

The SOUNDPOST



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

FALL 2022



The Soundpost
Newsletter of the California Chapter, Inc. of ASTA
2105 Louise St
Santa Ana, CA 92706
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The SOUNDPOST



FALL 2022

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President's Message

Quyen Nguyen, President

Dear CalASTA Colleagues,

I'd like to begin by extending great gratitude and thanks to Dr. Robert Becker for his stellar leadership and positivity during the pandemic. Despite so many restrictions and challenges, he was still able to help our organization adopt new technology, create new policies, and was able to keep our spirits up in trying times. He sat at the helm of CalASTA and held the reins during a very difficult time for all of us and helped to steer us towards a brighter future. Bravo!

With Dr. Becker's transition into the role of Immediate Past President, I am happy to introduce your newly elected CalASTA officers: Stephanie Holmes as President-Elect and Wendy Velasco as Secretary. Stephanie has served as the CalASTA Membership Chair for the past several years and is a Past President of Virginia ASTA. Wendy is the new President of the Los Angeles Section and has served on that board for decades. I'm very much looking forward to working with both of them, knowing that CalASTA will be able to benefit from their many years of leadership, service, and experience!

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
2020-2022 Robert Becker

I, myself, am excited to serve as President of our wonderful state and to carry on the legacy of the great leaders that have come before me. CalASTA is the largest constituency of ASTA members in the entire nation, and we have more leaders than any other state dedicated to our string teaching community. That being said, I have many goals for CalASTA: I would love to expand our board and cultivate leadership across our state; I would like to implement technological solutions to help us streamline and standardize current processes which would then give us more bandwidth to create new programs; I think it is necessary to continue improving our relationships with our sister music education organizations and create cross-institutional advocacy; Most of all, I would like to help us rebuild from the pandemic and to pave a way for greater growth and opportunity for years to come!

With opportunities at both the Section and State level, we are always looking for excited volunteers who are dedicated to strengthening the string teaching profession through our own personal professional development, supporting our colleagues, being of service to our communities, and most importantly, creating opportunities for our students whose lives we have the privilege to affect each and every day. Whether you'd like to serve as an elected board member who is able to influence policy across the state or you'd simply like to serve as a chat moderator for an hour-long online event, we need your diverse talents and expertise. Please contact your Section or State leadership for more information on how you can help all of us make a difference through music education!

Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of being an ASTA member is access to our exemplary National Conference. There is no organization that addresses string pedagogy, which is equally relevant to private studios and school orchestras alike, quite like we do! Having been to several National conferences myself, I can say that you will walk away refreshed, renewed, and better equipped to meet the needs of your students and your programs. Additionally, you will be able to immerse yourselves in a wonderful network of supportive and like-minded educators. CalASTA even hosts a "Meet & Greet" event on the first day of the conference so you can get to know the familiar faces you will see over and over again during the course of the conference. I do hope that I will be able to meet many of you at the upcoming National Conference in Orlando, FL from March 15th through 19th, 2023!

Quyen Nguyen
CalASTA President

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



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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="radio"/> Higher Education | <input type="radio"/> Private Studio | <input type="radio"/> Music Administrator |
| <input type="radio"/> K-12 | <input type="radio"/> Conductor | <input type="radio"/> String Enthusiast |
| <input type="radio"/> Student | <input type="radio"/> Retired | |

What year did you start teaching music? _____

What level do you teach? *(Select all that apply.)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Elementary [K-5] | <input type="radio"/> Collegiate |
| <input type="radio"/> Middle [6-8] | <input type="radio"/> (Undergrad & Graduate) |
| <input type="radio"/> High School [9-12] | <input type="radio"/> Adult |

What is your primary instrument?

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Violin | <input type="radio"/> Guitar | <input type="radio"/> Piano |
| <input type="radio"/> Viola | <input type="radio"/> Brass | <input type="radio"/> Woodwind |
| <input type="radio"/> Cello | <input type="radio"/> Percussion | |
| <input type="radio"/> Double Bass | <input type="radio"/> Harp | |

ASTA State Chapter

Your membership dues include state chapter membership. To find your state information, visit www.astastrings.org.

