



# MTAC OCC NEWSLETTER

February 2016

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## President's Message

I'm sure this finds most of you in the midst of working hard with your CM students. As always, please read carefully ALL info. from our incredibly hardworking CM chair, Anne Prestridge. Please make sure you submit your required teacher work assignment by Feb. 8th. CM only runs smoothly when everyone does their part. Let's try to make CM 2016 as easy as possible for our wonderful CM team.

I hope you made it to our Jan. branch meeting. We were treated to a very interesting talk by one of our experienced and talented vocalist members, Linda Rose Linnebach (don't you just love her name!?). Linda's talk was titled, "Staying Connected: What's breath got to do with it?" Her talk about breathing was much more than about the breath aspect for vocalists. I was personally touched by some of the words she quoted, words that reached beyond just musicians:

"Breath is the response to emotion. Without breath, life is not sustainable. As musicians, we must breathe life to breathe life into the music."

"Bring awareness to the body and emotional response by focusing on how the breath and the music move us, rather than us controlling the movement of the breath and the music."

(And... my personal favorite): "If you're holding your breath in any way, part of you is absent."

Powerful words, for sure. Thank you again, Linda!

Please join us for our branch meeting on **Feb. 10th at Maxine Casper's piano studio in Laguna Hills**. We are honored to have the very delightful piano duo of Pinio (Penny) Dovalis Benetatos and Katheryn (Kathy) Klein for a two-piano performance. This experienced duo seeks out especially interesting two-piano repertoire, and for this performance will be including a few Debussy pieces that are rarely heard. You don't want to miss this! I hope to see you there.

My best, always,  
Nancy

# Calendar

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## January 2016

January 30 Baroque Festival at Saddleback College

January 31 **DEADLINE for CM STUDENT FORMS to be Completed On-Line at [www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org) by 11:59 PM**

### LOCATION KEY

**MVCC** = Mission Viejo

Civic Center

**LHCC** = Laguna Hills

Community Center

## February 2016

February 6 **DEADLINE for February 27 Community Service Recital**

February 7 Chamber Ensemble Recital (LHCC) at 2:00 PM

February 10 **DEADLINE for Bach Festival online registration ([www.scjbf.org](http://www.scjbf.org))**. Mail fees and student list to Itoe Akimoto.

February 10 Wednesday Branch Meeting (Maxine Casper's Studio). Penny Douvalis Benetatos & Katheryn Klein – *"Two Piano Recital"* <<< **PLEASE NOTE UPDATED LOCATION**

February 13 VOCE Festival at Saddleback College

February 21 Panel Regional Auditions (South) at Saddleback College

February 27 Community Service Recital (Freedom Village) at 2:00 PM

## March 2016

March 5 Bach Festival at Geneva Presbyterian Church, Laguna Woods

March 5 CM Strings Evaluations, Saddleback College

March 8 **DEADLINE for Composers Today State Contest entry ([www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org))**

March 12-13 CM Piano Theory Testing, Saddleback Room, MVCC

March 12 CM Keyboard Evaluations – Private Studios

March 13 CM Keyboard Evaluations – Saddleback College

March 15 **DEADLINE for Composers Today Improvisation Celebration application ([www.mtac.org](http://www.mtac.org))**

March 19 CM Voice Evaluations – Faith Episcopal Church

March 19 CM Keyboard Evaluations – Saddleback College

March 20 CM Voice Evaluations – Saddleback College

March 26 CM Keyboard Evaluations – Saddleback College

March 28 **DEADLINE for April Showcase Recital**

# Branch Meeting Preview

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Penny Douvalis Benetatos & Katheryn Klein

## “Two Piano Recital”

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM

Located at Maxine Casper’s Studio

25691 Rapid Falls Road, Laguna Hills, CA 92653

Pianists, Pinió Dovalis Benetatos and Katheryn Klein began their musical association in 1988 and are now celebrating 28 years as duo pianists. Both are alumnae of USC, receiving their Master’s Degree in Piano Performance. Their innovative programs (often arranged by them) combine standard repertory with unusual transcriptions.

Pinió and Katheryn have appeared with symphony orchestras of Aliso Viejo, Long Beach Community College, Orange Coast College, San Juan Capistrano, and San Fernando Valley, performing Poulenc’s *Concerto for Two Pianos in D Minor*, Mozart’s *Concerto for Two Pianos, K365*, Saint-Saens’ *Carnival of the Animals*, and Orff’s *Carmina Burana*. They have been featured artists for Orange County based Meritage Vocal Arts, performing Stravinsky’s *Petroushka*, the Finale from Beethoven’s *9th Symphony for Two-Pianos and Chorus*, Brahms *Liebeslieder Waltzes, Op. 52*, the West Coast Premiere of Tchaikovsky’s *Nutcracker Suite* arranged by Nicolas Economou, Smetana’s *The Moldau*, and Dello Joio’s *Song of the Open Road for Two Pianos, Trumpet and Chorus*.

