

THE SOUNDPOST



CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, INC., of the AMERICAN STRING TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

FALL 2020



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The Soundpost
Newsletter of the
California Chapter, Inc. of ASTA
289 S Armstrong Ave
Fresno, CA 93727-5726



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CIRCULATION

ASTA Members in California	808
President, Editors, Advertisers, Colleges & Universities	360

Cover art by Gay Currier
Sacramento Section

THE SOUNDPOST



FALL 2020

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROBERT L. BECKER, PRESIDENT

First things first, we all need to express a dept of gratitude to Kimberly Cole Feeney, now our Past President as of the end of May. Her leadership through the beginning of Covid times and sudden transitions for all teachers, both classroom and private, was a calming and inspirational presence for all of us. Thank you, Kim, from all of us! We WILL get you a suitable plaque as soon as those businesses are taking new orders.

In these days, our health and the health of our students is paramount. My ongoing joke is "wash your hands like you just handled jalapenos and need to change your contacts." I have received several phone calls/emails with teachers about liability in the workplace and private studio. I urge all of us to take advantage of the liability Insurance programs that are available to all ASTA members.

I, for one, will be only teaching online both for me, at my stage of life, and my students at the University level and in my private studio. It's not easy. Someone said, "so you get to sit at home in your easy chair and make \$ teaching?" After my initial over-reaction, I asked if they had ever tried it?? Almost everyone I have spoken with finds it more draining to deal with all the technology, computer screens, delays in audios etc. than to be present with our students. Let's also be aware of the loss of that personal interaction element that made so many of us drawn to teaching in the first place. But....we will get thru this and, at some point, personally reconnect in healthy environs.

There is SO much information available to you as an active ASTA member. Please visit the national ASTA site for weekly updates, chats, group sharing, updates on Covid and so much more that can prove to be an incredible asset to your teaching resources in these times. The latest "ASTA Connect" included "Developing New Generations of Activists in Orchestra Classes." This is a timely topic indeed. Go to the ASTA Website, sign in with your paid up ASTA ID!!, and become a part of the solution as we go forward as teachers and society.

Also, great news, our Webmaster, Kim Feeney, is working with our technical support group to update and change our state website. This is long overdue and we are grateful to Kim for her continued leadership in these matters. Look for updates to the state competition (Thanks to Kyle Champion!) and other important updates about your section leaders and events. Your state chapter and fellow members are also great resources. Please feel free to reach out to me or your section president if you are looking for assistance or info.

At the last state Board meeting in August, your board voted to move our Soundpost publication to an online/digital format instead of the traditional

Past CalASTA Presidents:

1948-1954 Stefan Krayk
1954-1965 Lucie Landon
1965-1970 Phyllis Glass
1970-1974 Grace T. Robinson
1974-1977 Kenneth Fiske
1977-1979 Phyllis Magnuson Dunn
1979-1980 Anne Mischakoff
1981-1983 Gene Eaves
1983-1986 Thomas Tatton
1986-1988 Michael Pappone
1988-1990 James Kjelland
1990-1992 Victor Sazer
1992-1994 Owen Dunsford
1994-1996 Elizabeth Ivanoff Holborn
1996-1998 Richard Naill
1998-2000 Michael Allard
2000-2002 Priscilla Hawkins
2002-2003 Eleonore Schoenfeld
2003-2006 Judy Bossuat-Gallic
2006-2008 Gayane Korkmazian
2008-2010 Manon Robertshaw
2010-2012 Bongshin Ko
2012-2014 Kimberly Cole Feeney
2014-2016 Thomas Tatton
2016-2018 Loretta JW McNulty
2018-2020 Kimberly Cole Feeney

printed version. After discussion with many of our sponsors, the decision was made to produce both versions for our fall issue and allow everyone to assess the advantages of both. Stay tuned!!

I am new to this position as President and will probably not be perfect. Learning from each of you and making us better, more effectively connected over the largest chapter in ASTA, showing our unity in the diversity of opinions, teaching styles, background and experiences, are my immediate goals. Please let me know if you have thoughts about any of these ideas. We may disagree but we will listen.

