immediately when applying for CM. Deadline to complete repertoire is January 15.

Beginning January 2 you may enter specific date requests (either March 3 or 4) for piano students, however, piano teachers may **not** enter more than half their students on the same day. This is necessary to avoid scheduling problems. AM/PM is not an option for piano, it is ignored during scheduling. Instrumental teachers can only select March 10 and may include AM/PM requests, but again it is requested we be judicious in using that feature to avoid scheduling problems. Deadline for entering schedule requests is January 15.

CM dates are March 3 & 4 for piano at Whittier College. Instrumental will be on March 10 at Whittier College.

New Teacher to MTAC? If you have any questions about setting up your student roster and applying for CM, do not hesitate to contact Roger at [raoertel@aol.com](mailto:raoertel@aol.com) or at 714-686-6760. He is available to work with you if need be.

Are you blocked from entering your students in CM? That means we didn't see you at the mandatory meetings at the Oertel's on September 25 & 26 and/or you were emailed the presentation and quiz and have not yet returned the quiz to the CM Chair, Jane. The state required that teachers enrolling students in CM attend the mandatory meeting or take the quiz and return it. If you haven't, contact the CM Chair at 714-879-1533.

Teachers, a reminder that Parents must respond by email when you enter a new or transfer student to your roster. Parents also must respond when you apply for CM for their child/children. Finally, Parents must pay CM fees online between November 1 and November 10 at 11:59pm. It is a good idea to make sure parents are completing their tasks in a timely manner so you can complete each step before the deadlines.

Panel Students? Teachers must coordinate theory tests for Panel students who are not exempt with the CM Chair, Jane Oertel. Panel students must complete their theory tests before March 1.

Current year fees may be found under the ribbon "Fees and Duration" on the teacher portal.

Looking forward to working with you all to provide a positive experience for our students in CM this year.

Thank you,

Jane Oertel

**Musicale** The first branch musicale will be held November 18 and the deadline for registering is November 11. It will be held at Presbyterian Church, 838 N. Euclid, Fullerton. The program will start at 3:00. Music can be classical or pop and memorization is not required. A form can be found on the Whittier Branch website for you to fill out and send (along with your check made out to MTAC Whittier) to Jerri Lee Owen. 12304 Bristol, La Mirada 90638-1619 or [jerrileeowen@msn.com](mailto:jerrileeowen@msn.com) The dress code applies; please see the website for this information.

**Holiday Musicale** The Whittier Branch is pleased to have 3 co-chairs for this event: Lisa Szu Huang, Wai Meng Leong and Ellena Yong. Our Holiday Musicale will be held Dec. 10. The location has yet to be decided. I will email the location as soon as we know. The application is at the website. Please fill it out and mail/email to Lisa Szu Huang, 4561 Kathy Dr., La Palma, 90623 There is no cost to participating students but participating teachers will be asked to assist at the event. The dress code applies. Please see the website for more info on our branch dress code.

**Piano Master Class** Our piano master class will be held January 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m. at the Arts Development School of Music, 10044 Rosecrans Ave. Bellflower. In January's newsletter, I will have the repertoire. Participating teachers: find the form at the branch website and send to Lisa Szu Huang by or postmarked by Dec. 1. Don't forget the check made out to MTAC Whittier. The branch dress code applies to this event. If you have questions, please contact Lisa at [lisaszu618@yahoo.com](mailto:lisaszu618@yahoo.com)

**String Master Class** Chair Sarkis Salamanyan will be readying this program for string teachers and students. The date and time will be announced later.

**Keyboard Branch Junior Bach-Baroque Festival** This event is scheduled for April 8, 2018 and will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Whittier. The deadline for the application and fee is March 8. Tom Strout is the chair of this event. If you have questions, please contact him at [tbars@charter.net](mailto:tbars@charter.net) And please check out the SCJBF website for info on the Baroque master classes to be held at Chapman College, January 15 at 10 a.m.

**Concerto** Our concerto program, chaired by Leslie Ho, is scheduled for 2018. I don't have current info at this time. I will send out an email the moment I have news.

**Piano Music Festival** The Whittier Branch is pleased to have Nona Zakharyan as our new chair for this event, which will be held Saturday, February 4 at 3:00. Fee is \$25. Please see the website for more information. The deadline to submit your application (found at the website) and check is January 20, 2018. Site: Royal Academy of Music, 2535 Via Campo, Montebello, 90640.

**Senior/Junior Competition and Recital** Our co-chairs are Jerri Lee Owen and Ellena Yong. Will you have a senior or junior this coming school year who might want to participate in this event? Maybe you have more than one? We did not have enough enrollees last year and are wondering if this event will become an every-other-year event. Please let Jerri Lee Owen know if you will have students planning for this event, scheduled for March 18, 2018.

[jerrileowen@msn.com](mailto:jerrileowen@msn.com)

**VOCE** Co-chairs Sarkis Salamanyan and Tammy Tsai are preparing for this event. It will be held Feb. 10 at 5:00 p.m. at the Tchaikovsky School of Music, 20265 Valley Blvd., Suite F, Walnut. Please check out the branch website for more info.

### **Other News**

Reminder: Please continue to read the newsletters. They are your best bet for updated news.

Don't forget the Baxter Concert Series to be held Nov 12 at First United Methodist Church, 3:00 p.m. Our own Tom Strout will be at the organ. I sent out an email about this big event a few days ago. You will receive credit for attending one meeting by going to this concert.

The Rio Hondo Symphony Orchestra is scheduled this Sunday to present music by women composers: Fanny Mendelssohn, Amy Beach and our former branch member and president, Dr. Williametta Spencer. The program will be held Oct. 22, 3:00 p.m. at Whittier High School. The auditorium is huge and the parking is free. If you have questions, please contact Robin Curtis, [rcurtispiano@aol.com](mailto:rcurtispiano@aol.com)

