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

SPRING 2020



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Newsletter of the
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CIRCULATION

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

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Sacramento Section

THE SOUNDPOST



SPRING 2020

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KIMBERLY COLE FEENEY, PRESIDENT

Dear CalASTA Members,

I am pleased to announce that despite the statewide shelter in place, CalASTA went forward with our scheduled state board meeting on March 22. It was held online with the majority of our board members present.

The election results are in and we have a new President-Elect, Quyen Nguyen from the San Diego Section and a new Secretary, Stephen Moore, from the San Francisco Section. Congratulations to you both and a special thank you to all of those who went online and voted.

I know that many of the sections are scrambling and working hard to make adjustments to events due to the closing of many venues and the social distancing. Many are going to online competitions. Please check the state website sections that have already posted revised guidelines and applications if you need ideas.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the CalASTA State Solo competition is planned for sometime in October 2020. As more information becomes available we will publicize the event further. Please look to the CalASTA website, and local CalASTA Section communications for the latest news. The solo competition guidelines and application including age categories, repertoire requirements and general planned month for the event are in this issue.

This is my final report for my term of office, which ends in May 2020. It's been a pleasure serving CalASTA. I am secure in the fact that we will be in good hands with Dr. Robert Becker taking the reins. I will continue as Past President and also serving as Webmaster and Sacramento Section President. Please stay safe and well.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Cole Feeney
CalASTA President

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

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

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.

California ASTA Solo Competition

Due to COVID-19 crisis Date and Location Are Yet To be Determined 2020 Guidelines

General Guidelines

1. Open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar or Harp) who are students of active California ASTA members.
2. Entrants must have participated in their ASTA Section Competition in either 2019 or 2020, and have been declared eligible by the judges to advance to the State Competition.
3. Sections may submit as many entrants as the judges in their section competitions deem qualified.
4. There are three age divisions: Novice, age 12 and under, Junior, age 13-18, and Senior, age 19-25. The cutoff date for the age divisions is the month of the competition, which is October 31, 2020.
5. The judges will declare one winner for each instrument, in each age division: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar and Harp.
6. Any state winner may not compete again in the same age category, but must wait until they reach the correct age for the next age category.
7. Competition will be presented as a formal recital. All contestants will receive a certificate of participation the day of the event. Winners will be announced within two days and prize money will be mailed to the individual winners. The prize awards are as follows: \$150 for Novice, \$200 for Junior and \$300 for Senior.
8. All confirmations will be sent by email back to students. **Please TYPE or PRINT CLEARLY and LEGIBLY. We will not be responsible for interpreting the illegible student-submitted information.**

Repertoire and Performance

1. Two works are required. One piece from the Classical or Baroque period, and another one from a contrasting period. All works must be memorized. Performances may not exceed 10 minutes for Novice Division or 15 minutes for Junior and Senior Division entrants (both pieces combined). Pieces may be pre-cut in order to fit the time limit, or the judges may stop a performance once the time limit has been reached. Judges may also ask candidates to play any part of a piece.
2. Piano accompaniment is required where appropriate.

Application Deadline and Fees

1. Applications and appropriate fees made payable to CalASTA must be postmarked by September 1, 2020. An entrance fee of \$50.00 must accompany each application.
2. A professional accompanist can be provided by ASTA for a fee of \$50.00, which must be requested and paid for at the time of application. The accompanist will provide a brief pre-performance run-through. If more time for run-through is desired, the competitor will be charged according to his/her assigned accompanist's personal rate. Competitors must request the additional time with their applications, so that arrangements may be made.

Send Applications to:

Kyle Champion
3417 Camero Ave.
La Verne, CA 91750
championcello@usa.net



California ASTA State Solo Competition

2020 Application Form

(Please TYPE or PRINT CLEARLY and LEGIBLY)

Student Name _____ Instrument _____

Age Division: ☐ Novice (age 12 and under) ☐ Junior (13-18) ☐ Senior (19-25)

Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Age _____ Grade _____
Month Date Year (Before October 31, 2020) (through High School)

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Email Address: _____

a) ☐ I will provide my own accompanist. Name _____

Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Email Address: _____

b) ☐ I would like to use the accompanist provided by CalASTA, who will offer a brief run-through prior to my performance. My \$50.00 accompanist fee is included with my application fee.

