

November 2016

Whittier Branch Newsletter

President's Message: Greetings fellow Whittier Branch Members, I hope your teaching is going well. Again, I have news and announcements to report. As before, I won't be mentioning everything in this newsletter. Please check in the yearbook or at our Whittier Branch website for more info. <http://www.mtacwhittier.org> Thank you. Robin Curtis

Certificate of Merit:

Initial CM Enrollment was ended on October 31st. Full CM Enrollment is complete when parents pay CM fees online. ***Payment of fees by parents must be complete by 11:59pm on Thursday, November 10th***, no exceptions. The "Unpaid" designation on your student list goes away when they have paid.

Following are the counts by instrument:

<i>Piano</i>	248	<i>(4 are Panel)</i>
<i>Violin</i>	47	<i>(1 is Panel)</i>
<i>Viola</i>	4	
<i>Cello</i>	7	
<i>Flute</i>	7	
<i>Oboe</i>	6	

A signed Teacher Work Agreement is due in hand to CM Chair or postmarked by Saturday, November 12th. We will generate student lists based on CM enrollments that have been paid by November 10th. If you will not be working your required number of shifts based on the requirements in the yearbook, page 24, your check for missed shifts (\$100/shift) is also due on November 12th.

With the new online system, all repertoire (including Panel Students), Branch Honors and Convention applications may be entered now and must be complete by January 15, 2017.

Carpool and accompanist information along with schedule requests (date for piano, and AM/PM for all disciplines) may be entered from January 2, 2017 to 11:59pm on January 15, 2017.

Please note:

- ***Additionally: If a panel student is to revert to non-Panel status as an advanced student, he or she must do so by January 15, 2017. Otherwise, the student will still be required to perform his or her pieces at the Panel audition, or be marked as a "No-Show" for CM.***
- ***All student scheduling activity starts February 1, 2017. Goal is to complete by February 8, 2017 at which time it will be available online.***

- ***Piano Teachers: Please remember that you may not schedule more than half your studio on the same evaluation day. Unfortunately, this is required to keep from unnecessarily complicating the scheduling process. E-mail me if you have questions.***

When preparing to enter repertoire online in the new system we recommend that teachers go to the teacher portal, click on “Resources”, click on “Training Materials”, and click on “CM Instructions for Entering Repertoire in Online System.”

A couple of suggestions:

- As you complete each repertoire entry it is recommended you “save” the data. The reason is that you may enter all of the repertoire and on the last piece may have an error, e.g. Piece not in syllabus, composer not found, etc. which will require you to go to a separate page to enter information on the piece and/or composer. If you did not save any of your repertoire information before going to that new page you will lose what you have entered when you go back and will need to re-enter it.
- If you have a piece not found in the syllabus or a composer not found, you will be directed to a separate page where you can enter the title of the piece and the composer name. Additional information such as Key, Catalog Number, etc. may be added if known but not required. Minimum information required is title of the Piece and Composer Name. Remember to click on “Add Composer” if the composer was not found. This will add the Title of the Piece and Composer Name to the library for future use. ***Reminder, any piece performed by your student not in the syllabus must be at level for your student to be valid for CM evaluation.***

Piano evaluations will be at Cal Poly Pomona on March 4 & 5, we have our reservation and deposit in.

For Winds we have again volunteered to be a “host” branch for regionalization and it appears that the Hollywood Branch may join us. We have almost 4 hours of wind evaluations and would have 6 ½ hours with Hollywood so we’ll keep you posted as we hear.

Roger and I will be publishing, in late January, the CM piano evaluations duty roster for the 2 days at Cal Poly, based on the preferences noted in the Teacher Work Agreements (TWA), and from past years. Leslie Ho will do the same for instrumental evaluations at Whittier College. We will try to honor specific requests, if possible. Be aware that we had too many teachers requesting Saturday last year and had to scramble to find enough workers for Sunday. You may be asked to work a day that is not your first choice. If you are willing to work an extra shift I can count that as one of your two meeting requirements.

Have any questions? Please call me or email me. Looking forward to a great CM this year, and I thank you all ahead of time for helping to make it a positive and worthwhile experience for our students!

- Jane Oertel

November Board Meeting:

No actions taken, no report required.

Holiday Musicale Our Holiday Musicale will be held on Saturday, December 3, at Arcadia Villas (Senior Living) 1620 E. Chapman Ave., Fullerton. Your online application deadline is November 15. No fee is required. Memory is optional. Time limit for each student is 3 minutes or 2 songs. Please double check the correct spelling for all of your students' names for their certificates. (There will be no reprinting of certificates). Certificates and Community Service Hours (if needed by the student) will be given to the participants. Participating teachers will be asked to assist at the event. If you have any questions, please check you yearbook p.16 or contact Chairperson Suzanne Wong at swabe@hotmail.com

VOCE Report:

**Whittier Branch VOCE Recital and Competition—February 12, 2017—
NEW DEADLINE: December 15 for entering your students.**

We will hold our Non-competitive Recital at 4 pm and the students may play solos or perform in ensembles for written comments from the evaluators. All teachers, you are encouraged to put together 4 hand piano duets or help your students perform with a friend or family member in this non-competitive part of VOCE.

