



Newsletter

December 2013 Edition

Certificate of Merit

NEW - PANEL AWARD PIN!

CM Council is very excited to announce a new award Pin for Panel students. The State Board has approved a custom MTAC designed "Panel Pin". Below are the criteria and clarifications of all Panel awards, including Young Artist Guild. More information can be found in the Panel and YAG Audition Guidelines in Section 7.

Students who have passed their Regional Panel Auditions will receive a certificate to be given by their teachers with their name, instrument and registered level. This certificate represents the student's successful completion of their Certificate of Merit Level.

Successful students selected from Finals are awarded by performing at the annual MTAC Convention in one of three Panel Award Divisions:

- (1) Panel Honors
- (2) Panel Master Class
- (3) Young Artist Guild Recital

-continued to page 7

Northern California String Regional Panel Auditions

The Northern California String Regional Panel Auditions will be on Sunday, March 9, 2014 at the studio of Gloria Ho, 3345 Korbel Street, Union City, CA 94587.

The Panel Auditions are held one day prior to the postmark deadline for the Panel Final Audition Application. Fill out the Panel Final Audition Application ahead of time to be prepared for its submission on March 10, 2014. Make sure that the Panel Applicants have completed their Advanced Theory exam prior to March 10th. Teachers will be notified on the evening of March 9th of their student's results so the application deadline of March 10th can be met.

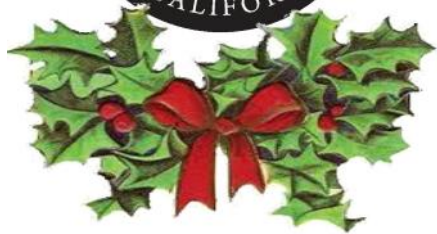
For questions, you may contact Gloria Ho, MTAC CM Council North Strings Coordinator at gloho@att.net

North & South Piano Regional Panel Auditions

On January 2nd, the online database opens for teachers of Panel applicants to enter their repertoire for the Evaluation Report Form and to apply for convention and Branch honors. Along with this information, Panel Teachers in both the North and South are required to enter the day of their Branch's Panel Auditions. This is not an optional request for Panel Applicants as the heading suggests on the online form.

Please Note: **Failure** to fill in the DAY will result in your student not being scheduled for Panel.

-continued to page 4



In this edition

| | |
|---|---|
| New - Panel Award | 1 |
| Northern California String Regional Auditions | 1 |
| North & South Piano Regional Panel Auditions | 1 |
| CM Council Directory | 2 |
| A Message from the CM State Chair | 2 |
| A Friendly Reminder to our Branch Chairs | 2 |
| Update: Guitar Program | 2 |
| CM 2014 Calendar | 3 |
| South Evaluator Training: Wind Evaluator Training | 4 |
| Resource List for Ear Training, Music Theory & More | 4 |
| A Compilation of TOW | 5 |
| WANTED: CM Theory Test Writers | 8 |

For February 2014

Newsletter

Please submit all articles and information by January 31, 2014 (deadline) to:

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CM Information Coordinator

Ardes Abad

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-continued to page 3, column 1

A Message from the **CM State Chair**



Dear Teachers and Branch Chairs,

CM Registration was a huge success, we have 500 more students statewide than last year! Thank you to everyone for stepping up to the new registration dates and timeline.

Now onward to the Evaluations! Please watch your Branch announcements for the specific timeline for database entry of repertoire, convention recitals, carpools, and other requirements we must fulfill for our Branch to be ready for evaluations. As we all know, our CM evaluation day(s) require an incredible amount of collaboration, coordination, and cooperation. Please approach each other with a willing spirit and helpful attitude as we all share the same vision and goals for our students to have smooth evaluations. When it's time to pick up the trash, move tables, chairs, pianos, etc., please do so with a smile; it's only for a brief time and, again, it's for our Branch and our students.

While reading this newsletter please watch for:

- a new Panel Award Pin announcement.
- the Calendar: check for specific deadlines.
- information about the Guitar program: find out how you can share your ideas for this new program.
- a list of CM preparation internet resources.