This team has donated a number of their concert proceeds to various non-profit organizations, including churches to assist in their Music Ministry programs, Child Abuse Prevention of Southern California, and Arts and Services for the Disabled. In 2017 they will present a special concert to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities (date to be set). This concert will also feature Southern California Children’s Chorus as well as local artists: soprano, Grace Lee and tenor, Dennis Coppens.

Benetatos and Klein are active members of MTAC, MTNA, CAPMT, and the National Guild of Piano Teachers. Throughout the years, they have presented lecture/recitals for various branches in Southern California. Pinió maintains a busy teaching schedule at her private studio in Cypress and hold the position of pianist/organist at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Fountain Valley. Katheryn maintains a music studio in Costa Mesa, is on the teaching staff at A – Muse Music Center in Palos Verdes and accompanist for Congregation B’Nai Tzedek in Fountain Valley.

They will indeed be “Dancing on the Keys” for this program! Included will be Stravinsky’s *Tango*, Brahms *Hungarian Dances*, a set of dance pieces by Lecuona and Dett (including the well-known, *Malagueña*), the rarely performed *Lindaroja* and *Marche Ecossaise sur un Theme Populaire* by Debussy.

# Certificate of Merit

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Piano and General Chair – Anne Prestridge, [anneprestridge@gmail.com](mailto:anneprestridge@gmail.com)

String Chair – Gloria Liu Traullé, [gltraulle@yahoo.com](mailto:gltraulle@yahoo.com)

Voice Chair – Kathleen Martin, [voiceclassics@cox.net](mailto:voiceclassics@cox.net)

Piano Repertoire Expert – Marina Sakach, [marina@innertech.com](mailto:marina@innertech.com)

Teacher Volunteer Work Scheduler – Keiko Ikeda, [toneofbell@gmail.com](mailto:toneofbell@gmail.com)

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**THE CM DATABASE AT MTAC.ORG OPENS JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> AND CLOSES JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup> at 11:59 PM**

## Teacher Volunteer Work Requirement

**ALL TEACHERS:** Please sign up for working at CM events. Signups close February 8th. Click or copy and paste this HTML address on your browser: <http://signupschedule.com/cm2015teacherwork>

The teacher volunteer work requirement is based on the number of students a teacher registered in the Fall.

**Dropped students do not lessen your work requirement.**

### Number of Students / Work Requirement

1-4 = ½ day

5-8 = 1 day

9-12 = 1 ½ days

13-16 = 2 days

17-20 = 2 ½ days

21-24 = 3 days

25-28 = 3 ½ days

29-32 = 4 ½ days

33-36 = 5 days

37-40 = 5 ½

### BRANCH EVALUATION DATES

#### PIANO TEACHERS:

Day 1 = Saturday, March 12th - Private Studios

Day 2 = Sunday, March 13th - Saddleback College

Day 3 = Saturday, March 19th - Saddleback College

Day 4 = Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> - Saddleback College

Piano Theory Testing: Saturday, March 12th and

Sunday March 13th – Mission Viejo Civic Center

#### STRING TEACHERS:

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> – Saddleback College

#### VOICE TEACHERS:

Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Faith Episcopal Church  
(AM & PM)

Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> – Saddleback College (PM)

Note: Piano students can take their theory test on either day and can start their theory test as early as 9:00 AM and as late as 3:00 PM. Upper level students should start their test no later than 2:00 PM.

**The Work Schedule for ALL Teachers** will be posted on the **branch website** in mid February. Any questions concerning working CM, please contact Keiko Ikeda [toneofbell@gmail.com](mailto:toneofbell@gmail.com).

**The Piano Student Evaluation Schedule** will be posted on the **branch website** in mid February.

**Directions to Evaluation Venues and Other Information** will be posted on the branch website in mid February.

**Branch Honors Recital** – directions on how to confirm your students chosen for Branch Honors on branch website will be posted on the branch website in early March. The Branch Honors Recitals will be held April 17 at the **Laguna Hills Community Center**.

**Important Note:** If a student has not memorized a piece, the student must provide a second original score for the Evaluator. *A photocopy may NOT be used as a second copy.* Tablets and digital scores are not allowed for privacy and liability reasons.

## Tips for Test Preparation

**Technique:** Have your student practice playing through all of their CM level technique without stopping or needing prompts by evaluator. Time your students and have them time themselves. They must play their technique within the time allotted which is stated at every level in the syllabus.

