



Excellence in Music Education
Since 1897

Executive Director's Greeting



Happy September! It is hard to believe that summer has come to a close, school is back in session and MTAC is already a month into our new fiscal year.

The beginning of a new year can be energizing and bring new possibilities. Many projects have already been completed or are in full swing within the first six weeks of the fiscal year.

The MTAC Directory and Reference Guide has been completed by the State Office. Members can expect this publication to reach them in October. With the assistance of the New Online System, members were able to select what pieces of personal information would display in the MTAC Directory and Reference Guide or if they wished to be included at all. Members can edit their Directory Listing Options at any time from the Teacher Portal under My Profile>Settings.

2018 Convention planning is also underway. In August, State Office and State Board representatives visited the 2018 site for the Convention. Rooms were assigned to specific types of Convention events, placement of signage was planned and the configuration of the Exhibit Hall was designed. It should be a wonderful event. I cannot wait for the program to be unveiled by Janice Sheng, Convention Program Chair, and her committee. The hotel, the Hyatt Regency Orange County, is a beautiful site and is only 1.3 miles from Disneyland.

The Programs department has been busy working with State Chairs to prepare for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Please keep an eye out for new document postings for all State programs in the next few months.

It has been a productive first six weeks for MTAC. Big thanks to the State Office Team, State Board of Directors and State Chairs! As my second grader said after the first day of school, "It is going to be an awesome year!"

Rhonda Williams
Executive Director
Music Teachers' Association of California

**Introducing the Music Teachers' Association of California
2017-2019 State Board of Directors!**



President

Gwen Churchill, Sonoma County Branch

First Vice President

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Second Vice President

Janice Sheng, San Mateo County Branch

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Membership Secretary

Carol Townsend, Contra Costa County Branch

Director 1

Mindy Cabral, Santa Clarita Valley Branch

Director 2

Grace Macatangay Edwards, Delta Branch

Director 3

Debbie Siemer, Conejo Valley Branch

In Memoriam



Edward Anthony Francis, Jr., August 12, 1955 - July 6, 2017

Edward was a beloved member of MTAC, Co-President of the Conejo Valley Branch, Founder of the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic, Professor at his alma mater California State University Northridge as well as at Pepperdine University and Moorpark College. He was a true renaissance man. He is deeply missed.

[Click here to read more.](#)

State Office

MTAC is now on Social Media!



Click the buttons to follow us!

ASCAP

Please remember that all programs from Branch recitals, master classes, competitions and private studio recitals of MTAC members, can be mailed to the MTAC State Office Attn: ASCAP, 833 Market St., Suite 900, San Francisco, CA 94103 or emailed to Maria Mercado at mariam@mtac.org.
[Read More!](#)

State Office Spotlight

The State Office Team has had some wonderful additions recently. If you were at the 2017 Convention chances are good that you may have met them already. These were the ladies who registered you for Convention, checked you into a banquet or reception, and made the event run so smoothly as they hustled behind the scenes for all of the attendees. Click the link below to read about them.



[Read more!](#)

CMT Editor Search

MTAC is currently seeking an outstanding and creative individual to serve as Editor for *California Teacher Magazine*, the premier publication of the MTAC, published twice a year with a readership of over 4,700 members. Our content focuses on various aspects of music, pedagogy, and the business and profession of music teaching, to support and further MTAC's mission of pursuing excellence in music education and advancing the music teaching profession through innovative programs that foster artistic growth and achievement.

[Read more!](#)

Keys to Membership



With the new State Board officer change our previous State Membership Secretary, Marceline Lee, has moved on to the Recording Secretary. The State Office is pleased to welcome Carol Townsend as the new State Membership Secretary for 2017-2019. Carol has served 4 years as the Membership Secretary of the Contra Costa County Branch and brings knowledge, experience and creativity to the State Board. We look forward to working with her over the next two years. To view more information about Carol please click the link below.

[Read more!](#)

Online System Tips



Are you looking forward to the coming 2017-2018 year? The New Year comes with new responsibilities as well as new opportunities to grow and explore various MTAC Programs. For the new online system we have prepared some reminders about what you can do before the application season opens up as well as a quick summary of some of the changes to expect.

[Read more!](#)

Foundation

Hello! This is Veronica Reyes, your new and friendly Finance Associate from the MTAC State Office delivering the MTAC Foundation donation figures for fiscal year 2017 (August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017).

Over the last fiscal year, we have received an exciting \$93K in total donations. This called for a round of applause to all those who gave so generously:

- Individuals - \$14K
- Branches - \$16K
- Various Foundations and Organizations - \$63K

Through our donors, The MTAC Foundation continues to support its various quality music programs and events. The MTAC Foundation granted \$17K in awards, \$10K in scholarships and financial assistance to its students during the fiscal year 2017.