We are all dancing daily (you don't want to see me dance believe me) with adjustments from the governor, our upper administrations, fellow teachers, family and so many more "sliding" parameters. The distance that we all feel is real, but let's be grateful for Zoom, Facetime, etc. for communication instead of previous generations' telegrams and slow letters. We're OK!! We're stressed, but we teach in challenging environs daily, with lessons tailored to each unique situation and sometimes without proper equipment, but we TEACH. What we teach now about the value of each person couldn't be more important-not just their Sevcik- but their lives and future interactions with people of all genres for future generations. Yes, we can affect change one person, one class at a time. Go be that catalyst.

Please feel free to reach out to me at
becker@chapman.edu
beckervla@prodigy.net
Robert L. Becker
President CalASTA

Please complete all applicable fields on the registration form. If you have any questions, please contact Member Services. We look forward to welcoming you to the ASTA community.



703-279-2113



www.astastrings.org



Fax form: 703-279-2114
 Mail form: 4155 Chain Bridge Rd.,
 Fairfax, VA 22030

Who recruited you to join ASTA?

RECRUITER NAME

RECRUITER CITY/STATE

RECRUITER E-MAIL ADDRESS

Membership Category

- ☐ Professional member
- ☐ Student member: full time student *[Please provide expected Graduation Date (MM/YY)]* ____/____
- ☐ Senior member: age 62 or older
- ☐ Dual: two professionals at same address
[Please complete two separate forms]

Contact Information

- ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms.
☐ Dr. ☐ Prof. ☐ Other _____

FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL LAST NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

PRIMARY PHONE: ☐ WORK ☐ HOME

CELL PHONE

Select a primary address where you will receive correspondence & if applicable, *AST Journal*. ☐ Home ☐ School/Work

HOME ADDRESS

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

COUNTRY

SCHOOL/WORK ADDRESS

(Required for Professional & Student Members)

SCHOOL/ORG. NAME DEPT./MAIL STOP

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

COUNTRY

Tell Us About You

(Required for professional/senior and dual members)

What is your primary profession?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Studio | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Administrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Performer | <input type="checkbox"/> String Enthusiast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | <input type="checkbox"/> Conductor | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | |

What year did you start teaching music? _____

What level do you teach? *(Select all that apply.)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary [K-5] | <input type="checkbox"/> Collegiate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Middle [6-8] | <input type="checkbox"/> (Undergrad & Graduate) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School [9-12] | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult |

What is your primary instrument?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violin | <input type="checkbox"/> Guitar | <input type="checkbox"/> Piano |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Viola | <input type="checkbox"/> Brass | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodwind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cello | <input type="checkbox"/> Percussion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Double Bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Harp | |

ASTA State Chapter

Your membership dues include state chapter membership. To find your state information, visit www.astastrings.org.

Dues Payment

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$116: Professional Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$57: Student member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$85: Senior Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$162: Dual |
- (age 62 or older)*

"ADD ON"

- ☐ \$15: Membership certificate
- ☐ \$7: Membership pin

TOTAL \$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- ☐ Check—make payable to ASTA (U.S. funds only)
 Check No. _____
- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD NO. EXP. DATE CVV

NAME ON CARD SIGNATURE (PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION)

By completing this form, I confirm that this information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Dues are nontransferable and nonrefundable. There is a \$30 charge for all items returned from the bank.



CALASTA ACCOUNTING REPORT

MICHAEL FEENEY, TREASURER

ASTA Fiscal Year Accounting Report
California Chapter
Fiscal Year 2020 (7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020)
Prepared by Michael Feeney, State Treasurer

INCOME

Rebates from National	14,466.10
Soundpost Sponsorships	1,920.00
Total Income:	16,386.10

EXPENSES

Rebates to Sections	3,611.30
Soundpost Production & Mailing	4,542.78
Meeting Expenses	1,769.42
Website Support	939.78
Coalition Membership & Lobbying Expenses	250.00
Election Expenses	79.95
California Government Registration	25.00
Total Expenses:	11,218.23

Actual July 1, 2019 Bank Balance	8,387.14
Less Outstanding Checks as of 07/01/2019 (-)	687.30
Calculated July 1, 2019 Bank Balance	7,699.84
Plus Income (+)	16,386.10
Minus Expenses (-)	11,218.23
Calculated June 30, 2020 Bank Balance	12,867.71
Outstanding Checks as of 06/30/2020 (+)	0.00
Actual June 30, 2020 Bank Balance	12,867.71



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Greetings CalASTA Members!

