

# NOTEWORTHY NEWS



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LONG BEACH  
BRANCH

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy October, everyone!

Thank you to Hannah Yi for arranging our fabulous Piano Masterclass with Dr. Grace Fong! Congratulations to the students and their teachers, and thank you to everyone who came out to support. It was a wonderful event!

Our new Fall Festival will be held on October 18th with two wonderful judges. Registration is now open on our website (deadline is coming up on 10/8) and it's open to all students, all instruments, all levels! Please see more details later in this newsletter.

If you have students participating in Certificate of Merit, please check to see if your students have paid the registration fee by looking at your student list in your portal. The deadline to pay the registration fee is October 5th.

Coming up on November 15th is our Theme Festival "Music in Nature." This is open to all students of all levels and all instruments. Please work with your students and find some fun pieces they can perform (that may possibly also count for CM)! The registration deadline is 11/7 and the registration form is now posted on our website.

I hope to see you and your students at our upcoming Festivals. Please let me know if you have any questions or need help with anything at all.

Sarah Sandvig  
President: MTACLB

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **October 1 (Wed):** CM Evaluator Applications open
- **October 5 (Sun):** CM Registration Fee Due
- **October 18 (Sat):** MTACLB Fall Festival (Contemporary Music) (Jordan Boggess & Sarah Sandvig, Chair)
  - Evaluators: Shannon Kauble & Anthony Lopez
  - 📍 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos (3352 Katella Ave.) — All instruments
- **October 19 (Sun):** MSSL Recital  
🕒 3pm-4pm | 📍 Westmont Senior Living Center: 4889 Katella Ave. Cypress, CA
- **October 21 (Tues):** MTACLB Board Meeting  
🕒 10:30am | 📍 Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4452294595>  
Zoom ID: 445-229-4595
- **November 15 (Sat):** MTACLB Theme Festival (*Music in Nature*) (Sarah Sandvig, Chair)
  - Evaluator: Ryan Reithmeier
  - 📍 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos — All instruments
- **November 16 (Sun):** MSSL Recital  
🕒 3pm-4pm | 📍 Westmont Senior Living Center: 4889 Katella Ave. Cypress, CA
- **November 18 (Tues):** MTACLB Board Meeting  
🕒 10:30am | 📍 Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4452294595>  
Zoom ID: 445-229-4595
- **December 6 (Sat):** MTAC Ensemble Festival (Lynne Graham, Chair)
  - 📍 Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos — All instruments
- **December 13 (Sat):** Music Education Presentation with Dr. Tammy Yi & General Meeting  
🕒 2:00pm | 📍 Hannah Yi's Home
- **December 15 (Mon):** CM Application Edit closes
- **December 16 (Tues):** MTACLB Board Meeting  
🕒 10:30am | 📍 Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4452294595>  
Zoom ID: 445-229-4595

## Upcoming BRANCH FESTIVALS

We are excited to announce our upcoming Branch Festivals:

- **Fall Festival** – *October 18, 2025* (1 Contemporary selection)
- **Theme Festival** – *November 15, 2025* (*Music in Nature*, 1 selection)

Both festivals are open to **all students and instruments**. Each will feature evaluators who provide written feedback, winners selected for each recital, and will be held at **Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Los Alamitos**.

Please begin selecting repertoire with your students so they have the opportunity to participate. If your students are also preparing for **Certificate of Merit**, you may be able to select pieces that fulfill both Festival and CM requirements.

### Registration Dates

- Fall Festival opens Monday, **September 8- on our website [mtaclb.com](https://mtaclb.com)**
- Theme Festival opens Tuesday, **October 7- on our website [mtaclb.com](https://mtaclb.com)**



### Fall Festival – “*Contemporary Music*”

**Chairs:** Jordan Boggess & Sarah Sandvig

**Date:** Saturday, October 18, 2025

**Location:** BLC – Sanctuary

**Entry Deadline:** October 8, 2025

**Entry Fee:** \$35

This competitive branch festival is open to all levels of keyboard, instrumental, and voice students. Students will perform **one piece from the Contemporary period**, which may include Classical, Pop, Jazz, or other modern genres. Performances are held in recital format (with an audience), grouped by age. Multiple recitals may be scheduled depending on enrollment. Evaluators will provide written comments for all participants and award **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place**, with honorable mentions at the judges' discretion.