1. Composer of piece from ☐ Baroque or ☐ Classical period, Playing Time: _____: _____

Composer _____

Title _____ Movement _____ Key _____ Opus _____

2. Composer of piece from _____ period, Playing Time: _____: _____

Composer _____

Title _____ Movement _____ Key _____ Opus _____

CalASTA Section through which you qualified for the State Competition _____

Name of Private Teacher _____ Signature _____

(Print clearly)

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Email _____ Membership # _____ Expiration date ____/____/____

Teacher's Address _____
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Please send your completed application with the \$50.00 application fee and accompanist fee \$50 if applicable, in a check payable to CalASTA to: Kyle Champion
3417 Camero Ave., La Verne, CA 91750
Email: championcello@usa.net

Application must be postmarked by September 1, 2020



CALASTA ACCOUNTING REPORT

MICHAEL FEENEY, TREASURER

ASTA Calendar Year Accounting Report
California Chapter
Calendar Year 2019
Prepared by Michael Feeney, State Treasurer

	January 1, 2019 Bank Balance	10,037.82
INCOME	Rebates from National	14,336.68
	Total Income:	14,336.68
EXPENSES	Rebates to Sections	7,466.19
	Soundpost Production & Mailing	5,015.98
	Meeting Expenses	3,567.63
	President to National ASTA Conference	686.00
	Website Support	693.80
	Coalition Membership & Lobbying Expenses	250.00
	California Government Registration	120.00
	Total Expenses:	17,799.60
	January 1, 2019 Bank Balance	10,037.82
	Plus Income (+)	14,336.68
	Minus Expenses (-)	17,799.60
	Calculated December 31, 2019 Bank Balance	6,574.90
	Outstanding Checks as of 12/31/2019 (+)	611.51
	Actual December 31, 2019 Bank Balance	7,186.41



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Greetings CalASTA Members! 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 808 with 382 members in the Los Angeles Section, 275 in the San Francisco Section, 57 in the Sacramento Section, 34 in the San Diego Section, 23 in the Fresno Section, 22 each in the Stockton Section, and 15 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 be 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 contact Tracey Krat, ASTA Membership Coordinator, at tkrat@astastrings.org or 703-279-2113 ext. 14.

Continuing from ASTA until September 30, 2019

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:

https://www.astastrings.org/Web/Membership/Member_Get_a_Member_Campaign.aspx

Rewards include:

- a free ASTA membership renewal
- a complimentary registration for the 2020 ASTA National Conference in Orlando, Florida
- an Amazon gift card
- a Starbucks gift card

Thank you for being the best part of ASTA!

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Moore CalASTA Membership Chair.



BAKERSFIELD SECTION

The Fall String Workshop 2019 was held Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Thompson JHS hosted by Regina Pryor.

Members present at the workshop: Amy McGuire, Regina Pryor, Teresa Rizo, Julie Haney, Elvira Arambula, Marci Maynard, Whitney Herbst, Anna McCoy, Kara McCoy and Ambra Williams and our four clinicians: Susan Doehring, violin; Evan Hesketh, viola; Dieter Wulforst, cello, and Barry Newton, bass.

The String Workshop morning was very successful. The clinicians were amazing, they are all imports for the BSO and it was great for the collaboration amongst the groups. The event was a huge success with over 60 participants in four rooms, Levels I - IV We are hoping to build for even more

participants next year. We are thinking about how to get more participants from more school districts involved. Marcia Maynard resigned as Treasurer, Amy McGuire appointed Ambra Williams. We finally got all the logistics and transfers corrected.

We are trying to limit the number of meetings. Teresa Rizo, secretary, has minutes for both meetings thus far this year.

- March 9, 2019 minutes were presented and approved on October 26.
- October 26, 2019 will be approved at the May 2, Festival and Competition meeting/event.

We are gearing up for your CalASTA Bakersfield Section Festival and Competition on May 2, 2020. We anticipate the need for only 2 judges for the day, but we will know more when applications are in. Under the circumstances, we are holding off in hopes that we can still have the event. If we have to comply with Social Distancing and closures, we may have to cancel, all the CMEA Festivals have already been cancelled. We are in a 'wait until further notice' mode. I hopeful, we can have it so that students can qualify to go to the ASTA Recital in the Fall of 2020.



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FRESNO SECTION

The fall semester was a busy one for string players in Fresno with two large string festivals. The Fresno State Violin and Viola Festival featured guest artist violinist Martin Beaver, and violist Che-Yen Chen, as well as Limor Toren-Immerman, Michael Chang, and Thomas Loewenheim. The 2019 Cello Fresno International Cello Festival brought cellists from around the world to Fresno in November. Artistic Directors, Thomas Loewenheim, Emilio Colón, and Cara Elise Colón, were joined by guest artists Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi (Japan), Helga Winold, Bongshin Ko, Thomas Landschoot, Jonathan Ruck, and Ka-Wai Yu, representing some of the top music programs in the United States.

