



CONTRA COSTA
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November 2023 Newsletter



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Here is a bit of fall beauty for YOU in our turbulent world.

I have a recommendation: if you are having trouble sleeping try the podcast, “ Nothing Much Happens”. Start back on episode, Rosemary For Remembrance (dated 10-6-2019).

I have included a comic toward the end of the newsletter. Hopefully, it will make you smile. 😊

Best, Norma



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PROGRAMS

Thursday, January 18, 2024.

Fellowship Hall, OCC

Baroque Dances with Marina Nikiforov

A new date has been scheduled for the Baroque Dances and it will be on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at OCC. We will look forward to getting our toes tapping just in time for the Baroque Festival!

In teaching our students pieces with titles such as Minuet, Contradance, Allemande, Courante, Bourrée, Waltz, etc. have you ever wished you knew how to do the dance or knew more about the history of these dances?

Marina Nikiforov has been a music teacher and a dance enthusiast for over twenty years. She has been giving workshops and conducting cultural events that inspire audiences to move with music in a rhythmical and harmonious way known as dance! Marina is looking forward to sharing her passion for Historical Dance at this presentation.

Thursday, February 29, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall, OCC

BENITA ROSE, Concert pianist/organist, teacher

We are fortunate to have pianist, Benita Rose, come and give a lecture recital on the music of South American composer M. Fernandez-Barrero. Ms. Rose is an accomplished pianist who has toured extensively and also happens to be a personal friend of our very own Norma Bristol!

Sunday, April 14, 2024

Piano Masterclass with Natuski Fukasawa

Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Location to be determined. Open to CM levels 6 and above



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MONTHLY RECITALS

The next Monthly Recital date is November 5. There will be two recitals this Sunday at 2:00 PM and 3:30 PM. The next Monthly Recitals are scheduled for January 7, February 4, March 3, April 7, and May 5.

We will be contacting teachers to co-host in 2024. It is necessary to have two Hosts for each recital. Teachers will be a required to volunteer to help as we move forward with the Monthly Recital Program. Teachers who enter their students in Baroque Festival and Sonata contest are required to help. The Monthly Recital Program is a complex and much needed program to enrich the performance capabilities of our students.

Programs will no longer be printed. Teachers have already been sent the QR code to pass on to parents if they wish to print the program. Additionally, the QR code will be posted upon entry to the narthex.

Reminders about Deadlines: Registration closes 10 days before a recital-Fridays at 10 pm. The waiverfile closes automatically 2 days before a recital at 10 PM. Please remind your parents that we now have a Recital Fee of \$11. per Student to be paid in the waiverfile before exiting. Thank you, Anne Russell and Sara Harris, co-chair.



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SONATA CONTEST

The Sonata Contest is scheduled for **Saturday, November 11** at the **Orinda Community Church**. As a reminder, waivers will need to be signed online by **Thursday, November 9 at 11:59 PM**.

Students who are performing need to arrive 15 minutes prior to their performance time. Due to a tight performance schedule, there is no guarantee your student will be allowed to perform if they arrive late. All teachers, parents, and families are welcome to attend the competition.

Please let Nadia or Cynthia know if your student needs to drop out.

Here are the performance start times:

| Sanctuary | Fellowship |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2A - 8:30 AM | 1A - 8:30 AM |
| 2B - 9:10 AM | 1B - 9:10 AM |
| 4A - 9:45 AM | 3A - 9:40 AM |
| 4B - 10:45 AM | 3B - 11 AM |
| 6A - 11:40 AM | 5A - 11:35 AM |
| 6B - 1:30 PM | 5B - 1:30 PM |
| 8A - 2:15 PM | 7A - 2:30 PM |
| 8B - 3:15 PM | 7B - 3:25 PM |
| 9A - 4:10 PM | 9B - 3:50 PM |
| 10B - 4:50 PM | 10A - 4:45 PM |



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The announcement of results and the award ceremonies will be directly after the level group in the Music Room.

Please do **NOT** pick up your teacher envelopes with evaluation forms during the contest. Envelope pick up will be at both Lamorinda Music and Nadia's house.

As a reminder, please note that **NO REPEATS** should be played. The D.C. al Fine in the Clementi Sonatina Op.36, No.2 for level 6A SHOULD BE OBSERVED *if* your edition has it (in some editions that section is written out.)

Nadia Koliha, Cynthia Ley -Co-chairs

TEACHER PERFORMANCE AND SHARING WORKSHOP

The next Performance and Sharing Workshop is Thursday, November 9 at 10:00 [p.m.at](#) my house. We can return to the living room with the two pianos. We will welcome new participants who want an opportunity to perform or share their teaching issues and successes.

