



SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear Hollywood Branch Members,

I hope you all enjoyed a rejuvenating, music-filled summer!

I'm excited to begin a new year with our Branch, and I hope you'll consider getting involved in the many events and activities we have planned for 2026-2027. Our Branch is made stronger by your presence, enthusiasm, and support.

Thank you for your continued commitment. I look forward to another wonderful year together and to all that we'll celebrate along the way!

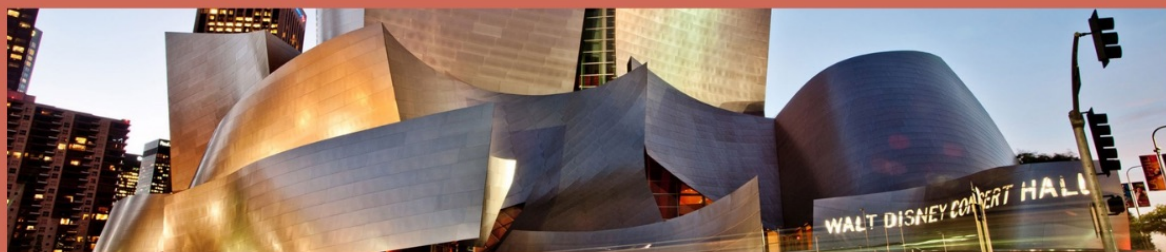
*Colleen Carney
President, MTAC Hollywood Branch
(503) 929-3100*

BRANCH GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

Our first meeting of 2026-2027 will take place on Wednesday, September 23 via Zoom. The meeting link will be emailed together with the agenda prior to the date (no RSVP required).

We will discuss our upcoming programs and address any questions for the coming year.



STEINWAY & SONS PRIVATE PIANO SELECTION EVENT

Steinway & Sons is partnering with the Los Angeles Philharmonic to host an Exclusive Private Piano Selection Event on September 18th, 19th, and 20th at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

More than 60 pianos will be available, including New, Certified Pre-Owned, Factory-Restored Steinways, and Steinway-designed pianos, with inventory coming directly from our factory in New York and offered at special event pricing.

Pianos will be available across a wide range of price points, with special financing available and trade-ins of all makes and models welcome.

The event is by appointment only and first-come, first-served. If you know a student or family who is considering a new piano, please have them contact Angel Therrien at (619) 608-3248 or atherrien@steinway.com to reserve a priority appointment.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 23	Hollywood Branch General Meeting via Zoom
Sunday, October 18	Fall Festival (Location TBA)
Sunday, December 13	Winterfest (LAVC)
Sunday, January 31	Classical Era Competition (LAVC)
Sunday, March 21	Baroque Festival (Location TBA)
Sunday, May 2	Spring Festival (Location TBA)
Sunday, June 6	Achievement Awards Recital (LAVC)
Sunday, June 13	Hollywood Branch Annual Potluck (Location TBA)

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



FALL FESTIVAL - 2026

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Application deadline: Friday, October 2

Festival Chair: Grigor Akopyan, arax13@sbcglobal.net

Fall Festival Guidelines:

- The Fall Festival is open to any age or difficulty level and repertoire may be chosen from any historical period.
- Repertoire must consist of an original composition – simplified versions are discouraged. Refer to the Certificate of Merit Syllabus for acceptable arrangements. Repeats, other than first and second endings, are discouraged.
- Young beginners may perform two short pieces, under 1 minute each (not an option for intermediate or advance students).
- Students are expected to perform from memory (with the exception of ensembles) and it is customary for students to bow before and after their performance.

Application Process:

1. Complete the [online application form here](#).
2. Submit payment via check to Chizuru Sanada (Hollywood Branch Treasurer): 4236 Arch Dr. #208 Studio City, CA 91604 by Friday, October 2.

Participation Fees:

- NO teacher's fee
- Solo Student fee: \$30 flat fee per student
- Duet Student Fee: \$31 for 2 performers (includes \$30 fee for solo performance, plus an additional \$1 for a duet)

STATE & REGIONAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

2026-2027 CM TIMELINE

- **September 1, 2026 - CM Application and Payment period opens**
- **September 30, 2026 - CM Application Period closes**
- **October 5, 2026 - CM Application payment closes**
- **December 15, 2026 - CM Enrollment Application Online Edit closes**
- **March 9, 2027 - 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.**



SCJBF - COMPLETE WORKS AUDITIONS

Some of our teachers had students who were the winners in a Regional Bach Festival and qualified to participate in Complete Works Auditions. See below for more information!

- 1. Complete Works Audition: Sunday, October 4 at Bob Cole Conservatory, Long Beach. This will be held in an open live audition format. Schedule information will be emailed to CWA teachers around September 15.**
- 2. Complete Works Awards Concert: Saturday, October 17 at Covenant Presbyterian Church: 607 E. 3rd Street (at Atlantic Avenue), Long Beach CA. 90802**

JUNIOR CHAMBER MUSIC (JCM)

Junior Chamber Music (JCM) brings together accomplished players (ages 9-20) from around Southern California to learn chamber music from teachers and coaches. Please visit their [website](#) for more information!



UPCOMING JCM EVENTS (2026-2027)

Chamber Music Competition:

One of the largest chamber music competitions on the West Coast, this competition has 3 rounds, and ends in a Final Concert.

Preliminary Round Deadline (Video Submission): February 18

Semi-Final & Final Rounds: February 28 at Cerritos College Recital Hall in Norwalk

Grand Prize: March 2027 performance for [The Da Camera Society](#)

Prizes:

\$1200/\$1000/\$600 1st Prize

\$600/\$500/\$300 2nd Prize

\$300/\$250/\$120 3rd Prize

Concerto Competition:

February 20 at Irvine Valley College. Application deadline is January 15.