



CONTRA COSTA
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October Newsletter 2023



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The colors on the trees have not quite started changing yet, but the pumpkins and costumes have appeared (in the stores). Enjoy the changing season.

Best, Norma

PROGRAMS

October 19 Dance the Dances DON'T MISS THIS!!!!

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?

If so, then come to OCC on Oct. 19 at 10:30 a.m. to learn the basics (no prior experience expected or needed) under the expert guidance of **Marina Nikiforov**. Marcia Berryman and I had the opportunity to participate in one of her workshops and we had so much fun and learned so much that I wanted to share this experience with all of you! I hope you can come!

Feel free to bring your lunch for afterwards for some social time.



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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

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!

Masterclass coming in April 2024

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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MONTHLY RECITALS

Monthly Recital dates for this new season are scheduled at Orinda Community Church on October 1, November 5, January 7, February 4, March 3, April 7, May 5. Closing of the Registration page continues to be at 10 PM on the Friday ten days before the Recital. The Waiver Portal closes on Friday at 10 PM two days before the Recital. **One change has been made regarding the signing of the Waiver Forms: Parents will be required to pay a Recital Fee of \$11 to complete the signing of the Waiver. The prompt for payment will show up after all the information is entered.**

We will continue to clean the keys between each performer.

Sara Harris has graciously volunteered to be the new Co-Chair for the Monthly Recitals. Thank you, Sara! I still need a volunteer to help host January or February Recitals contact me by text or phone call at 925-212-1675 or acrstudio@wavecable.com

Thank you.

Anne Russell, Monthly Recital Chair

TEACHER PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP

Teachers' Performance Workshop

We had a great September meeting of performers. listener and sharing of teaching compositions.

November 12 is the next meeting, again at my house at 10:00 A,M. We should be able to return to the living room with the two pianos. Hope to see all of you then. Please let me know if you plan to attend.



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SONATA CONTEST

The Sonata Contest is scheduled for **Saturday, November 11** at the **Orinda Community Church**. **Please be on the lookout for the parental waivers**. As a reminder, waivers will need to be signed **ONLINE ONLY** by **Thursday, November 9 at 11:59 PM**. No printed waivers will be accepted at the door on the day of the competition. **Students without signed waivers will not be allowed to perform.** For the Contest rules, procedures, and teacher's work requirements (changed this year), please visit Sonata Contest General Information page on the branch website at ccmtac.com. To access the General Information document, log in to your account. Then click "Programs". Under Sonata Contest, there will be a button for "General Information."

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

BAROQUE FESTIVAL

The 2024 Baroque Festival will take place on January 26 & 27, 2024 at Orinda Community Church.

HONOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

TBA in the new year.



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NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DVC Solo Piano Concert



Brandon Wong will be performing Bach, Beethoven, Debussy, Brahms, Chopin, and more.

The performance will be held at Diablo Valley College, Music Building, Room M101 in Pleasant Hill. Use this [link](#) for directions and park at DVC Lot 1. The Music Building is the round building directly adjacent to the parking lot.

Please join us on Sunday, October 15 at 2:00 PM for the concert. Refreshments to follow.

Kindly RSVP by October 5.



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JOB OPPORTUNITY: TEACHING POSITIONS OPEN

I'm Robert Konkle, Owner and Executive Director of Village Music School and Village Center for the Arts. I am reaching out to thoughtful leaders in education to help connect kind, professional instructors with current teaching opportunities (piano, guitar, violin, Musical Theatre) with Village.

Kindness and support are at the heart of our school and with an average teacher tenure of seven (7) years amongst our current staff, we are proud of the supportive environment we provide our teachers, students and families.

With locations in Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek we are entering the new school year with student placement in high demand. If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities here at Village, know of a colleague or advanced student who would benefit, we would love to hear from you.

We've attached a flyer that provides a small window into our school and [a link to our job post](#) as found on Indeed for your review.

Job Opportunity: Organist needed

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church on Michael Lane in Layette is looking for an organist. Do you know anyone who is interested in playing a small pipe organ and piano for Sunday services? Do you know of a student who is interested in a part time job or more music playing experience?

For more information, contact: **iris Hillman** <iris_hillman@comcast.net>



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Do you have an interest in helping CCMTAC be more social?

Would you like to be a social media coordinator for CCMTAC to so prospective students can find teachers who have openings? Contact Norma Bristol.