First of all if you have not been to ASTA's website you really must check it out!
www.astastrings.org

There is SO much information you can use today, right now, to make your teaching, playing, and string life even better. One thing that is rather new and very relevant for everyone is ASTA Connect. These are daily emails with interesting articles, resources, and website you should know about. Check it out...

Here is a brief report on membership in CalASTA. CalASTA is divided into

seven Sections. The Sections and their maps can be found here:
<http://www.calasta.org/map.php>.

CalASTA's current membership is 810 with 392 members in the Los Angeles Section, 266 in the San Francisco Section, 53 in the Sacramento Section, 35 in the San Diego Section, 26 in the Fresno Section, 20 in the Stockton Section, and 18 in Bakersfield.

Make sure to keep your membership current to be able to take advantage of all of ASTA's member benefits. These benefits can found here: https://www.astastrings.org/Web/Membership/Member_Benefits.aspx.

You can find who is leading your Section as well as the goings on of your Section under the "Sections" tab at <http://www.calasta.org>.

You can check the accuracy of your ASTA membership information as well as seeing your membership expiration date and membership number by logging on to ASTA's website here: www.astastrings.org and clicking on "Sign In" at the top of the homepage. If you haven't created online profile yet, this is where you can do that. Once you have logged in you can edit your personal information in the "About" tab and save your preferences under the "Preferences" tab. Make sure to click the "Save" button at the bottom of the page if you make any changes. Double check the accuracy of your CalASTA Section. If it is not correct via your county and the CalASTA Section map please email Membership at membership@astastrings.org call 703-279-2113.

Continuing from ASTA until October 31, 2020

Recruit new members and earn rewards

As an active ASTA member, you know first-hand the value your membership provides. Share your success by participating in ASTA's Member-Get-A-Member Campaign. Go here for complete information:

www.astastrings.org/MGM

Recruit at least one new member and you will be entered into a drawing for the following prizes:

*A complimentary one-year membership renewal

*A \$100 Amazon gift card

*A \$50 Amazon gift card

Every recruiter will be rewarded with a \$5 Starbucks gift card for each new professional, student, senior, or dual member successfully recruited.

Every recruiter will be recognized on the Get-a-Member campaign page.

MEGA Prize:

*One member who recruits the most new members (minimum of five) will receive Sony Wireless Noise-Canceling Headphones (WH-1000XM3) and a Yeti Professional multi-pattern USB mic for Recording & Streaming.

Thank you for being the best part of ASTA!

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Moore, Outgoing CalASTA Membership Chair





BAKERSFIELD SECTION

Greetings from Bakersfield!

Our first event of the season was on October 26, 2020. The student participation in the String Workshop was even greater than last year. Four levels of repertoire provided great opportunities for many students. The clinicians were Susan Doehring, Violin; Evan Hesketh, Viola; Deiter Wulffhorst, cello and Barry Newton, string bass. It was an amazing day with approximately 80 students involved.

As the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything in schools, universities, and venues, all events were canceled for the spring. We kept hoping that things would get better in July and August. Finally, as a board we made the choice to do everything online. We sponsored an online festival and competition with instructions on how to upload their application, their music, their fees and

then finally their videos. The videos are being evaluated this weekend; the deadline was August 1 and then it took quite a while to forward everything to the judges. Now they are sending score sheets to the private teachers and we have our winners for the competition. The senior competition winners were 1st Place Brian Shih, performing Sibelius violin Concerto in D minor and Spanish Dances I I I Romanza Andaluza by Pablo Sarasate. 2nd Place Finn Erickson performing the Sarabanda in G minor by Bach and the Mendelssohn violin concerto in E minor. In the junior category, Rafael Marinas won first prize playing Meditation by Massenet and Vivaldi's Summer. We did not give any other prizes all three will be entering the state competition and we hope that it goes without a hitch in October.

It was a learning curve for all teachers and students of all levels of technology were able to manage through the system and it's great to have it completed. We had considered using excepted but under the circumstances, we wanted to save the students money even though they were giving us a discount it was much better for us to learn how to do it ourselves now we understand the process and if this continues on through next season we will be able to do virtual workshops and recitals and competitions.