### Theme Festival – “*Music in Nature*”

**Chair:** Sarah Sandvig

**Date:** Saturday, November 15, 2025

**Location:** BLC – Sanctuary

**Entry Deadline:** November 7, 2025

**Entry Fee:** \$35

This annual competitive branch festival is open to all levels of keyboard, instrumental, and voice students. The festival theme changes each year; this year's theme is **Music in Nature**. Performance length should not exceed **five minutes**. An evaluator will provide written feedback for all performers and award **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place**, with honorable mentions as appropriate.

# September MSSL Recital Report

**This Month...** at the Westmont of Cypress, we completed our first recital of the 2025-2026 school year. Many familiar faces returned, with 19 total performances. They featured emotional piano pieces, a flute solo, creative duets, and even a trio between a violin, saxophone, and piano!

Every 3rd Sunday of the month at 3:00 PM, the Music Students Service League hosts a recital at the Westmont of Cypress for the senior residents to enjoy. This event allows for musicians to share their talents and connect with the community. If you are interested in participating in the next recital on October 19th, please sign up through the QR code or the link below.

<https://forms.gle/VWDuLCcMohvA1t497>



Performers	Composer
1. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	J. Sibelius
2. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	E. T. White
3. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	E. T. White
4. Flute Solo: Alex Kaji	Traditional
5. Violin Solo: Alex Kaji	C. Beethoven
6. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	J. Bach
7. Violin Solo: Alex Kaji	C. Beethoven
8. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
9. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
10. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
11. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
12. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
13. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
14. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
15. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
16. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
17. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
18. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven
19. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	C. Beethoven

Performers	Composer
17. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	W. A. Mozart
18. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	W. A. Mozart
19. Piano Duo: Alex Kaji & Willie Chen	W. A. Mozart

MSSL is the Music Students' Service League, a student-led organization dedicated to using music to improve our local community. It was formed so that students of MTAC members may have the opportunity to serve their community through their time, effort, and musical talent. We award all students with community service hours to fulfill graduation requirements of schools and other service organizations.

#### Studios Represented

Andrea Wu, Becky Maass, Hannah Yi, Lila Pershina, Rebecca Maass, Song Mi Kim, Verónica Sapienza, Willie Chen

Please be considerate of those around you. Remember to silence your cell phones. Thank you for coming!

## Photos from Grace Fong Piano Masterclass



## Harold Wheeler Memorial Benefit Concert

Our annual Wheeler Memorial Concert will be on Sunday, January 24, 2026 at 3 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Los Alamitos. Please consider participating in the benefit concert. This fund-raising event is for the scholarship our branch gives every spring to a qualified high school senior/junior, and it has a history of more than 30 years. Lately we have not received many non-piano performers even though we have string, woodwind, and vocal teachers in our branch. The concert will be more exciting if it represents the diversity of our branch teachers and will show your students that teachers also practice and perform.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if you plan to perform at the concert:  
[yukikonobles@gmail.com](mailto:yukikonobles@gmail.com).

## New Method to Submit Reimbursement Requests to Treasurer

A new link is now available for submitting reimbursement requests to Treasurer Mary Inui. If you need to submit receipts or requests for checks, please use the form below.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSflkOc5v22ppd8FxDLpm-rTp4GZk3ij90vHGSONjBxMFsvzkw/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=106502601781108203366>

This link will also be available on our branch website at [MTACLB.com](http://MTACLB.com)

Checks will be mailed out to the address submitted within 10 days.

THANK YOU!

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

### Long Beach Branch Newsletter

#### “Noteworthy News”

Editor: Nancy Carr

[carrmusicstudio@gmail.com](mailto:carrmusicstudio@gmail.com)

Please have photos as jpeg files and provide all heading/captions/story in MS WORD format. No PDF's please.

**Don't forget to check  
out our website:**

**[www.mtacb.com](http://www.mtacb.com)**

**for past newsletters,  
forms, maps, calendar,  
and more!**

## 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.