

# MTAC Pasadena April 2020 Newsletter



PASADENA  
BRANCH

Did you know our branch has a website dedicated to keeping you informed?

[mtacpasadena.com](http://mtacpasadena.com)

Can't find your membership booklet?

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Do you want to know more about Branch Recitals?

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Are you interested in writing a short article to share with other members?

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Do you need to look up a date for MTAC State and Branch Programs?

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Check out our website for these resources and more!

Dear Pasadena Teachers,

With all this anxiety and concern of the Covid19 virus, many of us are uncertain what the future will be. How long do we have to stay indoors; will I be infected when I go out; when can I go to a store and be able to buy what I need instead of having to stand in line and then to find the items unavailable, when will I be able to teach my students in person, how will I pay my mortgage/rent if I can't teach..... oh, so many questions go through our minds but we can't make plans! It is truly very frustrating.

No matter what, we need to humble ourselves and listen to our government and medical officials. This is not a time to be superior in that we are invincible. The MTAC State Office has kept in touch with every teacher regarding the postponement of CM evaluations. Do read your email regularly and follow instructions accordingly.

There are also several cancellations in the Pasadena music events – please read carefully and notify your students of the changes and the cancellations. I want to wish all of you the best of health as we fight this health crisis. Trust in God and He will bring us through this crisis.

Again:

For general questions, email [mtacpasadena1947@gmail.com](mailto:mtacpasadena1947@gmail.com)

For CM questions, email [cmpasadenamtac@gmail.com](mailto:cmpasadenamtac@gmail.com)

To look for Pasadena music programs, log onto

[www.mtacpasadena.com](http://www.mtacpasadena.com)

You are also welcome to email me at [winnatan@yahoo.com](mailto:winnatan@yahoo.com)

Yours sincerely,

*Winna Tan, President*

## The following events are cancelled due to COVID-19:

- Bach Festival Auditions at Steinway Piano Gallery – April 4, 2020
- Branch Honors Recitals – April 18, 2020
- String Festival – May 2nd festival
- Branch Recital – May 3rd
- YAG Recital, Awards Ceremony, Senior Awards/Dinner – May 17, 2020

**Any additional cancellations will be addressed in the June 2020 Newsletter**

## CM 2020 Testing Dates

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Be checking your email regularly for more information from the State and our Pasadena CM email address:  
CMPasadenamtac@gmail.com

### Certificate of Merit Updates

All CM teachers received on March 25 an email notice from MTAC State Office and State CM Council about CM testing. The remaining CM Testing is postponed to late May/early June. The required Syllabus piece MUST be the same. Other repertoire titles can be different without penalty. It is your responsibility to notify your CM students and families of this update. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Carol Man Lee*

MTAC Pasadena Branch CM Chair  
CMPasadenamtac@gmail.com

### Bach Festival Updates

Dear Pasadena Teachers,

In the interest of protecting student health and safety, the Pasadena Bach-Branch Festival scheduled for Saturday, April 4th, has been cancelled. There is a chance that the competition may be rescheduled for the end of April or early May depending on how the local situation improves. For that reason we will hold studio checks until April 30, after which they will be either returned to you or shredded.

We know your students have been working hard to get their performances ready, so let this offer a little reprieve of time for now. We will keep you posted on new developments.

Thanks for your patience as we wait to see what comes next and how quickly the virus can be contained.

Sincerely,

*Kristi Lobitz and Dorothy Caimano*

MTAC Pasadena Branch Bach Festival Co-Chairs

## Upcoming Events

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All Branch events are postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 crisis.

### Branch and Festival Updates

**Theme Festival** – Our MTAC Pasadena Theme Festival Chair, Yvonne Chen, will announce the theme and details for Theme Festival 2020 by the end of June.

**Flute Festival** – Ruth Kasckow & Charlotte Betry, Co-Chairs – will be monitoring the COVID crisis and provide more information regarding the 2020 Flute Festival in the June Newsletter.

**Master Class** – Pasadena Branch is looking for a new Master Class Chairperson. Volunteers please contact Winna Tan.

## MTAC Pasadena Voice Festival

The very first Voice Festival was held on February 23 at the home of Vera Hoalim. The format was a master class, followed by a short lecture and Q&A regarding singing opportunities beyond high school and college. We had 5 students participate from the studios of Karen Reinhard and Valerie Tambaoan. Our master teacher was Dr. Niké St. Clair, and the students were accompanied by Kelly Anderson and Gerry Keeling. During the short lecture, the topics she covered were: Why not just sing? Why sight-read? Why theory? Why master classes? What opportunities are out there for singers after high school and college? What skills are needed to be a professional singer?

The students who performed and their pieces:

Natalie Prezhdo - 15 years old Air de l'Enfant by Maurice Ravel

Nash Wong - 15 years old Sebben, Crudele by Antonio Caldara

Eryn Pollard - 17 Soliloquy by J.W. Work

Micah Luna - 14 Ich Liebe Dich by Beethoven

Chelsea Chiu - 15 Après un rêve by Gabriel Faure

*Valerie Tambaoan*

MTAC Pasadena Branch Voice Festival Chair

## MTAC Pasadena Piano Masterclass

It was an awesome masterclass held on February 23 at Ms. Vera Hoalim's beautiful home. Professor Julith Nesleny gave many teaching tips and interesting stories of the composition and its composer. I wish more teachers took advantage of this learning opportunity.

Thanks to Vera Hoalim, Kristi Lobitz, Michelle Jo Santoso, Winna Tan for sending Tiger Zhang, Brendan Poon, Katherine Xu, Evelyn Chi and Phoeby Lyu to perform at the master class. All students were well prepared, and they showed great talent in their performances.

*Jing Xu*

MTAC Pasadena Masterclass Chair

If you have anything that needs to be featured in the next newsletter, please send it to [mtacpasadena1947@gmail.com](mailto:mtacpasadena1947@gmail.com) no later than Friday, June 5th.

Sincerely,

*Charlotte Betry*

Vice President

Newsletter Editor

MTAC Pasadena Branch