Elvira Arambula is the teacher for all three of the competition winners this year. In addition, she has been very active with her students and ASTACAP. Three students received certificates in November 2019 Jasper Fleishe -level 10; Christina Xin - level 10; Gianna Park - level 9. Four more applied in June 2020, they are awaiting their results. Jeannie Yuan, Rachel Pan, Brayden Chang and Vandita Gorla - all level 10. Hopefully we will receive news soon.

Our board has been active in the school system and through private teaching and the Youth Symphony as well as the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. All organizations are doing their best to cope with the circumstances and to move forward in the future of technology. Luckily our organizations all band together to try to help one another; we will continue to do so in the future.

Considering what we are all dealing with, I think we've had a great year.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McGuire,

President, CalASTA Bakersfield Section



FRESNO SECTION

The Fresno ASTA board has been hard at work to keep the area engaged during these intense times. We have been able to get a few new members to join ASTA and hope some of these members will join the board and bring fresh and exciting ideas to our chapter.

As previously reported, we had a very successful Chamber Music Workshop on Saturday, March 7, 2020 and had a larger than normal turnout of 77 students, ages 5-17 (and one adult cellist) which we placed into fifteen ensembles. We had sixteen coaches, three assistants, and two volunteers helping out. We had one pre-formed quartet, but all other groups performed pieces they had just been introduced to on the morning of the workshop. We held an informal recital at the end of the day for parents, families and friends to

see what we have been working on during the workshop.

Due to COVID-19, we had to cancel our annual student recital, which would have taken place Saturday, March 21. We also had to postpone our annual student solo competition and moved it online. The online version of the solo competition took a while to organize and fine tune, but once launched, seemed to get a large interest and we had 28 students participate. The competition was open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar or Harp) who are students of active Fresno ASTA members. We modelled our competition to align with the State competition and had three age divisions: we had four participants in the Novice division, age 12 and under, twenty participants in the Junior division, age 13-18, and four participants in the Senior division, age 19-25.

Students were asked to perform two works, one from the Classical or Baroque period, and another one from a contrasting period. All solos were performed without piano accompaniment to make it fair and were played from memory. The pandemic enabled us the opportunity to engage two high profile adjudicators as we could save on travel and lodging. Dr. Misha Galaganov, Viola Professor at the Texas Christian University and principal cellist of the Cleveland Orchestra, Mr. Mark Kosower, have kindly accepted this honor, and are currently reviewing the video submissions.

The winners of this year's competitions were:

Novice Division:

1st Prize - Renard Wu, cello (student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim), 2nd Prize - Amy Nguyen, cello (students of Mr. Kelvin Diaz Inoa), 3rd Prize - Natalie Han, cello (student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim)

Junior Division:

1st Prize - Alexander Han, violin (student of Dr. Limor Toren-Immerman), 2nd Prize - Benjamin Pegram, violin (student of Dr. Limor Toren-Immerman), 3rd Prize (tie) - Olivia Lin, cello (student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim), 3rd Prize (tie) - Aria Delgado, harp (student of Ms. Laura Porter)

Senior Division:

1st Prize (tie) - Jackson Snead, violin (student of Dr. Limor Toren-Immerman), 1st Prize (tie) - Emma Hill, cello (student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim), 3rd Prize - Shayne Baldwin, cello (student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim)

Respectfully, Dr. Thomas Loewenheim
President, CalASTA Fresno Section



LOS ANGELES SECTION

AWARD WINNERS- 2020

The Board of the CalASTA Los Angeles met on May 31 and selected the following three members of our Section to be honored with these awards:

Outstanding Studio Teacher of the Year Donald McInnes, viola

Outstanding School Teacher of the Year Laura Strand

Distinguished Service Award of the Year Victoria Lanier and Education Through Music—Los Angeles

Each winner receives a year's free membership.

GRANTS

We hope, with board approval, to continue our 4 grants of \$500 each. This year's recipients were:

ETM-LA – Victoria Lanier

ViolaFest 2020– Gina Coletti

CSUSB Cello Master class – Esther Back

MUSICA! “Composer’s Live” workshop -Anna Ancheta

STRING ALONG

In order to help keep our costs in check and because of reduced revenue from advertising, we have moved our String Along to an online publication only. This is allowing us to expand our resource offerings and include more pertinent information for our membership.