Fresno ASTA has been putting on our annual Chamber Music Workshop for over two decades. We were fortunate to be able to hold this event on Saturday, March 7, 2020 and had a larger than normal turnout of 77 students, ages 5-17 (and one adult cellist) placed into 15 ensembles. We had 16 coaches: Erin Adams, Julia Copeland, Kelvin Diaz Inoa, Adam Elmore, Lianna Elmore, Yuliya Hess, Emma Hill, Leo Kim, Thomas Loewenheim, Darian Marquez, John Morrice, Judy Robinson, K.C. Simba, Matthew Smoke, Cynthia Stuart, and Shawn Toner; three assistants: Dalton Morris, Sarine Topaldjikian and Roman Velasco; two volunteers: Patricia Fronda and Nolan Reed. We had one pre-formed quartet, but all other groups performed pieces that they had just been introduced to on the morning of the workshop. It's basically a sight-reading day and introduction to chamber music skills. We held an informal recital at the end of the day for parents, families and friends to see what we'd been working on during the workshop. It's wonderful to see how returnees improve and grow from year to year as chamber musicians!

Due to COVID-19, we had to postpone our annual student recital which would have taken place Saturday, March 21. We have our annual student solo competition set for Saturday, June 6 at the California State University, Fresno, but will most likely have to move this event to an online version as well.





LOS ANGELES SECTION

We held an emergency meeting last week to establish guidelines going forward to deal with the events that we have on the calendar in the face of the ongoing virus crisis.

Bowed Strings Competition:

The bowed strings competition has 117 entries. We are currently working on an online preliminary round and will probably have to require it be done without accompaniment. The final round is still scheduled for the end of May but we have lost our venue so we will either have to delay it or find another place for it to take place.

ASTA Grants Summary:

The Los Angeles section had up to \$2,000 to offer in this sixth year of making capped grants to a maximum of \$500.

CSUSB Cello Ensemble	\$500
Education Through Music-LA	\$500
MUSICA!	\$500
SC Viola Society	\$500

MUSICA! And CSUSB were able to hold their event but the Viola Society has postponed because of Covid-19. Education through music is not scheduled until August so that is still scheduled.

ASTACAP summary:

We had 127 students from 18 violin teachers, 5 viola teachers, 5 cello teachers and 1 double bass teacher enroll in evaluations scheduled from February through May. We have held two of those so far and will probably need to postpone, based on requirements from the State Board of Health and CDC recommendations. The income from applications totaled \$4,957.69.

Chamber Music Festivals:

Feb. Event cancelled for lack of enrollment at Chapman University. We hoped to generate some interest in starting one May 3 at Westmont College, now delayed by COVID-19.

Treasurer's Report:

Income from the Preliminary rounds for the Solo Competition totaled \$5,408.40 and we received a \$5,000 contribution from the Hennings-Fischer Foundation to help allay expenses for students selected for the Bowed Strings Finals (\$100 awarded to each finalist).

3 Harp students are enrolled in the Harp Competition.

We provided two newsletters, the String Along Fall 2019 edition and Winter 2020 edition to all of our members. In addition we send an e-news at the beginning of each month or as soon as we can get an updated membership list.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Dickstein, President, CalASTA Los Angeles Section



SAN DIEGO SECTION

Greetings from San Diego!

The CalASTA-SD section held a board meeting via email requesting suggestions and plans to implement several performance opportunities. We will be offering several CalASTA performance opportunities for our teachers, their students, school music programs and to youth orchestra string programs in the area this year.

Once again, our Youth Orchestra list on the CalASTA website is up to date now and much more inclusive of all the various levels that our local youth orchestra programs offer. This will be a much more effective resource for our ASTA teachers.

Another wonderful opportunity for our members was discussed and we are going to offer a CalASTA Solo/Chamber Ensemble Festival which will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at St. Bartholomew's Church in Poway in the church school. Announcements to ASTA and non ASTA members have been sent out inviting teachers to encourage their students to participate in this educational festival. Students may choose ratings or comments only with two judges slated to adjudicate from 9am-3pm. Application forms are available and have also been sent out. Hoping for a great turn out as many students in the area have indicated their intention to participate. Students will also receive a certificate and some students may be invited to return in the fall of 2020 to perform on a special recital featuring top students. Accompaniment is not required but two pianos will be made available for warm up and performance. I will be hosting this event and organizing all details. (update 4/1/2020-the ensemble festival is postponed until fall)

There was much excitement in the prospect of hosting a CalASTA/October Orchestra Fest for 2020 however this project is on hold for the time being since an orchestra from China was slated to visit and perform as part of the Orchestra Fest.