Teachers, please be sure to review the "Tips of the Week" for updates and reminders. Branch Chairs, I'll email you directly with any new information.

I hope you enjoy the upcoming holidays. Thank you again for supporting this amazing program.

Sincerely,

Judi Sands-Pertel

Friendly reminder to our Branch Chairs!

Please send/email your Branch Theory Testing sites and dates to Sue Scofield, CM Council Information Coordinator by December 22.

Thank you!
Judi Sands-Pertel
CM State Chair

UPDATE: GUITAR PROGRAM

In the near future, we'll be sending out another survey to gather your input for the program.

Please watch your personal email for an on-line survey.

Peggy Taylor
Harp/Guitar Program Coordinator

-continued from page 2, column 1

◆ **Sarah Sandvig**

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 - Voice Evaluator North/South Scheduling Coordinator
 - Voice Panel Regional North/South Coordinator
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**** Branch Fast Schedule/Generate Evaluation Report**

***CCSR - CM Chair Computer Support Representative:**
 Branch names from

- **Alameda–Golden Gate:** Sue Scofield
- **Hacienda Heights–Los Angeles County:** Marie Kaneta
- **Marin County–Orange County West:** Peggy Taylor
- **Palo Alto–Riverside County:** Michelle Rumley
- **Sacramento County–San Mateo County:** Ryan Huo
- **Santa Barbara County–Sonoma County:** Ardes Abad
- **South Bay–Yolo:** Susan Beaty

2014 CM Calendar

Enter Evaluation Information Online, Evaluator Input, and Panel Input

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Jan 2, 2014 | Database opens for entering evaluation information and Repertoire online. Note: Individual branch will set its own deadline for teachers to enter evaluation information online. |
| Jan 2, 2014 | Database opens for Evaluators to confirm assignments. |
| Jan 15, 2014 | Deadline for Panel Teachers to enter repertoire online. Deadline for Panel students to revert to Non-Panel status. NEW THIS YEAR: Last chance to revert. |
| Jan 15, 2014 | Deadline for Evaluators to confirm assignments. |
| Jan 20, 2014 | Database opens for Branch Chairs to verify Evaluator List. |
| Jan 31, 2014 | Deadline for Branch Chairs to verify Evaluator List. |
| Jan 31, 2014 | Deadline to submit YAG Letter of Intent and repertoire. |

CM Evaluation Dates

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Feb 15 – Apr 6, 2014 | 2/15, 2/16, 2/22, 2/23, 3/1, 3/2, 3/8, 3/9, 3/15, 3/16, 3/22, 3/23, 3/29, 3/30 4/5, 4/6 | Branch CM Evaluations North and South. <i>Note: Teachers check with Branch Chair for your branch's evaluation dates.</i> |
|-----------------------------|--|---|

Panel Regional Dates

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Feb 22-23, Mar 1, 2014 | Piano Panel Regional North. |
| Feb 22-23, Mar 1-2, 2014 | Piano Panel Regional South. |
| Mar 9, 2014* | Strings Panel Regional North. |
| Feb 22, 2014* | Strings (Violin & Viola) Panel Regional South. |
| Feb 23, 2014* | Strings (Cellos & YAG for all Strings) Panel Regional South. |
| TBA | Winds and Voice Panel Regional North. |
| Mar 2, 2014 | Winds and Voice Panel Regional South. |
| Mar 10, 2014 | Deadline for Panel applicants to complete theory tests at their own branch. |

* Tentative

Panel Finals Dates

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Mar 10, 2014 | Deadlines for Panel Final Application. <i>No late applications.</i> |
| Mar 28-29-30, 2014 | Final Panel Auditions South. |
| Mar 29, 2014 | Winds and Voice Final Panel. |
| Mar 30, 2014 | Strings Final Panel North and South. |
| Apr 5-6, 2014 | Final Panel Auditions North (Piano) |

- continued to page 4

Evaluator Training Sessions

Wind Evaluator Training

Sunday, December 15, 2013

2:00-3:00 PM: All New Evaluators

3:00-5:00 PM: General Session

(required for all Evaluators-New and Active)