Piano Technology course comes to Las Positas College:

The LPC Music Department has created the Institute of Piano Technology to teach tuning, voicing, regulation and basic repairs on all types of pianos. Please read and share the attached press release with any colleagues and students who may be interested. Included is contact information if anyone has questions; the course begins instruction on September 1st.

Additionally, here is the Institute link on the college's website:

https://laspositascollege.edu/music/institute_of_piano_technology.php

Keep the music playing! ~ Tracy Scott, Friend of LPC Music Department



Hello CCMTAC!

MSSL is back for the new school year! We now have a brand new website so make sure to check it out! Here is the link: <https://www.msslmusic.com/>. We have our first performance of this school year coming up. It will be on September 23rd, 3-4 pm at Ivy Park in Pleasanton. We encourage your students to sign up for this event. Students can receive six volunteering hours for this performance. The form to sign up can be found on the homepage of our website. MSSL is also recruiting new members. If your student is interested, the member sign up form can be found under the "forms" page.

From the MSSL officers: We hope to see you there!





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Diablo Symphony season:

The Diablo Symphony Orchestra is excited to open its 2023-24 season at the Leshner Center for the Arts on Sunday, Sept. 17, with a concert featuring solo pianist and teacher Randall Benway, and hopes many area music students will be able to enjoy the special program as well.

Beginning at 2 p.m., the program includes Beethoven's Lyrical Piano Concerto No. 4, as well as Jean Sibelius's Symphony No. 1 and orchestral tone poem "Finlandia." The piano solo that opens the concerto, the solidary clarinet and timpani passage that opens the symphony, and the hymn-like melody of "Finlandia" (later adopted for the hymn "Be Still My Soul") characterize a program that brings innovation, compelling rhythms, and strikingly beautiful melodies to the stage.

Details of this concert, as well as information about the symphony's new season, are found on its website at www.diablosymphony.org. In addition to the September 17 concert, the season offers:

- Tickets for individual concerts are \$40 for adults and \$10 for youth 13–17 (or 18 for youth still in high school). Children 12 and under are free, and a discount of \$30 each is available for groups of 10 or more seniors. Season and individual tickets can be purchased at the Leshner Center for the Arts box office (925-943-7469; 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek), or online through the DSO's website at <https://www.diablosymphony.org/2023-2024-season-joy-beauty-and-all-that-jazz/>.

Questions can also be sent to me by return email, or by phone or text to the cell number below.

We hope to see you at the symphony!

Helen Duncan, Vice President, Diablo Symphony Association

IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THIS YET, PLEASE DO!! Insurance Information and Fees for Studio Recitals at Orinda Community Church (OCC)

August 21, 2023

Dear Members,

The following information relates to the use of Orinda Community Church (OCC) for your studio recitals.

CCMTAC has an agreement with OCC whereby CCMTAC members can hold their personal studio recitals at OCC for the rate of \$170. Additionally, you will write a check for \$30 made payable to CCMTAC. This new charge, as promised, goes directly to



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repayment of the loan and maintenance for our new Steinway piano housed in the Fellowship Hall.

Liability insurance for Studio recitals:

- 1.) OCC requires proof of liability insurance to anyone renting their facilities (as do many other venues). This can be called a Certificate of Insurance (COI).
- 2.) CCMTAC and MTAC DO NOT COVER this liability insurance for individual member purposes. CCMTAC holds liability coverage for branch events, but NOT for events held by individual members for their own businesses. When you call OCC to schedule your recital, you will be asked to obtain a COI. It is your responsibility to do so. Again, CCMTAC and MTAC do not provide this coverage.

Potential resources for obtaining liability insurance:

- 1) Contact your own insurance agent to discuss your business liability needs and coverage, including studio events held outside your home.
- 2) Obtain event insurance from a resource such as eventhelper.com. Such vendors offer insurance for one single event at a time. Search online for “event insurance”. **Note:** Event insurance is needed only if you cannot obtain the requisite COI (Certificate of Insurance) from your business policy.
- 3) Search online for “small business liability insurance”. You will find many potential vendors listed.

Final thoughts:

Although, this year, rentals are more expensive, you will find OCC is still a less-expensive option. FYI: Many teachers recoup their recital expenses by charging a recital fee.

If you would like to share how/where you have or found insurance coverage for your events, please email that info to Norma Bristol at ncbristol@gmail.com to help compile resources for other members.



That's All Folks!!