SOLO COMPETITION RECITALS

We expect to complete our competitions in August, with 44 bowed string competitors selected from 3 preliminaries with a total of 116 participants. The Finalists will compete via YouTube. We were able to hold online competitions for 7 students in Harp and 23 in Guitar.

ASTACAP

We had 120 students participate this spring, heard by 7 evaluators. We expanded into Santa Barbara and had a good response. We will continue to offer live digital evaluations quarterly until the COVID-19 decreases enough to allow us to return to live “in-person” evaluations.

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

We had planned two chamber music festivals this spring: one at Chapman University, Orange, and one in Santa Barbara. The Chapman University event did not garner enough support so we cancelled it and Santa Barbara had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. We hope to offer more Festivals in 2021.

MENTOR MATCH

We are very excited about a new initiative we are offering called Mentor Match. We are advertising the opportunity on our Facebook page, through our eNews and String Along newsletter. Los Angeles Section members that are interested in offering their expertise to underserved String communities will be able to find organizations that are looking for mentors. Conversely, organizations can apply to find potential volunteers to help their students.

CO-SPONSORSHIP

We are co-sponsoring a 3 hour String Educators Workshop on August 25, 2020 together with Education Through Music - Los Angeles. This will be available to participants in person and through Zoom. Megan Shung and Victoria Lanier will lead the workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Dickstein

President, CalASTA Los Angeles Section

Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication

California State University, Northridge

// Department of Music

Situated in the city of Los Angeles,
CSUN's music department offers a
vibrant curriculum and cultivates
a nurturing environment for
its dynamic student body.

The CSUN String Faculty:

Lorenz Gamma, Violin
Head of String Studies
Director of Chamber Music

Roberto Cani, Violin
Concertmaster L.A. Opera

Robert Berg, Viola
Studio Musician

Diane Roscetti, Cello
Director, CSUN Honors
String Quartet Program

Jory Herman,
Double Bass,
L.A. Philharmonic

Find out more about
our string program:

csun.edu/music

CSUN

MIKE CURB
COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA,
AND COMMUNICATION





SACRAMENTO SECTION

Greetings from the Sacramento section. We had an overwhelming response to our first virtual recital project. There were 23 submissions creating about an hour and forty minutes of music. The program was emailed to all of our section members on Sunday, June 21 at 2:00 pm and also posted on the state website. The recital included a variety of levels and instruments. A special thank you to Susan Lamb Cook who introduced the idea to our board and shared her knowledge and expertise regarding the online process. We will be using this format in the future in addition to in-person events as it easily allows members from out of town to participate.

Our second online project was our annual solo competition and we used a company called Acceptd.com. There were ten participants and three winners.

Awards went to the following students:

Novice Violin – Jenna Son (Christine Choi)
Junior Violin – Sarah Son (Christine Choi)
Junior Cello – Calvin Yeh (Richard Andaya)

Photos and bios can be found on calasta.org. All winners are eligible to enter the ASTA State Solo Competition, which will be held online in October 2020. Our two judges were Melinda Packer (Violist) and Priscilla Hawkins (Cellist and former CalASTA State President).

A meeting/BBQ was held at the home of Kim and Michael Feeney on Saturday, July 25 at 6:00 pm with five board members present. Plans were made for our upcoming Fall Showcase recital, which will again be presented in an online format.

A special thank you goes out to longtime ASTA member and cellist Rejean Anderson who has been hosting weekly concerts on her front porch since May 7. There have been a variety of programs including strings, winds, keyboards and vocals. They have become so popular that the local Fox40 news station produced a segment that aired on Thursday, July 23rd entitled “Hope and Heart”. Performances are booked through the month of September.

This year’s Fall Showcase Recital will be presented with an online program to be sent out to all Sacramento Section members on Sunday, November 15 at 2:00 pm. Competition winners will be featured, but all are welcome to participate. Guidelines and application can be found on calasta.org.

Our third illustrated essay contest “With Strings Attached” is being held this fall. Winners will receive gift certificates to local music stores. Rules and application forms are included in our fall newsletter and on the Sacramento Section page at calasta.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberly Cole Feeney,
CalASTA Sacramento Section President



SAN DIEGO SECTION

Greetings from San Diego!