Barbara Anderson



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BAROQUE FESTIVAL

Our branch Baroque Festival will take place on January 26-27th, 2024 with recitals happening on Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon. Event and registration details can be found on the flyer located on the CCMTAC website under Branch Events then Baroque Festival. Registration will be open December 1-20. If you need a refresher on signing up your students there is also a Step By Step Instruction page located next to the flyer. Students may perform any Baroque piece of their choice following the same guidelines used for Certificate of Merit. Our slate of evaluators this year are Richard Cionco, Natsuki Fukasawa, JungHae Kim, Victoria Neve, Omri Shimron and Kavita Baliga.

Baroque Festival Committee: Jeanette Dreifuerst, Patti Lim, Angela Prickett, Kirsten West and Amy Zheng.

HONOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

TBA in the new year.



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NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONTESTS

Sonor Music School, located in Lafayette, CA, is holding their Annual Themed Solo Festival in November and their Piano Competition in January.

We would love to showcase your talented students' hard work and share their music by encouraging them to perform as much as possible!

Sonor Music and Ayush Bolor would like to ask for your help in spreading the news about our events. Posters for each event can be found online. Details are below to share them with your students. Thank you!!

1. Annual Themed Solo Festival

1. About: Welcome to Sonor Music School's annual themed music festival! This year's theme is "The Sound of Nature", highlighting pieces that let the audience hear the music in flora and fauna. We invite participants of all levels and talents to join us in this celebration of music and talent. The themed music festival offers young musicians a platform to perform and experience friendly competition, developing confidence in their potential. Our aim is to find performers with a strong artistic personality and stage presence. The emphasis is therefore not on the purely technical aspect of the performance, but also on the artistic charisma of the performer.
2. Online and In-person options. ONLINE: November 10th, 2023 and IN-PERSON: November 18th, 2023 at Creekside Commons, Lafayette, CA
3. Open to all levels, no age limit; 6 levels
All participants will receive judges' comments, certificates and a medal. 3 Winners for each level!

2. Sonor Piano Competition



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1. About: Welcome to Sonor Music School's first-ever Piano Competition! We aim to promote Mongolian Classical Piano Music through young talented musicians who can explore new sounds, experience the power of creativity, and develop their musical diversity and versatility through their performances. Aside from just competing, we hope our participants use this opportunity to challenge themselves and grow further as musicians and artists. It is a journey of dedication, practice, and self-discovery. We encourage those residing in the Bay Area to attend the in-person competition.
2. 2 platforms. ONLINE: January 20th, 2024 and IN-PERSON: January 27th, 2024 at Creekside Commons, Lafayette, CA
3. Open to all levels, ages 5-18 and 6 levels
4. Awards: 36 laureates, \$5000 monetary prizes in total and winners concert~

For more information about us and/or our events, feel free to visit our [website](#). We are also on Facebook: Sonor Music School and Instagram @sonormusicschool.

Thank you for your support! I hope to hear back from you soon.

Best Regards, Bolor

Peninsula Symphony is proud to announce the 2024 Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition.

Featuring skilled performances by the Bay Area's finest young pianists, many of our award recipients have continued their musical pursuits in prestigious conservatories and have also been awarded top prizes in major national and international competitions. The competition will take place in the **Campbell Recital Hall in the Braun Music Center at Stanford University**, and will be open for the public to spectate for free.

The first prize winner of the Senior Level will receive \$1000 and a solo performance with the Peninsula Symphony. Three winners will be chosen in the Junior Level, each receiving \$100 as well as a solo performance at the Peninsula Symphony's Family Concert on **April 7, 2024**.



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The Junior and Senior Level competitions are open to participation by young pianists residing in the Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. The application forms and competition guidelines for both the Senior and Junior Levels can be found at

<https://peninsulasymphony.org/marilyn-mindell-piano-competition>

Please contact Heidi Hau at mmpc@peninsulasymphony.org or Diego Ramil at mmpcassistant@gmail.com with any questions. We look forward to having many of your students perform in the upcoming Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition!

**STILL AVAILABLE GREAT PIANO OFFER
FOR STUDENTS OR TEACHERS!!!
PASS IT ON.**

Need foster home or buyer for Baldwin baby grand!

Our mother Doreen MacDonald was President of CCMTAC in 1979. She passed in 2006 and left us her beloved 1979 BALDWIN 5' 2" baby grand. We recently had it appraised and it was found to be in excellent condition. If you or any of your students are interested, please contact Cheryl at: cheryl@cmacd.com or 510-421-0102. The piano is currently in East Lafayette and needs to be moved in the next month or so. Picture available upon request.



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Hello CCMTAC!

First off, thank you to all the performers for joining us at our last performance in September! It was very successful and we had a variety of many different instruments including the piano, cello, violin and flute! If you could not make it to the last performance, there will be a new one coming up! Join us on Sunday, November 26 from 3-4:00 pm at the Reutlinger Community in Danville. To sign up, please visit our website <https://www.msslmusic.com/>. We are still accepting new members and if you are interested you can sign up through our website too. We hope to see you at our next performance!

-From the MSSL officers

Below are a few pictures from our last performance





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