Plans are under way to hold an informal meet and greet meeting in the Summer of 2020 with Bertrand's Music kindly offering to host such an event complete with gifts and refreshments for all who attend.

Wishing everyone a wonderful and musically fulfilling springtime of festivals, concerts and recitals.

Respectfully submitted,
Ulli Reiner
CalASTA-SD Section, President



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

Grant Program: CalASTA San Francisco Section received several applications for the Grant Program. In September 2019, after careful consideration, our panel chose the following applicants to receive awards:

Grants award in September 2019:

Composing Together - Katie Wreedie, Director \$500

Home of United String Ensembles - Sara Usher, Director \$500

John F. Kennedy Middle School - Orchestra Director - Johnathan Hsu \$500

Applications for the 2020-2021 School Year are due out in early May.

Adopt-a-School: The Adopt-a-School program for Mount Diablo Unified, designed to help band teachers better educated strings students, has been put on hold for the rest of the school year.

ASTA CAP: There were four CalASTA San Francisco Section ASTA CAP locations planned this year. Unfortunately, the Community Music Center Richmond Branch in San Francisco was forced to close due to Covid-19 and the ASTA CAP event planned there has been postponed.

1. February 23rd at Contra Costa Christian in Walnut Creek with 14 students participating from 4 teachers.
2. March 1st at the Crowden Music Center in Berkeley with 38 students participating from 7 teachers.
3. March 14 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Berkeley with 20 students and 7 teachers participating.
4. March 15th at the Community Music Center Richmond Branch in San Francisco with 2 students participating - is now postponed to another date in April (TBD).

Solo Competition: Due to issues with shelter-in-place caused by Covid-19 virus the CalASTA San Francisco Section Board made a few modifications to the Solo Competition. The application deadline has been extended to April 5, 2020. The final round will take place online via Zoom on Sunday, April 26, 2020. We may allow participants who do not have access to high-speed internet and a microphone or are ill may use the videos they submitted for the preliminary round. Piano accompaniment is no longer required. These modifications were sent out to the section members on Friday March 20, 2020.



STOCKTON SECTION

On the morning of November 2, 2019 CalASTA Stockton Section hosted a Mariachi Workshop for students and teachers at Gregori High School in Modesto. Tito Talamantes, a teacher from Stockton Unified and University of the Pacific, was the main presenter. He brought some of his advanced high school Mariachi students to help assist and demonstrate for the classes. The workshop was divided into three sessions according to ability level and sheet music was pre-selected and distributed to the teacher in advance. For some this was their first exposure to this style of music and much was learned during this workshop. Sydney Scott, CalASTA Secretary,

was the organizer for this event.

CalASTA Stockton Section held their annual Chamber Music Day on February 29, 2020 organized by Myriam Cottin-Rack. We reached a maximum capacity with a total of 50 students registered: 8 cellos, 7 violas, and 34 violins. For the first time this year we also had a harp student participate who played in a trio with violin and cello. These students came from all throughout the San Joaquin Valley and from the East Bay Area. Ten chamber groups were pre-formed and ten local string teachers came as coaches. Additionally there were four University of the Pacific Conservatory students who helped as assistant coaches. Professional musician Nathan Davidson filled in as a violist for one of the advanced chamber groups. There was an informal performance in the afternoon where all the groups performed for each other and family and friends. University of the Pacific Conservatory in Stockton again generously donated the use of their facilities for this event and we are grateful for their ongoing support of local strings.

We also planned on holding our annual Solo Student Recital Saturday April 25, 2020 at the Heartland Community Church in Ripon but with the Coronavirus Pandemic we have decided to cancel this event. CalASTA Stockton Section Treasurer Donna Harrison was the organizer and Jason Jeffrey from Stockton was to be our piano accompanist.

Thank you!

Griena "Goody" Choi-Trask CalASTA Stockton Section President



CALIFORNIA ORCHESTRA DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

The California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA) exists “to promote school orchestras in California by providing quality honor orchestra experiences for school orchestra students, facilitating an exchange of instructional strategies and ideas for the school orchestra director, and providing a forum and community for school orchestra directors.”

Over the 2019-20 academic year, CODA has continued to work to serve these objectives. Items of note include:

- Honor Orchestras (December)
 - Nearly 200 students participated in the annual CODA December Honor Orchestras, which was held at the University of California – Santa Cruz
 - The ensembles were led by Ms. Sandra Lewis (String Orchestra) and Dr.

