

# NOTEWORTHY NEWS



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LONG BEACH  
BRANCH

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, members of MTACLB!

I hope everyone enjoyed a well-deserved holiday break and had time to slow down, reflect, reconnect with friends and family, listen to great music, and enjoy some wonderful treats along the way.

I feel genuinely grateful to be part of this musical community and to work alongside such talented, thoughtful colleagues. It means a lot to share this world of music with you, and I am really looking forward to spending time together at our upcoming events this month.

On **Sunday, January 11**, we will host our **Voice Master Class** with clinician **Kate Rubke-Foxworth**, a State Board member and an exceptional piano and voice teacher. The class will be held at my home, and four students have been selected to participate, followed by a reception. If you would like to come support these fabulous students, I would love to have you there. Please be sure to RSVP using the Voice Master Class link if you have not already done so. [Voice Master Class RSVP](#)

I am also very excited for our **Teacher Concert on Saturday, January 24 at 3:00 PM**. This is always such a fun and special recital, giving us the chance to perform for our students and for one another. There is no fee for performers, and we will collect donations at the door. All donations go directly to the **Wheeler Fund**, which supports a high school junior or senior each year. The scholarship recipient performs at our end-of-year potluck and installation.

I am planning on singing and playing a few duets with my son, Caleb, and I would absolutely love to duet, either piano or voice, with any teachers who are interested. Solos, duets, trios, all are welcome. If you are free, I hope you will consider participating and invite students from your studio to attend. The concert will be held at **Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Los Alamitos**. A flyer is included in the newsletter and attached as well.

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(President's Message, continued)

Looking ahead, our next **Branch Recital** is on **Saturday, February 7th** and is themed "**Methods and Arrangements.**" This is a chance for students to perform arrangements of songs, improvisations, original compositions, songs from method books, themes from movies...basically, anything goes! The sign up is now open on our website and the **deadline is Friday, 1/30.**

As we look ahead to 2026, I am so thankful to be able to make music every day and even more thankful for all of you who make this branch such a warm, supportive, and inspiring place to be.

Wishing you a joyful and music-filled year ahead.

Warmly,  
**Sarah Sandvig**  
President, MTACLB

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January 11 (Sun):** Voice Masterclass with Kate Rubke-Foxworth & General Meeting  
⌚ 2:00pm | 🏡 Sarah Sandvig's house
- **January 18 (Sun):** MSSL Recital ⌚ 3pm-4pm |  
📍 Westmont Senior Living Center: 4889 Katella Ave. Cypress, CA
- **January 20 (Tues):** MTACLB Board Meeting  
⌚ 10:30am | 🎙 Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4452294595> Zoom ID: 445-229-4595
- **January 24 (Sat):** MTACLB Wheeler Concert (Yukiko Nobles, Chair)  
⌚ 3:00pm | 🏡 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos Teachers perform
- **February 7 (Sat):** MTACLB Branch Recital — "*Methods & Arrangements*" (Sarah Sandvig, Chair)
  - Music from method books, different teaching methods/styles, arrangements of pieces, etc.
  - 📍 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos — All instruments
- **February 15 (Sun):** MSSL Recital  
⌚ 3pm-4pm | 🏡 Westmont Senior Living Center: 4889 Katella Ave. Cypress, CA
- **February 17 (Tues):** MTACLB Board Meeting  
⌚ 10:30am | 🎙 Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4452294595> Zoom ID: 445-229-4595
- **February 28 (Sat):** Collaborative Piano Workshop- Hannah Yi & Sarah Sandvig & General Meeting  
⌚ 2:00pm | 🏡 Sarah Sandvig's house- Teachers and Students invited to attend & participate

## Harold Wheeler Memorial Benefit Concert



# WHEELER MEMORIAL BENEFIT CONCERT

Saturday, January 24, 2026

3pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
3352 Katella Avenue  
Los Alamitos, CA

**Featuring the Teachers of the MTAC Long Beach Branch**

Join us for an inspiring afternoon of music performed by our own MTACLB teachers. This special concert celebrates artistry, community, and the joy of sharing music with students and colleagues alike.

### Donations at the door

All proceeds support the Wheeler Scholarship, awarded annually to a deserving high school student.

Students, families, and community members are warmly invited.

## Branch Recital – February 7, 2026

Looking ahead, our next **Branch Recital** is on **Saturday, February 7th** and is themed "**Methods and Arrangements.**" This is a chance for students to perform arrangements of songs, improvisations, original compositions, songs from method books, themes from movies...basically, anything goes! The sign up is now open on our website and the **deadline is Friday, 1/30.**

For more information, please contact Sarah Sandvig

## Voice Masterclass – Sunday, January 11, 2026

I am excited to announce an upcoming **Voice Masterclass** on **Sunday, January 11, 2026**, featuring **Kate Rubke-Foxworth**. All members of our branch and interested students are warmly invited to attend.

### Voice Masterclass Details

- **Date:** Sunday, January 11, 2026
- **Time:** 2:00 PM
- **Location:** Home of Sarah Sandvig, 2971 Shakespeare Dr., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Participants will include **four students total**, representing the studios of **Sarah Sandvig** and **Melissa Caldretti**.

### Guest Clinician Bio

**Kate Rubke-Foxworth** has been an MTAC member for over 15 years and was mentored by the late **Phyllis Eddleman**. Her first experience with MTAC was as a piano student of **Michi Swanson**. She continued her musical studies at the collegiate level, earning a **Master of Music in Voice** from the **University of Redlands**, and currently teaches privately.

Kate has served the **Riverside County Branch MTAC** in several leadership roles, including **President**, as well as **CM** and **VOCE Chairperson**. She has evaluated for **CM**, judged **VOCE** and festivals, and is a member of the **National Association of Teachers of Singing**. She also enjoys serving as a substitute church musician.

Kate is currently serving on the **MTAC State Board** as **First Vice-President**.

Website: <https://www.rubke-foxworthmusicstudio.com/>

Please RSVP using the link below. A small reception will follow the masterclass. I hope to see you there.

### RSVP: Voice Masterclass

Warm regards,  
**Sarah Sandvig**

## WHO CAN I CONTACT?

Here is a quick list of Board Members who can help with any questions you may have.

Sending Emails/Announcements to the Branch

**Contact: Yukiko Nobles:** [yukikonobles@gmail.com](mailto:yukikonobles@gmail.com)

Referral Service (If you need students or your studio is full)

**Contact: Sarah Sandvig:** [sarahsandvig@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsandvig@gmail.com) (to be added to our online database)

Reimbursements for Branch Expenses:

**Contact: Mary Inui:** [jminui@gmail.com](mailto:jminui@gmail.com)

Program, Masterclasses

**Contact: Hannah Yi:** [hannahsue127@gmail.com](mailto:hannahsue127@gmail.com)

Membership

**Susan High:** [susanhigh@gmail.com](mailto:susanhigh@gmail.com)

Certificate of Merit

**Contact: Sarah Sandvig:** [sarahsandvig@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsandvig@gmail.com)

Newsletter

**Contact: Nancy Carr** [carrmusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:carrmusicstudio@gmail.com)

Additional Questions/Concerns

**Contact:** [sarahsandvig@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsandvig@gmail.com)

### MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS

The mission of the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) is the pursuit of excellence in music education:

- To promote the stability of the music teaching profession,
- To maintain the high professional standards of our members,
- To maintain the exacting qualifications for membership in the organization establishing the active member as a qualified, accredited teacher, and
- To promote the development of musical potential and ability in students.