The CalASTA-SD section board will work on encouraging growth and additional new members to our section. With the current pandemic and global situation, it has been a challenge to plan in-person activities. Most important is that we wish all our members and their families remain well and stay safe. Live performances and teaching in person are not possible at this time however after checking in with several of our members it was reported that quite a few are having success with online teaching and all the varied platforms available from theory, composing to performances. There are also many wonderful webinars, online classes and many educational programs offering free training just for that type of teaching. I believe it is important to

remain connected not only with our members in their teaching activities but to reach out and offer suggestions for online platforms and training.

I have posted the ASTA Webinar on our Facebook page that is being offered on August 12th and hoping that many of our members will take advantage of this offering.

ASTA member, Joanne Stohs, reported that she has recorded and shared performances of her musical family and have made those available on You Tube. Other teachers are also sharing their online teaching. Just last week I completed a weeklong Virtual O'Connor Workshop where 19 additional faculty members gave online lessons on the American Music method from Mark O'Connor. These students were from all around the globe; from all over the US to Europe. Not only did these students have daily one-hour lessons with faculty but also all participants participated in daily performance webinars with both Maggie and Mark O'Connor. It was a very fulfilling and exciting week of music making.

For now, it is difficult to actually predict when live performances, festivals and recitals can once again take place in concert halls and such but in the meantime the online resources are many and varied. Many are not only user-friendly, but many are also free during this time, which is most helpful to families that are finding their financial situation strained.

There is still much excitement in the prospect of hosting a CalASTA/October Orchestra Festival, however this will have to wait until live music can return to the stages again.

For now, we are all hoping our members stay well, stay safe and practice all the necessary steps in combating this pandemic

Respectfully submitted,

Ulli Reiner

President, CalASTA San Diego Section



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

Grant Program: Our current plan is to offer members a discount on their membership fees in lieu of the grants in the past. We await permission from the State and National levels.

Adopt-a-School: The Adopt-a-School program for Mount Diablo Unified, designed to help band teachers better educate string students, is currently on hold.

Symposium: Jennifer Ellis presented a Eurhythmics Symposium on November 18th, 9-11 a.m., 1501 Walnut Street, Berkeley, CA. Eurhythmics is a movement-based method of rhythmic education.

Scale Party: The scale party was Friday, October 18th, 6-8 p.m., (1501 Walnut Street, Berkeley). Our wonderful clinicians were Cookie Segelstein, Katrina Wreede, and Sarah Jo Zaharako.

We are planning the next scale party for Friday, October 23rd, 7-8 p.m. with a virtual platform. Clinicians TBD.

Recital: A virtual recital is scheduled Friday, February 5th 7 p.m. to help students prepare for ASTACAP.

ASTACAP: In late February and early March of 2020, 75 students from 18 teachers participated in the San Francisco Section ASTACAP. Exams were held at 2 locations in Berkeley and 1 in Walnut Creek. Exams at a third location were planned in San Francisco on 3/15 but had to be cancelled and have been postponed for a later date due to Covid-19. The coordinator there switched in-person exams to online version and successfully completed the exams in April.

On August 22, 2020, there will be a virtual ASTACAP exam for harp. The examiner is Samantha Garvey. Participants will record their works and send them to the ASTACAP coordinator in a Google doc. They will be given a time slot August 22nd.

The examiner will have a chance to watch the videos ahead of time and can either request the performer to play all or part of the exam. This is a safety net in case there are technical issues and gives the students both the opportunity to record and perform live.

CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference: CalASTA San Francisco was present at the California Music Educator Association Bay Section Conference January 10 and 11, 2020. Joffria maintained an information table complete with ASTA “swag” in the vendor area both days of the conference. Purple emery boards with the ASTA logo and attendees enthusiastically received red vines.

Solo Competition: The final round of CalASTA San Francisco’s 2020 Solo Competition took place virtually this year on Sunday, April 26 via Zoom. Finalists were selected from a total of 33 preliminary round applicants in two age divisions by a 13-member panel of volunteer ASTA and non-ASTA members. Each student provided links to two or three videos of themselves performing works from the standard classical repertoire. Over a ten-day period the panel members reviewed all of the video submissions and chose 4 novice and 7 junior students to compete in the final round. Written comments were provided to all of the preliminary round competitors.