Studio of Emily Senchuk

5845 Doverwood Drive

Culver City, CA 90230

Please RSVP at

emsenchuk@earthlink.net

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Convention & Other Year-end Deadlines

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Apr 7, 2014 | Theory test materials may be released statewide. |
| Apr 15, 2014 | Deadline for Convention Applications. \$25 Convention Application Fee per student is due. |
| Apr 15, 2014 | Deadline to apply for Make-up Evaluations (MUP) for High School Students only, with valid excuse. |
| Apr 25, 2014 | Deadline for Chair to send MUP applications and fees to State Office. |
| May 2-3-4, 2014 | CM Council Meeting. |
| May 15, 2014 | Deadline for Completion of MUP evaluation, High School Students only, with valid excuse. |
| May 31, 2014 | Deadline for teachers to report database entry errors. No changes made after this date. |
| May 31, 2014 | Deadline to enter MUP results. |
| Jun 1, 2014 | Convention recitals schedules posted on the state website. |
| Jun 27-Jul 1, 2014 | Convention 2014 at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport. ☞ |

Resource List for Ear Training, Music Theory and More

Here's a list of internet applications that may be helpful to your students. CM Council does not endorse these products, but some of us have enjoyed them for our students. "Search" for music apps and you'll find many more.

- Dolce Ear Training
- Ear Master
- Ear Trainer
- Finale has worksheets
- Interval Training
- Key signature Jeopardy
- Key signature Trivia
- Musicallearningcommunity.com
- Makingmusicfun.net (for worksheets)
- Music flashcards
- Music Theory Pro
- Music Tutor
- Musictheory.net
- Pedaplus.com for key signatures
- Piano Interval
- Piperears.com
- Play by Ear
- Rhythm Cat
- Scale Helper
- Sibelius has worksheets
- Sight Reading Improver ☞

- continued from page 1

If there are siblings or carpool requests, please be sure to fill in the carpool section, otherwise siblings will be separated and randomly assigned times.

The schedule of each Branch's Regional Panel Audition dates and locations has been sent via email to all the Panel Teachers and Branch Chairs. If you are a

Panel Teacher or Branch Chair and have not received this schedule, please contact the appropriate Piano Regional Panel Coordinator.

Natsuki Fukasawa at cmpanelnorth@yahoo.com for the North and

Marie Kaneta at piano.kaneta@gmail.com for the South.☞



A Compilation of CM TOW*

*CM TOW listed in this issue is a compilation of CM Tip of the Week which were previously sent to CM Branches starting July 2013.

July 8, 2013 Tip of the Week

Certificate of Merit Registration Eligibility:

July 31, 2013 is the deadline to renew your MTAC membership. There is no grace period. Please help us to ensure that all members – especially CM teachers – wishing to renew do so before July 31, in order to maintain their 2013-2014 CM eligibility.

September 2, 2013 Tip of the Week

October is CM Registration Month

The New Certificate of Merit (CM) Registration Dates will be from October 1 to October 31, 2013. "Happy Fall" from CM Council.

September 9, 2013 Tip of the Week

WHAT ELSE IS NEW!

The 2014 Certificate of Merit Policy and other documents are now posted on the teacher homepage. Be sure to check out the changes for 2014.

September 16, 2013 Tip of the Week

Panel teachers remember March 10.

March 10 is the postmark deadline for the Panel Final Application to be mailed to the appropriate coordinator.

March 10 is also the deadline for Panel applicants to complete theory tests at their own branch.

September 23, 2013 Tip of the Week

Advanced level keyboard students may play an Etude that is by the same composer as another piece that the student is playing.

The Etude must come from the Etude List on pages 153-158 of the 2012 Piano Syllabus.

The Etude cannot be listed as the Syllabus piece. The Syllabus piece must be from the Advanced Syllabus Repertoire choices.

However, either the Etude or the Syllabus piece may be chosen for the convention piece.

For other instruments, please refer to the applicable Advanced level technique requirements listed in your syllabus.

September 30, 2013 Tip of the Week

When registering your students for CM be sure the following information is accurate:

- Correct Instrument
- Correct spelling of the student's name. Once submitted the spelling is final.
- Correct CM Level and school grade.
- Correct date of birth. Check with parents to be accurate.

