



MTAC OCC NEWSLETTER

March 2025

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President's Message

Greetings OCC Teachers!

March is already upon us and Spring is in the air!! It's shaping up to be a busy month with activities including Online CM evaluations, our **BACH FESTIVAL** on March 15th and our **SHOWCASE RECITAL** on March 23rd @ 2:00.

I'm so excited for our upcoming Branch Meeting on March 12th at 10:00! Deborah Glass booked a wonderful speaker, **YUKO MARUYAMA**. She's an MTAC Convention favorite and one of the most gifted and skilled Jazz pianists and improvisers out there! I would encourage everyone to attend.

In April we have multiple performance opportunities offered for our students. Laura Combs added another **COMMUNITY SERVICE RECITAL** on April 19th and we also have our **CM HONORS RECITAL** on April 27th. This is a different date and location than what is in the Yearbook so please go to mtac-occ.org for more info. Additionally in April, we have our **CONTEMPORARY FESTIVAL** on April 26th.

Last but not least, our **OCC 50th ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE CELEBRATION** is quickly approaching on April 10th at the beautiful and historical Orange Hill Restaurant! Don't forget to go to our website to RSVP and purchase tickets! The final deadline to RSVP is Thursday, March 20th.

A big thank you to our chairs for organizing events over the past few months and have run these events for multiple years—Susan Wong and her team for the Baroque Festival, Lan Vu for the Showcase recital, and Laura Combs, for the Community Service Recital. They selflessly volunteer hours of their time so that our branch can provide numerous opportunities for our students to perform. We are so lucky to have them! See you on March 12th!

Warm Regards,

Chamonix Patterson

Calendar

March 2025

- 4 **ONLINE CM EVALUATION SUBMISSIONS DUE DATE**
- 5 Application opens for **COMMUNITY SERVICE RECITAL #3, Freedom Village**
- 9 **Deadline for Showcase Recital** online registration and payments *Check: mtac-occ.org*
- 12 **Wednesday, 10:00 am. BRANCH MEETING, LHCC**
- 15 **Saturday, Bach Festival**, Location Saddleback College
- 18 **Saturday, CM PANEL Final Audition Submission Deadline**
- 20 **Deadline for CODA Evaluations**, Pianoforte Studio, Irvine. Contact paulasabin@csulb.edu
- 20 **Deadline to RSVP for OCC 50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLDEN JUBILEE.**
- 23 **Sunday, 2:00 pm. SHOWCASE RECITAL, LHCC**
- 24 CM Results Published to Teachers' Portal and CM State Honor Recital Application opens
- 26 Senior Recital Application Opens, LHCC
- 26 Composer Today Branch Recital application opens, LHCC

April 2025

- 5 **Deadline for COMMUNITY SERVICE RECITAL #3**, Freedom Village, online registration mtac-occ.org
- 5 **Deadline for Contemporary Festival** online registration and payments due at mtac-occ.org
- 6 Sunday, **CODA Evaluations**, Pianoforte Studio, Irvine.
- 10 Thursday, 6:00-9:00 pm. **OCC 50TH ANNIVERSARY GOLDEN JUBILEE.**
- 15 **Deadline for CM Honors Recital** online registration at mtac-occ.org
- 15 **Deadline for High School Scholarship** applications to Pennie Foster. (Check mtac-occ.org).
- 15 **Deadline for Convention Performance State Contest Winners Recitals** application online(new.mtac.org).
- 15 **Deadline for Composers Today Symposiums** applications to be submitte online.(new.mtac.org).
- 19 **Saturday, 2:00 pm. COMMUNITY SERVICE RECITAL, Freedom Village**
- 26 **Deadline for Branch Senior Recital** online registration at mtac-occ.org. Chair: Nilou Sarraf.

26 **Deadline for Composers Today Branch Composition Recital** online registration at mtac-occ.org

26 Saturday, **CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL**, Saddleback College.

27 Sunday, **CM HONORS RECITAL**, South Shores Church.

May 2025

10 Sunday, 1:00 pm **COMPOSERS TODAY BRANCH COMPOSITION RECITAL**, LHCC

10 Saturday, 3:00 pm **BRANCH SENIOR RECITAL**, LHCC

14 Wednesday, 10:00 am. **BRANCH MEETING**, LHCC



50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee

Thursday, April 10th | 6:00-9:00 PM

**The final deadline to RSVP and purchase tickets is
Thursday, March 20th**

<https://mtac-occ.org/50th-anniversary/>



MTAC OCC
50TH
ANNIVERSARY
GOLDEN JUBILEE

You are invited to celebrate
50 YEARS of Orange Coast Cities Branch of MTAC

Thursday, April 10, 2025
6:00 p.m. Music and Sunset Photos
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Formal Program
Lori Bastien, Keynote Speaker