Let us continue in the commitment to pursue excellence in music education by keeping the Foundation always in your generous thoughts.

Here's hoping that Foundation donations during the fiscal year 2018 will surpass fiscal year 2017's figures!

To send in your donation:

- Write a check out to the MTAC Foundation
- Mark the program(s) of your choice for your donation

** Be sure the Branch name is on the check*

- Mail it to:

MTAC State Office
833 Market Street, Suite 900
San Francisco CA, 94103.

Thank you very much!

Veronica Reyes
MTAC Finance Associate



Friends of Today's Music



Three Dances for Flute, Violin & Piano by Composer Bruce Stark

Dr. Minji Noh, Friends of Today's Music Chair

The music of American composer Bruce Stark (born in San Diego) reflects the varied elements of his musical upbringing: early studies in percussion, jazz piano, and classical composition. He completed a Master's Degree in composition at the Juilliard School in 1984 as a student of Roger Sessions and Vincent Persichetti. Thereafter for more than twenty years he resided in Tokyo, producing a collection of works that reveal a compelling musical voice, drawing from a multiplicity of disciplines and sensibilities. In 2013 he returned to the U.S. and joined the music faculty of DigiPen Institute of Technology (Seattle area) as professor of composition and theory.

[Read More!](#)

Branch Highlights

Kern Branch

Donating Musical Instruments

Kern Branch Community Service Project

By Lee Cole

Kern Branch

Sometime early in 2016 MTAC member, Donna Calanchini, had a chance meeting with a new young social worker, Teri Abshier, at the California Keyboards store. Teri told her, because she had enjoyed band and orchestra so much in school, she wanted to start a music program for the foster children in her care. Teri works for the Jamison Emergency Children's Center -- where the Police and Fire Departments take children who are in danger or who are being neglected. But Teri had no budget, no books, and no instruments -- only an empty room she would be allowed to use.



...
KERN COUNTY
BRANCH

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MTAC Branch Highlight

Is your Branch hosting a special event or celebrating an anniversary? If so, we want to hear from you! Please submit your Branch information to Maria Mercado at mariam@mtac.org and we will include it in the MTAC News. Submission deadline for the next issue will be December 1, 2017.

Convention

Convention Program Chair

Sincere thanks to the teams of people who helped make the 2017 MTAC Convention "Breaking Barriers" a success: members of the State Board, the State Office, Convention Chair, Convention Program Team, CM Council, and those that presided and volunteered in numerous ways. Huge thanks to the Artists, Presenters, Keynote Speaker, Showcase Presenters and Exhibitors for joining us at this special event. Last but not least, we are thankful to our members, students and their family and friends that attended this culminating event of our organization.



Members' feedback via the post-Convention survey was very helpful. We also appreciated your encouraging words and suggestions for future Conventions.

The 2018 MTAC Convention Theme is "Peace Through Musical Harmony". The Convention Program Team consists of Janice Sheng, Nancy Woo and Jane Masur. We are looking forward to bringing you an enriching and memorable event! For updated information on the 2018 Convention, please visit: MTAC.org - Convention

Janice Sheng

2018 Convention Program Chair

Convention Information

*Peace through
Musical Harmony*



108TH

MTAC CONVENTION



JUNE 29 - JULY 3 2018

Hyatt Regency Orange County
Garden Grove, CA

Student Track



This year at our annual Convention in Santa Clara, we featured a student track that gave parents and students suggestions of events and concerts that might be of special interest to them. We provided a brochure showing the events at a glance throughout the five-day Convention. This was met with very positive comments, so MTAC will expand this track for the upcoming Convention at the Hyatt Regency Orange County June 29, 2018 through July 3, 2018.

[Read More!](#)

Convention Piano Policy

To keep our convention pianos in good working condition for the duration of the convention, teachers and artists are asked to refrain from selecting pieces for “prepared piano” for performance at the convention.

Specifically, works using any foreign object in the pianos or to strum, pluck or vibrate on the strings. Some limited use the hands inside the piano is allowed with certain restrictions.

Our pianos this year are being graciously provided by Steinway & Sons for our exclusive use. Please read the following paragraph to make sure our students are in compliance with the guidelines:

Hand-muting, string tapping, strumming or the plucking of the piano strings is allowed, as long as only the performer’s hands or fingers are used for these effects and the essential integrity and tuning of the piano is not affected. Not allowed is the insertion in the piano or on the strings of metallic objects, stones, paper or any other foreign object, intentional de-tuning of the strings or the excessive pounding of chord clusters, which has the danger of de-tuning the piano for following performers.

Programs

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Concerto and
Solo

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VOCE

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Thank you for reading MTAC News!

MTAC NEWS will be published on **December 15, 2017, March 15, 2018** and **May 15, 2018**. Deadlines for submissions are the first day of each of the above months. Please send any articles electronically to Maria Mercado, at mariam@mtac.org.

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