At 4:30 we will start the Competition for solos and ensembles. Whether competitive or not, all teachers may register NOW between November 1 and December 15. Go to your teacher portal at <https://new.mtac.org/> to register your students. Even the non-competitive students must be registered this way (new state rule). All performances are limited to 9 minutes. After you register your students, send your parents to the state website to pay the fees online.

Fees: \$15 Solo and \$10 each member of an Ensemble — Non-competitive Recital

\$50 Solo and \$25 each member of an Ensemble — Competitive Fees

New State Rules: even though the Deadline for registering your student is December 15, you may still change or edit the online information until December 31.

April 23: State Finals at Chapman University

July 2: VOCE Winners Recital at MTAC Convention in Santa Clara

Questions are welcome! Kay Pech kay@chambermusicinstitute.com (note new email)

Gala Fundraiser: The date for our fabulous Gala Fundraiser is November 20, 4:00, at the Community Presbyterian Church, 13701 Hillsborough Dr., La Mirada. Come to hear our fabulous teachers, or at least come to cheer us on! Invite your students, your family, and your friends. All tickets are \$10 adults and \$5 students. You may purchase them by sending a tax-deductible check payable to "MTAC Foundation" to Leslie Ho: 2007 Prowse Street, Placentia, CA 92870. Tickets will be available at "Will Call" at the concerts. And you can buy your tickets when you arrive.

Musicale: The next musicale will be held November 20 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Whittier. The online application deadline is November 14. Checks payable to MTAC Whittier Branch must be received by Chairperson Jennifer Hewitt also by Nov. 14. The fees are \$4 for playing time of 5 minutes or less, or \$6 for anything between 6 and 10 minutes. Only one or two pieces allowed per participant. The Whittier Branch Dress Code applies. If you have questions, please see your yearbook p.14.

Branch Bach-Baroque Festival for Strings This event will be held Sunday, February 19, 2017, at the Tchaikovsky School of Music, 20265 Valley Blvd, Suite F, Walnut, 91789. Online application deadline is January 19, 2017. Fee is \$20 (or \$15 per student in ensemble). Fee is payable to MTAC Whittier Branch; mail to Tchaikovsky School of Music. (Address above). Whittier Branch Dress Code applies. If you have questions, please visit http://www.mtacwhittier.org/bach-baroque_festival.html

Whittier Branch Junior Bach Festival: The festival will be held Sunday, April 2, 2017, at Community Presbyterian Church, La Mirada, at 1:30 pm. Online application deadline is February 26, 2017. Fee is \$25 for competition and no fee for recital (non-competitive). Regional will be held May 21. If you have questions, please check your yearbook p.18 or contact Suzanne Wong. Swabe@hotmail.com

Piano Music Festival: Please remember that the date in the yearbook has been changed. It is now Sunday, February 5, 2017. The location is still the same, Community Presbyterian Church of La Mirada, 13701 Hillsborough Dr., La Mirada. Online application deadline is January 20. This year Classical music is highlighted. The Whittier Branch Dress Code applies. If you have any questions, please see your yearbook p.17 or contact MeiChi Chu at meichichu@yahoo.com

Piano Master Class Our Master Class will be held Sunday, January 22, 2017, at the Arts Development School of Music, 10044 Rosecrans Ave., Bellflower. If you are entering a student in our Master Class, please remember to complete your online application by the deadline, December 1, 2016. Remember, all selected material must come from the current CM Piano Syllabus. Your check must reach Chairperson Lisa Szu Huang on or before December 1. Her address is 4561 Kathy Dr., La Palma CA 90623. The Whittier Branch Dress Code applies. If you have questions, please check your yearbook p.12 or contact her at lisaszu618@yahoo.com

Yearbooks: Our yearbooks were paid for by our four advertisers. They are Fields Pianos, Johnny Thompson Music, Morey's Music, and Mr. John Wu. If you use any of them, please thank them.

Whittier Branch Board Meetings: The next branch board meeting will be January 5, 2017. The general membership is invited to all board meetings, to be held at Jerri Lee Owen's home. Please contact Robin Curtis two (2) days beforehand if you plan on attending.

Newsletter items: If you would like to add something to the newsletter, please contact me, Robin Curtis, by the 1st of the month to ensure the info gets added.