The final round judges were Eric Sung (cello), David Tanenbaum (guitar), Cookie Segelstein (violin/viola) and Sara Usher (violin). They selected the following winners:

1st place: Valery Breshears, violinist, age 10, student of Zhao Wei
2nd place: Emilia Diaz Delgado, guitarist, age 11, student of Scott Cmiel
3rd place: Fiona Huang, cellist, age 12, student of Jonathan Koh
Honorable Mention: Ryan Lee, cellist, age 11, student of Brady Anderson

JUNIOR division (ages 13-18):

1st place: Dustin Breshears, violinist, age 13, student of Zhao Wei
2nd place: Jennifer Mori, cellist, age 15, student of Jonathan Koh
3rd place: Clair Koo, violinist, age 16, student of Sandra L. Lewis
Honorable Mention: Alexander Canicosa-Miles, cellist, age 16, student of Jonathan Koh

MEETINGS

Our board met in October, March, and July of the 2019-20 school year.

Respectfully submitted,
Joffria Whitfield, CalASTA San Francisco Section President



STOCKTON SECTION

Activities for CalASTA Stockton Section have been suspended due to the current pandemic situation. The Section board communicated and agreed that despite our desire to hold our regular events it is simply impossible to do so at this time. In the future we hope to resume our activities in the planning of a Solo Recital concert, possible Mariachi workshop, and Chamber Music Day. Thoughts of holding an online teacher-training event are in the works as we look for other alternatives to support our string community.

Thank you!

Griena “Goody” Choi-Trask
CalASTA Stockton Section President

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CALIFORNIA ORCHESTRA DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Students, educators, families, schools, and communities are busy implementing plans, identifying strategies, and crafting solutions for what is sure to be a year filled with unique challenges and opportunities. The California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA) and our affiliated members are thankful to be part of an arts education community that has bonded together to work collaboratively to address not only the musical needs of our students, but also support their social and emotional needs as well.

In this unique time, members of CalASTA (and more broadly, ASTA at-large) will play an integral role in meeting the musical and social / emotional needs of our students. The relationships that exist between CalASTA members and young people across California will be essential this year, and CODA is committed to

working hand in hand with our CalASTA colleagues to support our students.

To that end, CODA worked diligently this spring to coordinate music education webinars for both educators and students. Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Diego Symphony, and San Francisco Symphony offered their time and talents to review, address, and guide musicians through the California All-State required scale and excerpts. Annotated parts, supplemental resources, and videos are now accessible to all students and educators at codaorchestras.org.

To aid in the sharing of information, resources, and best practices, CODA also has launched new social media sites, which can be accessed on Instagram and Facebook via @calorchestradiectors. While we may currently be practicing social distancing, all are invited to stay well connected through these communication channels.

Finally, members of CalASTA are encouraged to take an active role in CODA by maintaining an active membership in the organization. CalASTA members (which include current CODA individuals as well) have a well-established history of involvement and leadership within CODA, a fact that helps make each respective organization stronger and more capable of meeting the ever-changing needs of educators and students across the state. Annual membership information is available at codaorchestars.org.

As always, thank you for all that you do for students, families, and programs throughout California. Please do stay connected and reach out to share your thoughts, ideas, and voice your opinions on how we may all, together, rise to meet this moment and support students across our state.

Matthew Mulvaney



STRING PROJECT

SACRAMENTO STATE STRING PROJECT

Sadly, our Spring semester got cut short by the Corona Virus protocols. Now, Fall 2020, the String Project is reemerging with a full count of teachers and virtual individual lessons for all the returning students and others who already have string instrument experience. In addition, a new 7 week "Preparation for String Playing" class will begin on Wednesdays October 21st through December 9th for students 3-8th grade. Those children will get a nice head-start when they are able to begin playing real instruments.

Our Fall teachers include graduate students Daniel Boschee-violin, Laura Huey-violin, Julien Sommer-cello, and undergraduates Kathleen Gallagher-violin, Anna Murray-violin, Hector Morales-cello, Samuel Olmos-violin,

Renato Sagahun-cello, and Trevor Reynolds-vn.

This semester will include an emphasis for everyone on playing their non-major stringed instruments. This training will help everyone become better teachers by having them help each other.