Bruce Kiesling (Symphony Orchestra).

- California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC)
 - In February 2020 the CASMEC coalition, which includes the California Music Educators Association, the California Band Directors Association, the California Orchestra Directors Association, the California Alliance for Jazz, and the California Choral Directors Association worked together to help present the All-State Music Education Conference.
 - CODA sponsored ten professional development sessions at CASMEC, which were coordinated by our CASMEC Logistics Coordinator, Lawrence Huang. Sessions included nationally recognized pedagogues as well as a reading session, which was sponsored by J.W. Pepper and featured the Amador Valley Symphony Orchestra (led by Mark Aubel).
 - The Clovis High School Chamber Orchestra was featured with a performance in the Saroyan Theatre (performing in this venue was new at the 2020 conference).
 - Three All-State Orchestras performed at the conference, including the High School Symphony Orchestra (conducted by Rei Hotoda), High School String Orchestra (directed by Sayra Siverson), and the Junior High School String Orchestra (led by William ‘Bill’ Dick). These ensembles were coordinated largely by our All-State Coordinator, Ms. Tiffany Ou.

In addition to facilitating the honor orchestra and professional development opportunities noted above, CODA is currently in the process of assessing its own practices and examining its structure (including the bylaws). The goal of this review is to help ensure that (1) the organization has clearly articulated bylaws which reflect current practices, and (2) where necessary, suggest revisions and/or reforms that are in the best interest of our members and music students here in California.

Looking ahead, CODA will continue to examine what opportunities are provided to our music students and educators here in California. As significant members of the music education community here in California, CalAS-TA members and its leaders are encouraged to continue to communicate with CODA to offer observations and suggestions that best serve the primary objectives of our organization.

Thank you for all you do for our music students!

2020 – 21 Items of Note

CODA December Honor Orchestras (December 2020)

- Will be held in Palo Alto at Stanford University
- Conductors
 - Symphony Orchestra – Paul Phillips (Stanford)
 - String Orchestra – Dr. Alexander Kahn (Sonoma State University)

All-State Orchestras (February 2021)

- HS Symphony Orchestra – Robert Moody (Memphis Symphony)
- HS String Orchestra – Robert Baldwin (University of Utah)
- JHS String Orchestra – Dr. Cathie Hundall, ASTA National Clinician

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STRING PROJECT

SACRAMENTO STATE STRING PROJECT

Our Fall 2019 teachers did an outstanding job. Our December 2019 Concert sounded very good and elicited great enthusiasm from the audience for the children and teachers' efforts and results.

An intensive training weekend for the Spring 2020 teachers occurred February 2-3 with both Master Teachers. Timothy Stanley held parent meetings and auditions for children who already play and wanted to join the String Project. Classes began with some changes. The large beginner class was divided into two smaller classrooms and the excellent intermediates from fall semester were invited to assimilate into the orchestra. New music was

unveiled and begun. A string quartet of the most advanced orchestra students started their special Wednesday rehearsals.

Classes at the satellite teaching location at the Taylor Street School in the Robla School District continued on Friday afternoons. These classes are supplemented by the students joining the campus students for Monday and Wednesday classes. Robla Educational Foundation helps to subsidize instruments and transportation for these students. This exemplary collaboration offers children an opportunity they otherwise might never have.

Spring semester was successfully underway! Then the Covid-19 virus interrupted the classes. Mr. Stanley let the children and parents know that classes could no longer meet for the rest of the semester. It was a sad moment with some tears.

Since that moment, Professors Stanley (cello) and Bossuat-Gallic (violin) have been recording practice videos. Links to the appropriate level of videos are being sent to students to encourage their continued practice. The plan will keep the student teachers learning as well with assignments to make their own teaching videos modelled after the ones the Master Teachers have made. When possible, the individual lessons are being given on Skype, FaceTime or Zoom.

We are looking forward to September 2020 when Fall Classes for new beginners and continuing students will begin. Hopefully everything will be back up and running normally at that time. Please save the date for our next free concert in the remodeled Capistrano Concert Recital Hall (parking structure 1) on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 7pm. The program will include endearing favorites and some new orchestra literature. <https://www.csus.edu/stringproject.htm>

This program, under the umbrella of the National String Project Consortium, helps college students get 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., and individual donors Marvin Israelow, Ed Israelow, Paul Rittenberg, Audra Lehman and Howard Lehman. These grants and donations allow costs to remain low for the children.

Andrew Luchansky, Director
Judy Bossuat-Gallic and Timothy Stanley, Master Teachers



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