Orange Hill Restaurant
6410 East Chapman Avenue
Orange, CA 92869

\$50 per person
Friends, Family and Past Members Welcome
Semi-Formal or Formal Attire

RSVP with menu choice and payment by Thursday, March 20, 2025:
<https://mtac-occ.org/50th-anniversary/>

Menu includes House Mixed Green Salad with bread and butter
Chef's Selection Dessert
Soft Drinks, Tea, Coffee

Choice of Entrée:
Garlic Grilled Chicken with butter-whipped mashed potatoes,
grilled broccolini, pan jus
or
Vegetarian Spaghetti Pomodoro with fresh basil

\$9 Valet Parking Fee on site
Carpooling encouraged

Branch Meeting

March 12, 2025

Wednesday, 10:00 AM

LHCC = Laguna Hills Community Center

Address: 25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Map - [Laguna Hills Community Center](#)

Save the date for this exciting lecture as we learn from one of our own, Dr. Deborah Brener, on Wednesday, January 8. Please read more about her topic below, so relevant to many of us.

Let's Improvise A Duet! A lesson On Making Interactive Music With Your Students Presented by Yuko Maruyama Program:

Program: Would you like to encourage your students to improvise by making up duets together? This lecture will discuss how to teach improvisation to your students while you provide piano accompaniment and how to elevate your creativity beyond simple interactive duets.



Bio: Yuko Maruyama is a composer-arranger-pianist from Tokyo, Japan. Yuko holds a Master's Degree in Jazz Studies from USC and has professionally performed in a wide range of styles, including classical, jazz, blues, Latin, pop, and Broadway. Yuko is a Kawai Piano's Featured Artist, who has toured the U.S. with her acclaimed CD, "In Tone Nation", in 2002. As an educator, she strongly advocates incorporating improvisation and nonclassical styles in music lessons to elevate students' overall musicianship. Yuko currently serves as the MTAC Improvisation State Chair and is also the President of the MTAC San Diego Branch.

Deborah Glass
First Vice President, Programs
dglassmusic@gmail.com

Certificate of Merit

Branch CM Adviser - Gloria Liu Traulle, gltraulle@gmail.com
Voice CM Repertoire Expert – Susan Wong, frauwig@hotmail.com

Piano CM Repertoire Expert Team:

Anne Prestridge, anneprestridge@gmail.com

Laurie Meinhold lemeinhold@cox.net

Jo Ellen Vandruff, jo@marshallart.com

Deadline	Date
Evaluation Submission Period Close	March 4, 2025
Evaluation Results Available	March 24, 2025
Convention Applications are now available to those students who have results posted.	March 15,2025
CM Convention Recital Applications Open	March 15, 2025
Theory test questions and answers will be released statewide. Teachers and parents may download and print the results until July 31. Teachers may submit a Request for Review for Theory Results until April 11.	April 1, 2025
Theory Test Results Available	April 3, 2025
Deadline for Convention Applications, scheduling requests and Collaborative Pianist requests. Deadline for Parents to pay Convention Application Fee. No late payments accepted.	April ,1.2025
Deadline to Download Detailed Evaluation & Theory Results	July 31, 2025

Contacting Your Regional Coordinator

If you have questions about repertoire or technique, you can contact your CM Regional Coordinator through the red “Help” button located on the CM page of your [Teacher Portal](#).

For technical assistance, please contact the [MTAC State Office](#). Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 AM to 5 PM PT.

Young Artist Guild Information yag@mtac.org

CM Digital Contents: All information also listing on teachers and parents’ portal under “Resources”

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For technical assistance, please contact the [MTAC State Office](#). Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 AM to 5 PM PT

- [CM 2024-2025 Calendar](#)

CM STATE HONORS RECITAL

Chair: Laurie Meinhold E mail: lemeinhold@gmail.com

The CM State Honors Recital takes place on Sunday April 27th, 2025 at South Shores Church.

Registration Deadline is April 15th, 2025. For more details go to our website at mtac-occ.org .