This program, under the umbrella of the National String Project Consortium, helps college students gain practical string teaching experience with children from the community. The project would be impossible without the help of the Sacramento State School of Music, Sacramento State Retirees Association, Sac State's Associated Students Inc., the Teichert Foundation and individual donors Marvin Israelow, Ed Israelow, Rosemarie Oliver, Paul Rittenberg, Audra Lehman and Howard Lehman. These grants and donations allow costs to remain low for the children.



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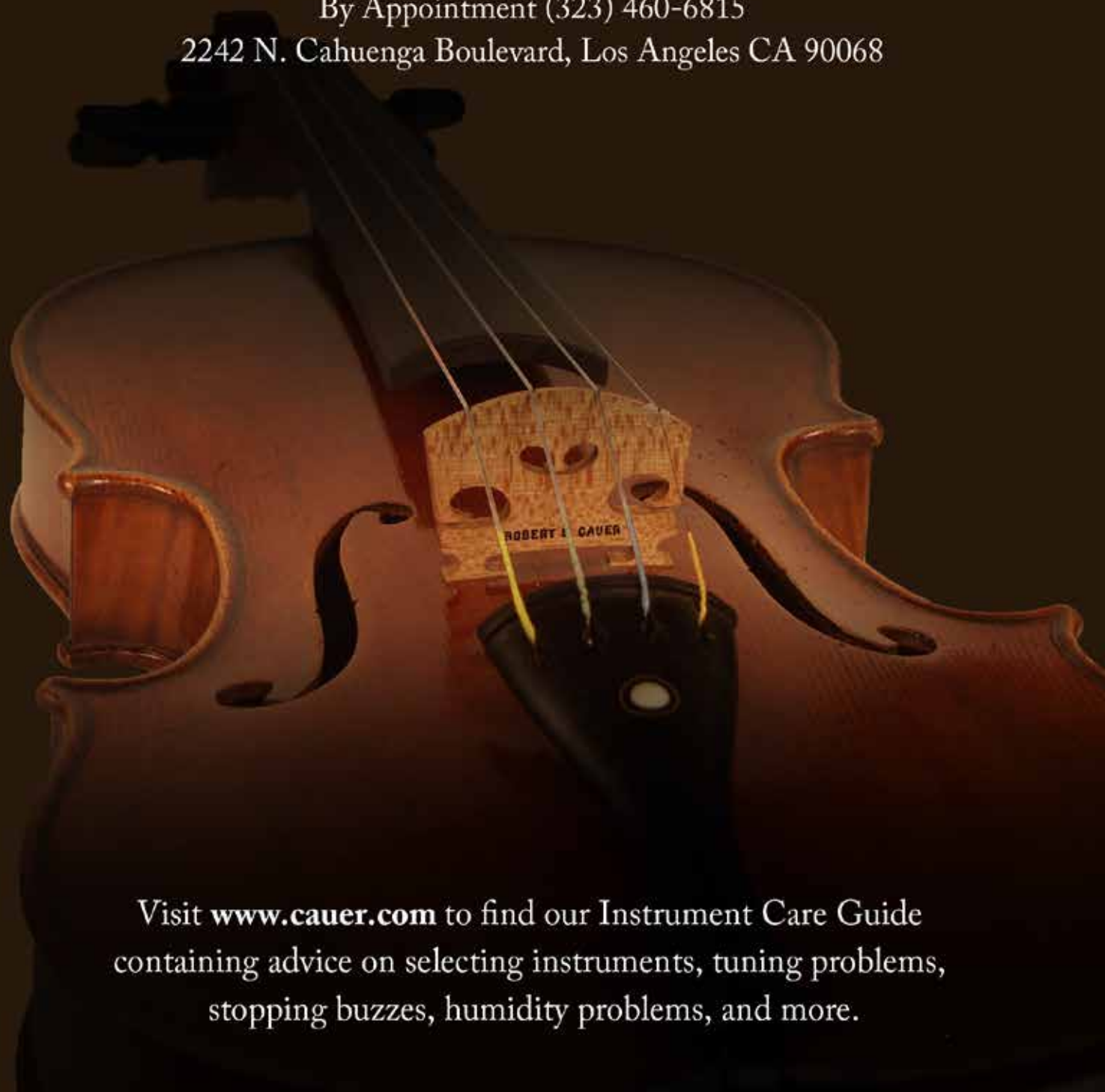
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