



CONTRA COSTA
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December Newsletter 2022



Dear Members,

December has arrived right on schedule! Short days, nights with festive lights and a chill in the air. Hello winter.

Foremost on my mind is our Holiday Party on December 15 @ 10a.m. in the Hilton Hotel Concord.

*Come join in for a holiday get-together. (This is a get-together party....not a 'Christmas' Party)
We are using up the credit left from the cancellation of the 2021 CM exams. This party belongs to everyone!!*

*If you have not yet done so, RSVP with this link: [Holiday Party RSVP](#).
Currently, we have approximately 30 sign-ups.
We still have plenty of room before we reach 55 people.*

We will have a piano available, so bring your festive/Hannukah/Christmas music to share.

Deadline for signing up is Tuesday December 6 at 11:59 PM

*If you have signed up already, please do not sign up again.
If we get more than 55 people interested, we will figure out a fair fee to charge everyone.*

There will be a music sale to benefit the HOHSS recital.

Bring some cash to purchase music from our music sale.

Come learn about MSSL and the kick-off efforts to purchase a new piano for OCC.

May your home be warm and your heart be light through the holiday season.

Warmly, Norma



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MEETINGS, PROGRAMS AND RECITALS

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Thursday January 19, 2023, we will have a brief business meeting prior to our January program.

Thursday May 18, 2023, we will have a brief business meeting, which will include the vote for the next CCMTAC board, roll out of 2023 Sonata Contest then following we will have some social time and box lunch.

FROM OUR PROGRAMS DIRECTORS:

Happy Winter everyone! Hope everyone had a full and fulfilling Thanksgiving week! First off, thank you to those for joining our first program of the year with Angelina Hardy and we hope everyone found it insightful on how to deal with students with anxiety.

Our next program will be on January 19, 2023 from 10:30 AM to 12 PM. Our guest lecturer and performer will be Dr. Betty Woo who will be introducing pieces suitable for students that are by "minorities" in the USA, such as African-American, Chinese-American, Arabian-American, Argentine-American, etc. This program will take place at Orinda Community Church following the CCMTAC Membership Meeting at 10 AM.

For those interested in the one after, Grant Kondo from the Santa Clara Branch will be presenting a lecture on the differences between music exams (specifically RCM vs. ABRSM vs. CM). This event will take place on Zoom on March 16, 2023 at 10 AM.

Hope to see everyone at these two events! More info to come as time gets closer. Happy Holidays!

Cynthia Ley and Amy Zheng
Co-Program Directors

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Deadlines are coming up. Check your MTAC portal to find out.

MONTHLY STUDENT RECITALS

The January Student and Adult recitals will be held on January 8, 2023 starting at 2 P.M. at Orinda Community Church. **The registration database will now close Friday, 9 days before the recital date.**

As you know, student waiver forms are a requirement for participation in all events held by CCMTAC.

To avoid undue stress and paperwork in running the monthly recitals, we have instituted a NEW POLICY: **Electronic signatures are mandatory to be signed by the Friday @ 10:00PM, 2 days before the recital. If this is not completed, the student will not be allowed to play in the Recital. There will be no signing of waiver forms at the recitals.**

We strongly recommend the wearing of masks during the recitals as well as the use of hand sanitizer. Students may remove their mask during the performance. We are continuing to clean the keys between performances to reduce any chance of transmission of colds or flu or you-know-what.

Upcoming Monthly Recital Dates: 1/8/23 (student & adult), 2/5/23, 3/5/23, 4/2/23, and 5/7/23 (student & adult).

Anne Russell, Recital Chair

TEACHERS' PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP

There is no Music Teachers' Performance Workshop planned for December. The next meeting is Thursday, Jan. 12 at my house at 10:00 a.m. Hope to see you then. Barbara



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CONTESTS AND FESTIVALS

SONATA CONTEST:

The 2022 Sonata Contest was held at the Orinda Community Church on November 12 with 150 students from 28 studios participating. The Contest had one round and was open to the public. Trophies and ribbons were awarded at the end of each group's audition. This year, we went back to the previous year's format offering two pieces from different time periods for each of 10 levels. Our judges were Victoria Neve, Betty Woo, Natsuki Fukasawa and Sonia Leong. Thank you to all the teachers who prepared students to participate this year, especially to those who helped with the contest before and on the day of the competition. We couldn't have done it without you!

For the Sonata Contest Committee,
Nadia Blank-Koliha (chair), Cynthia Ley

BAROQUE FESTIVAL:

Students wishing to take part in celebrating the spirit of Baroque Music can participate in our annual Baroque Music Festival January 27-28, 2023. The informational flyer for Baroque Festival 2023 has been posted to the CCMTAC website. It can be found under the "Branch Events" tab or after logging in and selecting the "Programs" button. Registration will be open **December 1 – 20**. Step-by-step instructions for how to register can also be found in the same locations as the flyer. Please note an **IMPORTANT CHANGE** in the 2023 Baroque Festival. Due to cost-prohibitive increases for the piano we traditionally rent for the Fellowship Hall, ***the upcoming Festival will be a dual-venue event held simultaneously at both Orinda Community Church (10 Irwin Way, Orinda) and Grace Presbyterian Church (2100 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek)***. The Baroque Festival Committee members are: Patti Lim, Angela Prickett, Amy Zheng, Kirsten West and Jeanette Dreifuerst.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASK HANS: In the periodical you receive from MTAC, 'The Music Teacher', is a column called "Ask Hans". We are very lucky to have a Dear-Abby-type forum to ask questions. Questions should be sent to cmt@mtac.org.

OUR DIRECTORY IS NOW ON-LINE: This year's membership directory will be found only online. All the information for the year can be found online at cmtac.com.

Current COVID policy: *Everywhere, mask mandates are lightening up. OCC does not have any mask mandate but recommends the use of them indoors. CCMTAC recommends masking indoors and requires all students to use the provided hand sanitizer immediately prior to playing piano. Students may unmask for the duration of their performance. Additionally, each CCMTAC event may vary requirements depending on the wishes/needs of the organizer or presenter. Please ask parents to comply with these requirements.*



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BERKELEY PIANO CLUB
announces
**The 2023 Dorothy Van Waynen
Competition for Piano**
\$3500 First Prize
\$2500 Second Prize
\$1000 Doris Marliave Award
and
A Recital at Berkeley Piano Club

General Requirements:

Age: Age 17-25 as of April 1, 2023

Residence: Resident of or attending school in one of the following counties:
Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara

Repertoire: Candidates will perform one work selected from **EACH** of the following periods:
1) Baroque OR Classical **2)** Romantic OR Impressionistic, AND
3) 21st Century/Contemporary, 20th Century, OR Own Composition
(Repertoire should be chosen to demonstrate three distinct styles and periods.)

Fee: \$50 - nonrefundable.

Deadline: Applications must be submitted by mail or delivery service and be post-marked no later than **MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023**. Berkeley Piano Club reserves the right to limit the number of entrants to a total of 20. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Auditions: Saturday, April 1 (Preliminaries) and Sunday, April 2, 2023 (Finals)
at Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste St., Berkeley

Recital: Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 2:30 pm at Berkeley Piano Club.

Complete competition rules and applications: berkeleypianoclub.org
or contact

Competition Coordinator
vanwaynen@comcast.net
(510) 893-7266 or (650) 787-1044