Dues Payment

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> \$116: Professional Member | <input type="radio"/> \$57: Student member |
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"ADD ON"

- ☐ **\$15:** Membership certificate
☐ **\$7:** Membership pin
 TOTAL \$ _____

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 Check No. _____
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CARD NO. EXP. DATE CVV

NAME ON CARD SIGNATURE (PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION)

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CalASTA Accounting Report

Michael Feeney, Treasurer

ASTA Calendar Year Accounting Report
California Chapter
Fiscal Year 7/1/21 TO 6/30/22) 2022
Prepared by Michael Feeney State Treasurer

INCOME	Rebates from National	6,958.90
	Soundpost Sponsorships	1,750.00
	Section Transfers - Elections	91.95
	Bank Account Reconciliation	0.69
	Total Income:	8,801.54
EXPENSES	Rebates to Sections	3,479.46
	Rebates to Sections - Delayed	92.35
	Website Support	1,034.92
	Coalition Membership & Lobbying Expenses	250.00
	Soundpost Production	225.00
	Bank Charges	96.00
	Section Transfers - Elections	79.95
	California Government Registration	25.00
	State Solo Competition Winner Awards - Delayed	300.00
	Total Expenses:	5,582.68
	Actual July 1, 2021 Bank Balance	5,367.31
	Less Outstanding Checks as of 07/01/2021 (-)	0.00
	Calculated July 1, 2021 Bank Balance	5,367.31
	Plus Income (+)	8,801.54
	Minus Expenses (-)	5,582.68
	Calculated June 30, 2022 Bank Balance	8,586.17
	Outstanding Checks as of 06/30/2022 (+)	263.88
	Actual June 30, 2022 Bank Balance	8,850.05



Bakersfield Section

Greetings to All,

The Bakersfield Section of CalASTA has continued to have two annual events, the Fall String Workshop and the Spring Festival and Competition. We are proud to announce we had three winners for the Spring Festival and Competition on April 30, 2022. Three of Julie Haney's violin students took first, second, and third prize. Magdalena Hermann won first prize and \$100, she was accompanied by Tess Shaw. Ella Gove won second prize and \$50 and she was accompanied by Becky Baker, and Ethan Chang won third prize and \$25 and he was accompanied by Soo Yeon Park.

In addition to the competition, we had 25 students play in the festival, as well. It was a full schedule and was held at Reagan Elementary in the Panama Buena Vista Union School District. Due to Covid and other factors we were lucky to have Reagan Elementary as our backup location and our two judges were April Merritt, violin teacher, and subbing for a late cancellation, Amy McGuire.

We have already chosen our music for the workshop and are scheduling our events for the upcoming school year. Our string workshop has been so successful we are continuing with the same format. The Fall String Workshop will have five levels including beginners. The beginner session last year was such a hit, there were 85 students for that level. So we are offering beginners again.

The Fall String Workshop will be held on November 8, 2022 at Seibert Elementary School. Music teacher and treasurer Ambra Williams is our host. This year we are trying an evening/ after school workshop. Scheduling around other events has been a challenge but this is such a valuable event for our students, we are willing to try not having it on a Saturday.

In the spring of 2023 we will be hosting our Annual Festival and Competition on April 29, 2023. The location is yet to be determined.

We are adding another event this year. Since we've had five teachers/string players move out of our area and they are 5 key players in the symphony and music education, we've decided to have a social "mixer". This gathering will provide an opportunity to share different teaching techniques and encourage more people to attend. We would like to schedule it as soon as possible to encourage new membership. New members are always welcome.

The Bakersfield section is looking forward to having a year of in person events and a school year that's getting back to our usual schedule of events. Hats off to everyone for an exciting new school year!

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McGuire
President, CalASTA Bakersfield Section



Fresno Section

Last year the FresnoASTA board has been hard at work to bringing back our annual events which included our chamber music workshop, the student recital, and the solo competition.

The Chamber Music Workshop was our first in-person event since the beginning of the pandemic and was held on Saturday, March 19, 2022, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Fresno. The workshop took place from 9:00 AM till 12:00 PM and concluded with an informal recital at 12:00 PM. Due to space limitations, we had only four groups participate with a total of 13 students. Our coaches were Julia Copeland, Lianna Elmore, MaPheW Smoke and Thomas Loewenheim, and the groups included students of Kelvin Diaz Inoa, Lianna Elmore, Thomas Loewenheim, Cynthia Stuart and Limor Toren- Immerman. Our second event was the FresnoASTA student recital that was held on Saturday, May 14, 2022 also at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. We had 20 students perform in the recital and had representation of the studios of Thomas Loewenheim, Laura Porter, K.C. Simba-Torres, Cynthia Stuart and Limor Toren-Immerman

Our second event was the FresnoASTA student recital that was held on Saturday, May 14, 2022 also at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. We had 20 students perform in the recital and had representation of the studios of Thomas Loewenheim, Laura Porter, K.C. Simba-Torres, Cynthia Stuart and Limor Toren-Immerman.