This recital is open to any OCC student who, upon completion of CM evaluations, received State Honors for an instrument or voice. Students of any age, Level 5 or higher, are eligible to perform one selection of their choice from their evaluation repertoire. Memorization is required, and there is a 6 minute performance time limit.



Membership News

Chairperson Jennie Huang

Email: jh05168@gmail.com

***Happy March O.C.C. members! I hope everyone is doing well this Spring!
If your contact information has changed or needs to be updated, please E-MAIL
Jennie Huang at jh05168@gmail.com***

Please remember to update your information in your MTAC Teacher's portal as well to ensure you receive all emails from the state office.

Thank you.

***Sincerely,
Jennie Huang
O.C.C. 2nd Vice President/Membership***

Showcase Recital

Chair: Lan Vu, (949) 390-4084, lanphuongvu@hotmail.com

Sunday, March 23, 2025, 2:00 PM

Arrival Time: 1:45 pm

Location: Laguna Hills Community Center

Performance: 2-3 pm

Dress Code: Dressy Attire



Registration Fee: \$15 per student. Ensembles, each student in the group will pay \$15. (Example: a duet will be charged \$30 total)

- Teachers may enter up to 3 students per recital.
- Teachers are not allowed to perform duets (four-hand piano music) with their students. It is acceptable for teachers to accompany their students for different instruments or voice.

This is the last recital of 2024-2025 school calendar year.

Showcase Recitals provide great opportunity for students to showcase their best repertoires and share musical experiences with their peers.



Southern  California
Junior Bach Festival

ORANGE COAST CITIES BRANCH BACH FESTIVAL

Saturday, March 15, 2025,

Saddleback College in Mission Viejo (New Location)

We are looking forward to hearing wonderful music celebrating the works of J.S. Bach.

Good luck to our amazing teachers and students!

Nancy Shao, Branch Bach Festival Chair

Community Service Recital

Chair: Laura Combs, (949) 233-2806, lauralinda@cox.net

Date: April 19th, 2025, Saturday, 2:00 PM

Place: Freedom Village El Toro.

Registration open March 5th, 2025, Deadline: April 5th, 2025

Online Registration and more detailed information at mtac-occ.org

This recital is open to piano, strings, vocal, and wind and it's not just for solo performers, ensembles are welcome too!

For more information, please go to <https://mtac-occ.org/community-service-recitals/>

All ages and instruments are welcome!

Reminder: Registration first come, first served, with room for 18 students.

There is a maximum of 3 students per teacher.

Repertoire should be memorized, and there is a 3-minute time limit per student.



Contemporary Music Festival 2025

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2025

Place: Saddleback College

Entry Deadline: April 5, 2025

Online registration and PayPal payments at mtac-occ.org

Solo entries: \$40 each / Duet: \$70 per team

Chair: Anne Prestridge, 949-533-7194 (anneprestridge@gmail.com)

Chair: Priscilla Chang-Pai, 714-600-6232, (priscilla.chang77@gmail.com)

Festival Administrator: Pam Worcester, 949-683-3293, (pocky@cox.net)

Hospitality: HyeJung (Jamie) Park

Contemporary Music Festival Rules

The purpose of the Contemporary Music Festival is to celebrate repertoire of the 20th and 21st Century composers and the works of those composers listed in the CM Syllabus as "Transitional: Impressionist /Early 20th Century." Ragtime in its original form (not simplified or arranged) is welcome. However, arrangements and music derived from TV, movies, and other sources are not acceptable. Musical theatre selections for voice students are also ineligible for this festival. If in doubt, contact the festival chairs. A helpful list of transitional composers can be found below.

The Contemporary Music Festival is open to all levels of piano, instrumental, and voice students, both solos and ensembles. Two grand pianos will only be available for duos if the chair is notified in advance.

Please keep in mind that the purpose of the MTAC OCC branch festival is to provide an opportunity for students to perform in a recital while gaining supportive comments from the judges. In this festival, students will also have the opportunity to hear music from the Contemporary Period. The event is not meant to be a highly competitive experience, but rather a way for students to be acknowledged for their hard work and gain helpful feedback to further their music studies.

Consequently, new this year is also the option to choose the **Non-Competitive category**, for those students who would solely like to join for performance experience and to receive helpful feedback from judges. Their performance will only receive comments and not be considered for a prize.