October 7, 2013 Tip of the Week

Has the student you want to register for Certificate of Merit changed teachers since he/she was last enrolled in CM?

If so, you need to complete a Change of Teacher Request Form.

To do this, log into your Teacher Home Page. Select CM Students -> New Student Registration -> Click YES to the FIRST question -> Fill out all the requested information.

A CCSR will complete your Change of Teacher Request within 48 hours. You can then re-enroll the student.

October 14, 2013 Tip of the Week

The Panel and YAG Guidelines, YAG Letter of Intent, and Panel Final Application are now posted on the teacher home page under resources/document.

The 2013-2014 YAG Branch Concert Agreement is posted on the teacher homepage under YAG on the left side of the screen.

Attention CM Voice Teachers! The Certificate of Merit Technique and Vocalises have been transposed into 5 different keys and are now posted on your teacher home page at www.mtac.org as a free download. Just click on CM Resources then documents to download. Your students may sing their technique and vocalise in any of these keys beginning with our next CM 2014.

- continued from page 1, column 3

🌟 October 21, 2013 Tip of the Week

How do I determine if repertoire is appropriate for CM?

"Original composition written specifically for the instrument being evaluated, and any repertoire listed in the appropriate instrument Syllabus."

Check the information in Section 1 of your CM Syllabus (Piano and Strings - page 10; Winds - pages 8-9; Voice - page 7; Harp - page 7).

CM Council cannot answer each specific repertoire question; we suggest you save questionable music for a studio recital or other performance. When in doubt, do not use the work for CM. The work may or may not be appropriate for CM evaluations, but it is not worth the risk of getting an IC.

NEW THIS YEAR:

CM Registration is from October 1 to October 31, 2013. Help us spread the word!

🌟 October 28, 2013 Tip of the Week

Happy Halloween!

Online CM Registration Information must be entered no later than Thursday, October 31, 2013. There is no late registration; no exceptions.

Check the following carefully:

- spelling of student's name
- instrument
- school grade
- CM Level
- Student's date of birth

Please, do not wait until the last day to register your students. COT's (change of teacher requests) may take 48 hours.

Branch Registration Materials must be sent to the Branch's CM Chair, or other Branch designee postmarked no later than Friday, November 1, with no exceptions. If CM teachers do not submit Branch Registration Materials by November 1, the Registration is void.

🌟 November 4, 2013 Tip of the Week

The Theme Recital for Conventions 2014 is Latin American and Spanish music, which includes:

- 1) music by composers who were born in those areas, or who spent most of their lives there, and
- 2) music in Latin American or Spanish style by

composers of any nationality. This will also include arrangements and transcriptions of Piazzolla's music.

What about Sarabandes? Sarabandes will probably not fit the Latin American and Spanish theme, unless written by a composer from those areas.

What about Scarlatti? Teachers should ask themselves several questions about a Scarlatti piece: "Does this Sonata sound of Spanish influence?" and "Am I teaching my student about Spanish music with this piece?" and "Does this piece fit the spirit of the Theme?" and "Will evaluators understand this as a Spanish piece?" If the answers are yes for a particular piece, then use it for a Theme recital. If not, remember Scarlatti Sonatas are syllabus pieces, so they qualify at the student's level for Festival recitals.

See the Theme Recital Information document on the MTAC Teacher Home Page for more information. Teachers should contact their branch CM Chair if there are any further questions.

🌟 November 11, 2013 Tip of the Week

The 2012 Piano Syllabus allows for all pieces in an anthology to be used for evaluations unless a "not" appears under the title of the book.

There are a few discrepancies between the anthologies and the Single Composers lists, in which a piece that has a "not" in the Single Composers list appears in an anthology. To avoid confusion, those few pieces will be allowed for evaluations.

Other than these few exceptions, music listed as "not" may not be used for the level, either as a syllabus piece or as another repertoire piece.

🌟 November 18, 2013 Tip of the Week

Students may choose to perform one ensemble piece (e.g. duet) during their CM Performance Evaluation. However, ensembles must be composed only of students who are individually enrolled in CM.