**Theory:** Read the syllabus theory requirements carefully of the level of each of your students. Give your students practice theory tests. Previous years tests can be purchased from [mtac.org](http://mtac.org) or by calling the State office.

**Repertoire:** Students can play their pieces in any order. Students can choose to play their technique, sight reading or repertoire first. Also teach students to flexible in case they get an evaluator that tells them what to play first.

Best wishes,

Anne Prestridge, CM General Chair and Piano Chair  
[anneprestridge@gmail.com](mailto:anneprestridge@gmail.com)

## PIANO RENTALS

Good quality console and studio uprights available for rent and purchase. **Your students can experience the touch and tone of a real piano for as little as \$35 per month.** A great solution for students who are now trying to learn on keyboards or inferior, old pianos.

**For more information, please contact Accent Piano Service:**  
**(949) 240-7568 or [accentpianoservice@gmail.com](mailto:accentpianoservice@gmail.com)**

Larry Pisano, RPT

## CM Important Dates 2016

Jan. 2: Database opens for entering student repertoire online.

Jan. 15: Deadline for PANEL Student repertoire entry. Deadline for Panel Student reverting back to regular level of CM

**Jan. 31: Database closes for repertoire entry at 11:59 PM**

Feb. 21: Student Evaluation Schedule emailed to teachers and posted on branch website mtacocc.org

Feb. 21: PANEL Regional Auditions (South), Saddleback College

March 5: STRINGS Evaluation and Theory, Saddleback College

March 10: Postmark deadline for the PANEL Final Application

March 10: Deadline for PANEL student theory tests to be completed and score inputted into database.

**March 12 and 13: PIANO Theory Testing, Mission Viejo Community Center, Saddleback Room**

**Note: Piano students can take their test either day and can start their theory test as early as 9:00 AM and as late as 3:00 PM. Upper level students should start their test no later than 2:00 PM.**

March 12: PIANO Evaluations (Day 1), Private Studios

March 13: PIANO Evaluations (Day 2), Saddleback College

March 19: PIANO Evaluations (Day 3), Saddleback College

March 19: VOICE Evaluations (Day 1, All Day), Faith Episcopal Church

March 20: VOICE Evaluations (Day 2, PM), Saddleback College

March 26: PIANO Evaluations (Day 4), Saddleback College

April 1-2: Panel Final Auditions

April 7: Branch Honors Recital deadline for info to be entered online at mtacocc.org

April 15: Convention Application deadline and \$30 per student fee due

April 15: Deadline to apply for Evaluation Make-Up (MUP's). Only high school students with legitimate emergencies are eligible

April 17: BRANCH HONORS RECITAL, Laguna Hills Community Center

May 15: Deadline for completion of Make-Up Evaluations (Performance).

May 15: Teachers must check the Convention Student Performance Schedule after this date, for student performance times.

May 31: Deadline for teachers to report database entry errors. No changes made after this date.

July 1-5: 2016 MTAC CONVENTION, Hilton, Los Angeles Airport

# Bach Festival 2016

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Festival Chair – Lisa Iwaki, (949) 439-5623, [arioso.notes@gmail.com](mailto:arioso.notes@gmail.com)  
Co-Chair – Itoe Akimoto, (949) 951-1677, [akimoto@cox.net](mailto:akimoto@cox.net)  
Regional Chair – Pamela Worcester, (949) 581-1467, [pocky@cox.net](mailto:pocky@cox.net)  
Hospitality – Jin Cho, (949) 380-9687

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Southern  California  
Junior Bach Festival

**Saturday, March 5, 2016 at Geneva Presbyterian Church** (24301 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods)

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 11:59 PM**

**Entry Fee:** \$25 each

## Repertoire Information

**MTAC, Orange Coast Cities Branch Rule: Pieces from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook will NOT be accepted for the Bach Festival.** Students playing works from the AMB Notebook should enter the Baroque Festival instead. Students may play in either the Baroque or the Bach Festival, but not both.

Teachers interested in the 2016 Complete Works Official List can find this on the SCJBF website.

## Registration Instructions

The 2016 student applications will be available online from November 1st at <http://www.scjbf.org>. Before registering your students, you must check the box that says, I have read and I accept the rules that apply to students and teachers entering the Southern California Junior Bach Festival.

If you registered students last year, their information will still be listed under Student Profiles. Please delete the students that have graduated or are no longer your students. You will need to use the same user name and password. In addition, remember to update your teacher info (new email or address). Direct website questions to the webmaster, Dave Weisbart. Please contact Pamela Worcester, Bach Region V Chair, at 949-581-1467 or [pocky@cox.net](mailto:pocky@cox.net) for other questions.

Do NOT try to register on our branch website [mtacocc.org](http://mtacocc.org).