Our annual student solo competition was held on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at the California State University, Fresno, Department of Music. The competition was open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar and Harp) who are students of active FresnoASTA members. We had 18 students compete and modelled our competition to align with the State competition and have three age divisions: the Novice division, age 12 and under, the Junior division, age 13-18, and the Senior division, age 19-25. Represented studios were those of Kelvin Diaz-Inoa, Yuliya Hess, Thomas Loewenheim, Thi Nguyen, and Limor Toren-Immerman.

In the Novice Division (age 12 and under), the first place and the award of \$50.00 went to cellist Daniel Lien, a student of Dr. Thomas Loewenheim. The second place went to violist Myla Demsey, a student of Ms. Yuliya Hess. Two honorable mentions were given to violinist Emmanuel Loewenheim, a student of Dr. Limor Toren-Immerman, and cellist Natalie Han, a student of Dr. Loewenheim. The four were recommended for the State Competition in October.

In the Junior Division (13-18), the first place and the award of \$100.00 went to violinist Alexander Han, a student of Dr. Toren-Immerman. A honorable mention was also given to cellist Renard Wu, a student of Dr. Loewenheim. Both were recommended for the State Competition.

In the Senior Division, the first place and the award of \$150.00 was given to cellist Kelvin Diaz Inoa, a student of Dr. Loewenheim.

The competition also awarded a special award. the Fresno Musical Club - Hildred Minich Scholarship of \$1,000 to an outstanding string player who has placed in the 2022 Solo Competition. The winner of the special award, which goes to cover tuition fees for college education, was awarded to violinist Alexander Han.

The esteemed judges, violist Gina Coled, chair of the Ed and Mari Edelman Chamber Music Institute at the Colburn Community School of Performing Arts, and viola teacher at Colburn's Community School of Performing Arts and Music Academy, and cellist Bongshin Ko, Professor of Cello and Vice Director at California State University Fullerton School of Music, were very impressed with the high level and great work all the students presented.

This week the board met to plan this year's events which will include the chamber music workshop, the annual FresnoASTA recital, the FresnoASTA Solo Competition, and the Jazz/Folk/Improvisation for Strings workshop. Other events that promote string teaching and performing that the FresnoASTA chapter co-sponsors are the Cello|Fresno international cello festival, and the Fresno State Violin and Viola Festival.

Respectfully

Dr. Thomas Loewenheim
President, CalASTA Fresno Section



Los Angeles Section

The greater Los Angeles Section held elections this past Spring. Our President-elect is Laurie Niles. Continuing on as Treasurer is the amazing Kay Pech who does so much for our section. We are also happy that Connie Deeter will continue on as Secretary. She always prepares such prompt and concise meeting minutes!

Annual Awards: Each year we honor special people in our Section. This year's awards were:
OUTSTANDING STUDIO TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Gina Coletti
OUTSTANDING SCHOOL TEACHER (or PROFESSOR) OF THE YEAR: Kristin Herkstroeter
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: Metzler Violins, Glendale
We provide a year's membership for each of our honoree's

Solo competitions

The solo **harp competition** was chaired by Past President, **Marcia Dickstein**.

Our winners who advanced to the State competition are:

Junior I First Place: Lydia Aluko (Allison Allport, teacher)

Novice First Place (tie): Leenah Yoon (Heejin Yoon and JoAnn Turovsky, teachers) and Colin Hong (Koni Choi, teacher).