Students will receive awards of medals, ribbons, and certificates based entirely on adjudicators' decisions. Students are separated into the following age categories: ages 11 and under, ages 12-14, ages 15-18, adult, and Non-Competitive. The top 25% of students in each age category (except for non-competitive) receive 1st Place Medals, the next 25% of students in each category receive 2nd Place Blue Ribbons, the next 25% of students receive Honorable Mention Red Ribbons, and the next 25% receive a Yellow Participation Ribbon.

Also new this year, teachers are limited to 12 students each instead of the previous 8 students. However, Contributory Members may NOT enter students.

For all other rules and to apply, please go on our webpage <https://mtac-occ.org/contemporary-music-festival/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the festival chairs. We look forward to receiving your applications and your students' wonderful performances!

MTAC-OCC Contemporary Festival: Eligible Transitional Composers

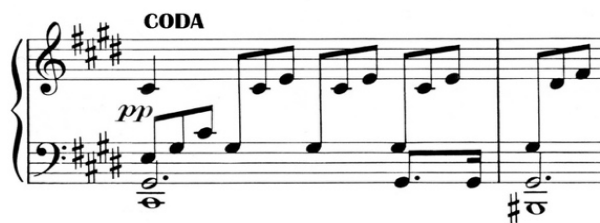
Post-Romantic/ Impressionist/ Post-Impressionist

Isaac Albéniz	Olivier Messiaen
Georges Auric	Nikolai Miaskowsky
Alfredo Barili	Darius Milhaud
Paul Benoit	Frederic Mompou
Ernest Bloch	Carl Nielsen
Sergei Bortkiewicz	Selim Palmgren
Lili Boulanger	Gabriel Pierné
Nadia Boulanger	Eduard Poldini
Ernest Chausson	Manuel Ponce
Claude Debussy	Francis Poulenc
Frederick Delius	Sergei Rachmaninoff
Ernst von Dohnányi	Maurice Ravel
Paul Dukas	Ottorino Respighi
Louis Durey	Camille Saint-Saëns
Manuel de Falla	Carlos Salzedo
Ernest Fanelli	Erik Satie
Gabriel Fauré	Cyril Scott
Reinhold Gliere	Alexander Scriabin
Alexander Goedicke	Jean Sibelius
Enrique Granados	Karol Szymanowski
Reynaldo Hahn	Germaine Tailleferre
Arthur Honegger	Toru Takemitsu
Mary Howe	Nikolai Tcherepnin
John Ireland	Ralph Vaughan Williams
Karl Wilhelm Kern	

***If you don't see your composer listed here and would like to check eligibility, please get in touch with the chair of the festival.**

****For a full list of Contemporary Period composers, please refer to the CM Syllabus.**

Welcome Piano Teachers to CODA 2025!



Contact Paula Sabin (paula.sabin@csulb.edu)

for your free copy of the CODA Syllabus and/or Supplement

Date: Sunday, April 6, 2025, at Pianoforte Studio, Irvine.
Entry Deadline: March 20, 2025

CODA is an *innovative* program for evaluating and giving recognition to our piano students.

- Enables students to experience the evaluation process in a friendly setting.
- Provides a quality program while allowing flexibility in the selection of repertoire.
- Uses evaluators with expertise in music *and* sensitivity in working with students.
- Gives a means to gauge a student's progress and achievement in piano studies.
- Recognizes and rewards students for their achievements.

CODA is *unique* because it offers *two options* for demonstrating mastery in piano:

Musicianship (Levels Preparatory through 6) comprised of

- Repertoire – one or two piano solos selected from graded repertoire collections and one piece free choice, which may be an arrangement of popular music.
- Scales – one major and one harmonic minor scale of teacher's choice
- Cadence formulas – Levels 3-6 only
- Theory – brief multiple-choice exam
- Ear training – done within the evaluation
- Sight reading – two levels below repertoire level

Performance (Levels Preparatory through 10)

- Evaluation based entirely on performance of repertoire.
- Memory is encouraged but not required.
- Repertoire and Evaluation level are up to the teacher.
- For the student who loves to perform and/or wants experience in performing.

Additional Benefits and Features

- CODA helps reinforce and enhance piano and musicianship skills.
- CODA can be used to prepare students for performance of repertoire for festivals, recitals, and other evaluations.
- The Performance Option allows students to experience the joy and rewards of performing seasoned repertoire (e.g., pieces already developed for other purposes) without the responsibility of demonstrating technique, sight-reading, and theory.
- Students can participate in CODA when other evaluation options are not available, feasible, or appropriate.
- CODA enables piano students to gain experience in a live evaluation setting.
- CODA is for everyone – adult piano students may find the Performance Option attractive and are welcome to participate.

