



NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Dear Hollywood Branch Members,

It's hard to believe November is already here! First, a heart-felt thank you to the teachers who participated in this year's Fall Festival. The performances were a genuine delight, and I hope you and your students enjoyed the experience as much as I did. A special shout-out to our Festival Chair, Grigor Akopyan for his tireless dedication and seamless coordination that made the event such a success.

Next on the calendar is our **Winterfest Competition**, to be held at **Los Angeles Valley College** on **Sunday, December 14!** Please read on for details and application instructions.

Until then, wishing you a restful (and music-filled!) Thanksgiving and a joyful start to the holiday season.

*Colleen Carney
President, MTAC Hollywood Branch
(503) 929-3100*

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL FALL FESTIVAL!

Sunday, October 19, 2025 @ Steinway Hall

Festival Chair: Grigor Akopyan

Participating Teachers: Grigor Akopyan, Nonna Ayrapetova, Marina Bykhovsky, Cynthia Harlan, Remi Lee, Marina Lomtadze, Armine Margaryan, Aroutioun Mikaelian, Victoria Roizen, Svetlana Transky





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WINTERFEST - 2025

Date: Sunday, December 14, 2025

Venue: Los Angeles City College, 5800 Fulton Ave, Valley Glen, Ca 91401

Scheduling Chair: Aroutioun Mikaelian, aamikaelian@yahoo.com

Online Application Deadline: Monday, November 17

***Click here for application**

- The Winterfest Competition is open to all ages and levels; repertoire may be from any historical period.
- Only ONE original piece or ONE movement may be chosen for performance (simplified versions and repeats are discouraged).
- Memorization required (ensembles excepted).
- Categories: 8 & under, 10 & under, 12 & under, 14 & under, 16 & under, and 17 & over.
- Trophies awarded in each category; past winners perform in a separate Winners Program.
- Teachers are expected to attend and help with event duties.
- Dress Code: Dresses/elegant outfits for females; dress pants, shirt, and shoes for males (no sports shoes).
- Photos of participants/audience may appear on branch website or social media.

Two Grand Prizes:

Senior Grand Prize (age 13 and above) – \$100

Junior Grand Prize (age 12 and under) - \$100

The Grand Prize awards will be limited to a one time win per student.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 19	Fall Recital, Steinway Hall
Sunday, December 14	Winterfest, LAVC
Sunday, February 1	Classical Era Competition, LAVC
February 2026 (Date TBA)	General Meeting + Branch Luncheon, Burbank
Sunday, February 15	Bach Masterclass, Keyboard Concepts (Sherman Oaks Location)
March 2026 (Date TBA)	Bach/Baroque Festival
Sunday, April 26	Spring Festival, Keyboard Concepts (Sherman Oaks Location)
Sunday, June 7	Achievement Awards Recital, LAVC
Sunday, June 13	General Meeting + Annual Potluck (Location TBA)

*Visit MTACHollywood.org for application deadlines, updates on subsequent General Meeting dates, and more.



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STATE & REGIONAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

2025-2026 CM TIMELINE

- September 1, 2025 - CM Application and Payment period opens
- September 30, 2025 - CM Application Period closes
- October 5, 2025 - CM Application payment closes
- December 15, 2025 - CM Enrollment Application Online Edit closes
- February 3, 2025 - CM Online Evaluation Media Submission due

***The Certificate of Merit is one of MTAC's most distinguished and recognized state programs that serves as a musical curriculum for private musical studies. Please refer to the MTAC Teacher Portal for more detailed information.**



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JUNIOR BACH FESTIVAL

As discussed during our September Meeting, SCJBF is now running the Branch Festivals independent of MTAC. As part of the restructuring, Hollywood Branch is a part of Region IV, alongside Glendale, SFWV, West Los Angeles, and Santa Monica Bay.

The Region IV Festival will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2026 at the Westside Music Conservatory.

Questions may be directed to the Region IV Chair, Dr. Deborah How via this form.



HELP US CELEBRATE YOUR STUDENTS!

Do your students have recent achievements or upcoming recitals you'd like to share? We'd love to feature them in our Branch newsletter!

Simply reply to this email with pertinent news or updates, and we'll be glad to include them in an upcoming issue.

