NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear Hollywood Branch Members,

I'd like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to all the teachers who took part in this year's Fall Festival. Your students' performances brought so much energy and joy to the event, and it was wonderful to see everyone come together to celebrate their hard work. A special thank-you to our Festival Chair, Grigor Akopyan, for his time, commitment, and exceptional efforts in making the festival a success.

Up next is our Winterfest Competition at Los Angeles Valley College on Sunday, December 13! Please see below for event details and application instructions.

As we head into the holiday season, I wish you and your students a happy, relaxing Thanksgiving filled with joy, gratitude, and music!

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

2026 FALL FESTIVAL - RECAP!

Sunday, October 18, 2026 @ Faust Harrison Pianos, Santa Monica

Festival Chair: Grigor Akopyan

Participating Teachers: Armine Margaryan, Anna Tamiroghlyan, Svetlana Transky, Galina Berezovsky, Chizuru Sanada, Nonna Ayrapetova, Aroutioun Mikaelian, Grigor Akopyan, Victoria Roizen, and Cynthia Harlan









WINTERFEST - 2026

Date: Sunday, December 13, 2026

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

Scheduling Chair: Aroutioun Mikaelian, aamikaelian@yahoo.com

Online Application Deadline: Wednesday, November 18
***See following page for application instructions**

- **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.



WINTERFEST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Online Application Deadline: Wednesday, November 18

CLICK HERE FOR APPLICATION

- **Complete the online application (linked above) and mail your check postmarked by the deadline to Chizuru Sanada (4236 Arch Dr. #208 Studio City, CA 91604)**

APPLICATION FEES:

- **Student Fee: $35 (with an additional $1 for duets)**
- **Teacher Fee: $10**

***No refunds will be issued for this event.**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 13	Winterfest (LAVC)
Sunday, January 31	Classical Era Competition (LAVC)
Sunday, February 7	Bach Masterclass (Location TBA)
*Sunday, March 14	Baroque Festival (Steinway Hall Beverly Hills)
Sunday, May 16	Spring Festival (LAVC)
Sunday, June 13	Achievement Awards Recital (LAVC)
Sunday, June 6	Hollywood Branch Annual Potluck (Location TBA)



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.**



The next installment of the MTAC's Continuing Education Webinar Series will be hosted on Wednesday, November 18 from 10am - 12pm PT.

If you cannot attend the live webinar, a recorded version will be available on the MTAC Teacher Portal 10 business days after the webinar.

***If you have suggestions for future webinar topics, please send them to membership@mtac.org!**

How to RSVP

Click here to register.

Enter your email address from the MTAC Teacher Portal as your access code

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.