Ensembles may combine students of different levels and instruments, but the ensemble piece must be at the level of the highest-level student in the ensemble. Instrument solos with accompaniment are not accepted as Ensemble pieces.

For more information, please refer to the applicable instrument Syllabus. For questions, ask your Branch CM Chair.

- continued from page 1, column 3

🌟 November 25, 2013 🙌 Tip of the Week

The Certificate of Merit Council would like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving!

We hope that you will include in the things you are thankful for the opportunity as teachers to give the gift of music to our students.

🌟 December 2, 2013 🙌 Tip of the Week

Have a CM question? See the CM Policy and Procedures posted at your Teacher Home Site under Documents.

If you need more information or you have a specific branch question, send an e-mail to your Branch CM Chair.

CM Policy:

Questions or issues that cannot be resolved by the CM Teacher, and/or questions or issues from the CM Teacher, that require a response from the Branch or State, shall be directed as follows, and must be communicated by e-mail only.

- (1) CM Teacher to CM Branch Chair...if needed, the CM Branch Chair will refer to -

- (2) CM Council member(s) (e.g. appropriate Coordinator, Evaluator. Recital, Database personnel)...if needed, they will refer to -
- (3) CM Conflict Resolution Committee and/or State CM Chair.

Exception: After April 15th, teachers may contact Convention Recital Coordinators directly.

🌟 December 9, 2013 🙌 Tip of the Week

As it gets closer to January and entering repertoire into the database now is a good time to double check Syllabus requirements to avoid an Ineligible for Certificate.

Check the following:

- (a) number of pieces required per level and number needed to be memorized;
- (b) repertoire Categories;
- (c) technique for the student's registered level from the correct Syllabus;
- (d) specific Syllabus piece from the student's registered level;
- (e) Etude requirement (if any). 🎵

- continued from page 1

In recognition of this outstanding achievement, students who perform at one of the above Panel Award Division Recitals at the MTAC State Convention will be awarded the following at the end of the recital:

- (1) Panel Honors – a pin and a certificate printed with their name, instrument, and Panel Honors Performer.
- (2) Panel Master Class – a pin and a certificate printed with their name, instrument, and Panel Master Class Performer.
- (3) Young Artist Guild Recital – the Senior Medallion, a plaque, a rose, and a monetary award. 🎵



Please note that THIS IS A PAID contracted position – not a volunteer position

The MTAC Certificate of Merit Council is seeking to hire individuals to write the 2015 CM Theory Tests and to compose the CM Sight Reading Excerpts for Harp, Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello, Voice and Wind Instruments.

Applicants must:

- Own and have extensive experience with the Finale Notation Software,
- Have a keen sense of clean and neat formatting,
- Have a striving for excellence and perfection,
- Have extensive experience as a CM Teacher,
- Be well versed with the requirements in the CM Syllabus,
- Be able to honor instructions and deadlines set forth in the Test Materials Writer Guidelines,



- Be able to accept criticism and be willing to revise work if needed without complaints, and
- Be able to communicate regularly with Test Materials Coordinator via emails.

We are accepting applications until December 31, 2013, and we look forward to hearing from you!

If you are interested and/or want more information, click [HERE](#) to complete and submit an application form.

Or go to: <http://fs24.formsite.com/cmCouncil/newapplication/index.html>

1. Identify the interval for each of the six pairs between the selected key and the scale of C major. The interval is first degree. (1 point)

a. 3rd degree b. 4th degree c. 5th degree
d. 6th degree e. 7th degree f. 8th degree

2. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

3. Write a scale of an 8th degree interval and indicate the mode for the interval. The key signature contains three flats and the interval is a 2nd degree interval. (2 points)

4. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

5. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

6. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

7. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

8. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

9. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

10. Write a scale and indicate the mode for the following interval. (2 points)

11. Label each of these chords with its triad name. On the staff, label the notes with the letter name of the chord. (2 points)

Certificate of Merit™
Musical Knowledge Exam
2013
Technique and Sight Reading
Piano

Certificate of Merit™
Musical Knowledge Exam
2013
Cello Level 4

Certificate of Merit™
Musical Knowledge Exam
2013
Violin Theory Exams
All Levels