



PASADENA
BRANCH

NEWSLETTER

APRIL - MAY 2024

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Message from the Board

Dear Branch Members,

Congratulations on completing a successful year of Certificate of Merit and various festivals. The board is working on creating some exciting new opportunities for our teachers and their students for 2024-2025, including bringing back Branch Honors. You will hear about these events at the Annual Membership Meeting in September.

If you have a student who is a senior this year, please check to verify whether they qualified for the Senior Award. Carol Man Lee is coordinating the **Senior Award event on May 19** and needs to hear from the teachers whose students will be honored this year. Please contact Carol by email at CMPasadenaMTAC@gmail.com.

In the meantime, we hope you will take advantage of the **MTAC Convention** being nearby this year, at the **LAX Hilton Hotel and Convention Center June 28-July 1**. Registration is now open. You can also sign up in your teacher portal to volunteer at the Convention if you would like to help out.

Congratulations on a great year!

Dianne Harmel
President

Upcoming Events

March 11

SCJBF All branch
Wind & Voice

March 11

SCJBF Keyboard Division
Branch Festival

May 12

Branch Recital

May 19

Senior Awards Ceremony

[\(Import and see more dates at MTAC calendar\)](#)

BRANCH RECITALS

Visit mtacpasadena.com under Branch Programs for Application form Dress code

2023-2024 DATES

Oct. 15
Nov. 12
Skip Dec.
Jan. 14
Feb. 18
Mar. 17
Apr. 7
May 12
Jun. 2

\$20 PER STUDENT!

NEW INCENTIVE!
Students who participate in 4 or more recitals in one season will receive a \$10 gift card to Bertand's!

Naomi Lee Liggins
naomileemusic@gmail.com

Senior Awards Ceremony

Sunday May 19, 2024, 2:00 PM

**Sierra Madre United Methodist (SMUM)
Church**

**Please contact Carol Man Lee if you have
any questions.**

MTAC Pasadena
Keyboard Theme Festival 2024

DANCE AROUND THE WORLD

Date: November (TBD)

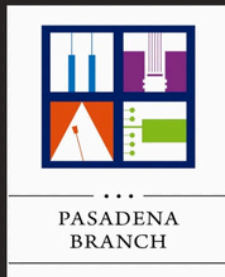
Location: TBD

Application fee

\$55 for Piano Solo

\$70 for Piano Duet

Online application form will be
available in September



[See the rules,](#)

[Download Keyboard Theme flyer](#)

Member News



[Click her for more info about the piano](#)

Amy Choi is seeking a new location for a grand piano. She prefers somewhere she can store it like a church or library or somewhere that people can use it, but she can use the church for recitals or something in the future if needed. If you have any lead, please contact Amy directly at **626.808.3055** or amyablechoi@gmail.com

Our dear friend and colleague, **Akiko Hasunuma**, passed away Thursday, March 28 after a long bout with cancer.

There will be a **Memorial Service on Saturday, May 18th at Rose Hills in Whittier at 11:00 AM**. We hope many of you will be able to come to honor the life of Akiko.

Akiko served as MTAC Pasadena Branch co-President with Fritzie Culick, and served as both Bach Branch Festival and SCJBF Regional Festival Chair for close to 20 years. She was a wonderful teacher and produced some great students who consistently did well in piano competitions and festivals. One of her greatest legacies in the world of music was founding the Piano Teachers Music Guild in Tokyo, Japan which is based on a similar structure and guiding principles as our CM Program. Akiko leaves a son, Jun, and granddaughter, Emily.

[Click here for more info about Akiko and obituaries](#)

Job opening

Better practicing is looking for teachers that would like to make some extra income. We're looking for music coaches for the Better Practice Club. These club sessions are supplemental (and usually separate) to the students lessons with their music teachers. The goal is to get students practicing on a schedule, and teach them good practice habits while making sure they don't get stuck. Coaches would sit on a zoom call for 30 minute time sessions, and listen in to students practice and give them tips/answer questions.

Should you have question or interested in sending application, please contact us at info@betterpracticeapp.com

[Click here for more details](#)

The next newsletter will be emailed on **Jun 15**. If you have any items of interest that you would like to be included, please email it to winnatan@yahoo.com by **Jun 10**.