Our solo bowed strings competition was chaired by Jillian Risigari-Gai Lopez (she, her, hers). There were 99 applicants in the preliminary online round (46 violin, 11 viola, 42 cello). This year we separated our Junior category into Junior I (13-15) and Junior II (16-18). Even though the students would still have to compete at the State level together, it allowed us the opportunity to award more students and recognize some of our younger "Juniors." Our winners who advanced to the State competition are:

Viola Junior II	Vittorio Samaniego (Amanda Yang)
Violin Junior II	Gabriel Tsai (Suli Xue) and Ethan Yang (Linda Rose)
Cello Junior I	Emerson (Yul) Yang (Sarah Koo Freeman) and Austin Park (Jisun Jung)
Viola Junior I	Aviv Pilipski (Gina Coletti) and Elysia Han (Gina Coletti)
Violin Junior I	Rubi Lee (Violin Studio of Mori & Park)
Cello Novice	Lucas Lee (Sarah Koo Freeman)
Viola Novice	Leonora Vukovitz (Deborah Vukovitz)
Violin Novice	Audrey Rowen Lee (Eunhee Kim) and Natalie Xu (Violin Studio of Mori & Park)

We are excited to welcome Trina Hodgson as a Co-Chair to the bowed strings competition next year. Many thanks to board member, Fung Ho, for his help in securing a generous grant of \$5,000 from the Hennings- Fischer Foundation which helps our finalists with the additional costs of performing in the Final round.

Our solo guitar competition ran into complications due to COVID restrictions with our venue so was not held this year.

Grant Program: We were able to award 2 grants and present 1 "webinar" with our funds.

Funds were awarded to Suzuki Music Program LA's Bach in the Subway Program in March to help with rental and pianist fees.

We presented an online webinar "From Bach to Bebop" in April. It was presented by Jason Anick who helped us explore classical string players can benefit from exploring the harmonic progressions in Bach's music and use the progressions as an introduction to jazz improvising

Funds were awarded to Education Through Music LA for a teacher training session in August. The session was open to all string teachers and was presented by Richard Meyers. Topics included: beginning-intermediate string technique, proper set-up & foundation, building & developing your program from day 1, and building effective sectional/rehearsal routines.

ASTACAP: Our in person ASTACAP program held quarterly (March/June/September/ December) continues to expand under the leadership of co-chairs, Kay Pech and Nick Alvarez. In March of 2022 ASTACAP exams were held in Pasadena, Woodland Hills, Azusa Pacific University, Santa Ana AFM Local 7 Performance Hall, CSUN, and Viewpoint School...As of Spring 2022 we have had 21 violin teachers enroll 80 violin students, 5 viola teachers enrolled 6 viola students, 7 cello teachers enrolled 25 cello students, 1 double bass teacher enrolled 4 double bass students, and 1 harp teacher has enrolled 4 harp students.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Velasco

President, CalASTA Los Angeles Section

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Director of Chamber Music

Roberto Cani, Violin

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Wendy Richman, Viola

Founding Violist,
International Contemporary Ensemble

Diane Roscetti, Cello

Director, CSUN Honors String Quartet Program

Jory Herman, Double Bass

Los Angeles Philharmonic

Allison Allport, Harp

Los Angeles Studio Musician



csun.edu/music



[@stringsatcsun](https://www.instagram.com/stringsatcsun)



Sacramento Section

Past Events:

Solo Competition:

Congratulations to the winners of our “Annual Section Solo Competition” held at the UC Davis Music Department on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Awards went to the following participants:

Violin

Jenna Son (winner, junior division, student of Christine Choi)

Cello

William Masters (winner, junior division, student of Susan Lamb Cook)

Noah Wong, (winner, novice division, student of Jia-mo Chen)

Two additional participants were recommended for advancement to the CalASTA State Solo Competition, which will be held at CSUS in Sacramento on Sunday, October 23, 2022. Those students were Jennifer Lee and Aaron Niu, both from the junior cello division.

Our judges were Leo Gravin and Melinda Ellis. Their photos and bios can be found on the Sacramento Section page at www.calasta.org

Spring Recital:

Our annual spring recital was held in person at the Harrison Oaks Studio in Fair Oaks on Saturday, May 29. It was necessary to split the recital into two sections due to the overwhelming response.

Upcoming Annual Fall Showcase Recital:

Our upcoming Fall Showcase Recital will be held on November 13 at the Harrison Oak Studios. Exact time and applications will be available in our newsletter and online at www.calasta.org.

Our current board for the Sacramento section is as follows:

President – Kimberly Cole Feeney

Vice-President - Gay Currier

Secretary – Reylynn Imai

Treasurer – Catherine Heusner

Recital Coordinator – Elena Bolha

Kimberly Feeney
President, CalASTA Sacramento Section



San Diego Section

Greetings from San Diego!

The CalASTA-SD section is slowly emerging out of the “hibernative” state produced from the Covid lockdown and halt of performances and in-person teaching that took such a huge toll on our musical community and families.