There is ***no teacher work requirement*** other than to prepare your students for the CODA experience.

The CODA list of ***repertoire for the Musicianship Option*** includes some of the most respected collections, with carefully graded and selected pieces that allow the teacher flexibility, while at the same time setting a high standard for establishing levels for evaluation. Set repertoire includes M'lou Dietzer's *First Impressions* and *Discovering Piano Literature*, the Royal Conservatory's *Celebration Series*, and Keith Snell's *Piano Repertoire* books. Teachers may also follow repertoire guidelines for CM, but with no worries about levels. The choice of ***repertoire for both Musicianship and Performance Option*** is left to the teacher and may include pedagogical pieces, arrangements of showtunes or popular music, as well as original works for piano solo.

A ***Certificate of Distinguished Achievement*** is given to each student who successfully completes the evaluation. Additionally, honors are awarded to outstanding performers.

Evaluations for 2025 will be held on Sunday, April 6th, at the Pianoforte Studio in Irvine.

A ***CODA Syllabus*** that explains the goals and content of the CODA program and includes registration forms is available for teachers. In addition, a detailed ***CODA Supplement*** for the Musicianship Option is offered that contains sample concept/theory tests, sight-reading examples, and cadences.

ORANGE COAST CITIES BRANCH OFFICERS, 2024-2025

President.....	Chamonix Patterson
First Vice President (Programs)	Deborah Glass
Second Vice President (Membership).....	Jennie Huang
Treasurer.....	Laura Combs
Recording Secretary.....	Jo Ellen Vandruff
Corresponding Secretary.....	Gloria Liu Traullé

Directors:

Past President.....	Deborah Glass
Certificate of Merit Strings.....	Gloria Liu Traullé
Certificate of Merit Voice	Susan Wong
Festival Administrator.....	Pamela Worcester
Recital Administrator.....	Lan Vu
Director, Digital Communications.....	Nancy Shao
Director CalPlan.....	Anne Prestridge
Director.....	Julie Nakamura
Director.....	Larry Mumford
Director.....	Maurita Eberly Hanford
Director.....	Priscilla Chang-Pai
Director.....	Sally Honda

Past Presidents

1974-1976	Dr. M'lou Dietzer	1997-1999	Pamela Worcester
1976-1978	Donna Bashaw	1999-2001	Laurie Meinhold
1978-1980	Joyce Conway	2001-2003	Valerie Radlick
1980-1982	Shirley Case	2003-2005	Carol Sporleder
1982-1984	MargeryEllesmere-Jones(Burger)	2005-2007	Nilou Sarraf
1984-1986	June Lusk Nelson	2007-2009	Angela Leu
1986-1988	Lyle Samuel	2009-2011	Keiko Ikeda
1988-1990	Arlene Schreder	2011-2012	Esther Park
1990-1992	Trudy Pauperas	2012-2015	Pamela Worcester
1992-1994	Nancy Rohr	2015-2017	Nancy Lau
1994-1995	Meldene Gruber	2017-2018	Angela Leu
1995-1997	Judy Jenkins	2018-2023	Deborah Glass

Maps and directions to branch venues

Please visit <https://www.mtac-occ.org/maps-directions>

LHCC = Laguna Hills Community Center

Address: 25555 Alicia Pkwy, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Map - [Laguna Hills Community Center](#)

**Saddleback College, 28000 Marguerite Pkwy,
Mission Viejo, CA 92692- [Saddleback College Campus Map](#)**

MTAC-OCC Branch Events at Saddleback College:

Park in Lot 12, but DO NOT park in a space marked for faculty or staff.

The Fine Arts building is just above the parking lot next to the McKinney Theater.

WANT TO PLACE AN AD?

If you would like to see your advertisement here, please e-mail Gloria Traulle (newsletter editor) at gltraulle@gmail.com with "MTAC OCC Newsletter Ad Request" in the subject line. **Please submit requests by the 20th before the next month's newsletter.**

For non-commercial and educational events, ads are free for both MTAC OCC members and non-members.

For commercial, buy / sell, and business advertisements, there is a \$20 fee per issue (5 issues per year- Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, and May) for a partial space of the page. Only advertisements that are beneficial for members' professional life will be published.

All advertisements are subject to approval by the board.

