



OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear Hollywood Branch Members,

It was wonderful to see everyone at our September Kick-off meeting, and I look forward to reconnecting with many of you at our Fall Festival on Sunday, October 18!

Looking ahead, applications for this year's Winterfest Competition are due November 16. (See below for details.)

Thank you for all you bring to our branch. Wishing you and your students a lovely fall and a Happy Halloween!

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

2026 FALL FESTIVAL

Date: Sunday, October 18 (12:00 noon - 5:00 pm)

Venue: Faust Harrison, Santa Monica (3232 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90404)

Festival Chair: Grigor Akopyan, arax13@sbcglobal.net

Whether you have a student playing or would simply like to attend, we hope to see you there!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 18	Fall Festival (Faust Harrison, Santa Monica)
Sunday, December 13	Winterfest (LAVC)
Sunday, January 31	Classical Era Competition (LAVC)
Sunday, February 7	Hollywood Branch Masterclass (Location TBA)
Sunday, March 21	Baroque Festival (Location TBA)
Sunday, May 16	Spring Festival (LAVC)
Sunday, June 6	Hollywood Branch Annual Potluck (Location TBA)
Sunday, June 13	Achievement Awards Recital (LAVC)

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



WINTERFEST - 2026

Date: Sunday, December 13, 2026

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

Scheduling Chair: Aroutioun Mikaelian, aamikaelian@yahoo.com

Online Application Deadline: Monday, November 16

***Visit MTACHollywood.org for application details and fees**

- 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.

STATE & REGIONAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

2026-2027 CM TIMELINE

- 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.

MTAC ASSISTANCE DIRECTORY

In order to serve their members better, the following accounts have been set up by the MTAC. When you have a question, feel free to send an email to the appropriate address shown below:

Membership questions: membership@mtac.org

CM/Panel questions & name change requests: cminfo@mtac.org

YAG questions: yag@mtac.org

Evaluator questions for all programs: evaluators@mtac.org

Non-CM questions, birthday verifications, insurance questions:
programs@mtac.org

Convention questions, sponsorship questions: convention@mtac.org

Exhibitor requests: exhibitors@mtac.org

Requests for advertising in the California Music Teacher: advertising@mtac.org

Questions about the California Music Teacher: cmt@mtac.org

Foundation questions & requests: foundation@mtac.org

General MTAC questions: mtacinfo@mtac.org

ASCAP questions: mariam@mtac.org

CM Curriculum: curriculum@mtac.org

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.