Please mail the following items to **Itoe Akimoto at 25582 Maximus Street, Mission Viejo, CA 92691** OR bring them to the January 13th Branch Meeting.

- 1) A print out of your students from the [scjbf.org](http://scjbf.org) website

- 2) A check made payable to MTAC, Orange Coast Cities Branch: \$25 x the number of students entered + postage. You do not need to include postage if you intend to pick-up the results.

*If you know you cannot attend this meeting and wish to have the result packet mailed back to you, please include \$5.60 for postage (USPS Priority Mail flat rate) in your check along with the student registration fees. No cash will be accepted!*

**Absolutely no changes or additions will be made after the February 10th deadline!**

## Branch Recitals

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### Community Service Recitals

Co-Chair: Laura Combs, (949) 233-2806, [lauralinda@cox.net](mailto:lauralinda@cox.net)

Co-Chair: Angela Leu, (949) 697-2888, [leulu88@yahoo.com](mailto:leulu88@yahoo.com)

#### Saturdays at 2 PM at Freedom Village in Lake Forest

Next recital dates: January 24 and February 27 (deadline February 6)

The fees are \$5 per student. If there any ensembles, each student in the group will pay \$5. (For example, a duet will be charged \$10 total.) Register online registration at [www.mtacocc.org](http://www.mtacocc.org). Send fees and student list printed off the web registration page to Laura Combs. Refer to "Branch Documents" on our branch website for more information. The deadline will be 3 weeks prior to the recital or the first 15 students to register (whichever happens first). All pieces must be performed from memory.

## News and Announcements

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### Branch Yearbook Updates

If your contact information has changed or needs to be updated, please email Lisa Iwaki (Membership Secretary) at [arioso.notes@gmail.com](mailto:arioso.notes@gmail.com).

### Upcoming Saddleback College Concerts

HAPPENING/UNHAPPENING 5 INTO THE VOID

**Friday, February 5 at 7:30 PM**

A fusion of improvised music, theatre, speech, dance, and art performance dedicated in loving memory of Richard White. Studio Theatre. \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door



SEQUENCES AND SPIRALS; EXPLORING FIBONACCI NUMBERS THROUGH MUSIC, DANCE, MATH, AND THE VISUAL ARTS

**Wednesday, February 10 at 7:30 PM**

**Thursday, February 11 at 7:30 PM**

An interdisciplinary collaboration featuring music and dance premieres from Norman Weston and Deidre Cavazzi, fascinating short lectures about the Fibonacci numbers, and an outside art gallery of student work. McKinney Theatre. *\$10 general; \$7 students/seniors (presale only).*

JAZZ STUDIES PRESENTS

**Thursday, February 18 at 7:30 PM**

Ryan Keberle (trombonist/composer/educator) and Catharsis. *\$10 general; \$17 students/seniors (presale only).*

A NIGHT IN HISTORIC MOTOWN

**Friday, February 19 at 6:00 PM**

Celebrating the Music of Motown and Black History Month in Support of Student Scholarships. McKinney Theatre | Fine Arts Courtyard. *\$25 general, \$20 seniors, \$10 students (presale only); \$30 at the door.*

REFLECTIONS OF THE OCEAN CLASSICAL KEYBOARD SERIES

**Sunday, February 21 at 2:30 PM**

American concert pianist Kevin Ayesh performs masterpieces of Mozart, Chopin, Ravel and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. McKinney Theatre. *\$15 general; \$12 seniors/\$10 students (presale only); children FREE with paying adult; 2 for 1 for music teachers with MTAC/CAPMT ID.*

JAZZ DAY WITH WORLD-CLASS TROMBONIST JOHN FEDCHOCK AND THE SADDLEBACK COLLEGE BIG BAND

**Saturday, February 27 at 7:30 PM**

McKinney Theatre. *\$15 general; \$10 students/seniors (presale only).*

**All the above concerts will take place at McKinney Theatre unless otherwise noted.**

For more information, please visit <http://www.saddleback.edu/uploads/arts/16paspringbrochuref.pdf>

## Advertisements

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### WANT TO PLACE AN AD?

If you would like to see your ad in the newsletter, please e-mail Abra West (newsletter editor) at [abrakwest@gmail.com](mailto:abrakwest@gmail.com) with "MTAC OCC Newsletter Ad Request" in the subject line. **Please submit requests by the 20th before the next month's newsletter.**

For non-commercial and educational events, ads are free for both MTAC OCC members and non-members. For commercial, buy / sell, and business advertisements, there is a \$20 fee per issue (9 issues per year) for a partial space of the page. Only advertisements that are beneficial for members' professional life will be published. **All ads are subject to approval by the branch.**