String groups are re-emerging with more excitement and energy as are various levels of choral and all-inclusive instrumental groups. Many ensembles gave outdoor concerts this summer making the environment safer for both the musicians and audiences. These outdoor concerts and outdoor venues have seen far more success than in the years of Covid, making for a very positive and ever brighter future to return to full openings of all ensembles in performance and teaching.

I have seen firsthand many teaching studios re-emerge to in person teaching and performing both in person and in larger groups making such a positive move to learning to live with the new order of the world with covid ever present but learning to remain safe and consider all aspects of safety for all.

Schools will resume their in-person music programs and all with in-person safety measures.

Please let me know if you have news you wish to share in our next report as I am happy to share your news and your musical adventures with us all.

Warm wishes,
Ulli Reiner
President, CalASTA San Diego Section

San Francisco Section



The San Francisco section is saying goodbye to some of our board members. We wish them the best and are very appreciative of the service they have generously provided to our membership and the good times we have spent collaborating on ASTA projects.

Stephanie Railsback is now retired from the Board after thirteen years of service. She wrote us a snippet about her term on the board of CalASTA San Francisco as the ASTACAP Coordinator:



I started the SF section ASTACAP program in 2009. The program was started in the East Coast ASTA states, and when I read about it I was very excited to try it with my students. I was the ASTACAP chair for 10 years, and I also met with the Stockton section to introduce the program to them so they could start their own ASTACAP program. In 2018 I served on a national task force to revise the ASTACAP Handbook. I was an active member of the board and also helped with other programs in the CalASTA SF section.

In June 2022 my husband and I left the Bay Area in search of a more peaceful lifestyle. I'm currently living in the Amherst, MA area, and I plan to continue playing viola with the Oakland Symphony and other Bay Area orchestras."

Sara Usher, our Special Projects Coordinator, has also retired from the Board. She will now be named the Special Projects Coordinator Emeritus, mentoring the person who fills the position.



"Previous CalASTA SF section president, Cybele D'Ambrosio invited me to join the board as the Special Projects Coordinator in 2013. Our section works to support CalASTA SF member's string projects with small grants that promote the ASTA mission of string education and opportunity. The amounts can vary depending on what our budget allows.

I have been playing and teaching violin in the Bay Area since 1977. Now semi-retired, I am enjoying the opportunity to take things a bit slower! It has been a pleasure to serve on the CalASTA SF board with wonderful colleagues. Many thanks!"

Mayumi Takarabe is retiring from the board after serving as the ASTACAP coordinator from 2019-2021.

Joffria Whitfield has finished her term as president, and **Kathleen Balfe** will be the acting president until we hold elections next year.



We need fresh blood

We encourage each of you to take a swing at being on the Board, and to invite your friends to participate as well. The more the merrier! As you may know, without the generous amounts of volunteer work that help keep our activities going, we would not be able to offer you events such as Special Project Grants, the Solo Competition for student recognition, teacher recognition workshops (we are hoping to hold workshops this year if we have enough volunteers on the board), and ASTACAP.

There are benefits to volunteering including: building and practicing skill sets that are not always needed in studio or classroom teaching, relating with and learning from other music teachers on the board and in the community, sharing the camaraderie of event planning and the celebration of having that event actually come to life before our eyes. Finally, the icing on the cake: seeing the impact our programs have on the many marvelous students that benefit from our offerings and continue their life with music.

Nominations or self-appointments are both welcome. Members-at-large can be college student members of CalASTA San Francisco, however for the coordinator positions we prefer professional members. Board members are expected to attend a minimum of 50% of the meetings, be attentive to and respond to emails, and actively participate in the planning and execution of at least one of our events yearly.

The following positions need to be filled:

1. Special Projects Coordinator: *The ideal candidate will have good organizational and communication skills, overseeing the annual grant offering.*
2. ASTA Certificate Advancement Program Coordinator: *The ideal candidate will have used ASTACAP and would be interested in building it back up into the program that it was in 2019. The coordinator will organize and administer in-person exams with the help of a small committee, a handy guide book called "How to Administer Exam," and a mentor.*
3. Members-at-large: *These members of the board make up the committees that support the programs offered.*

If your fancy has been tickled, please write to us at asta.sanfrancisco@gmail.com and we will give you more details about what these positions entail.

Warm wishes,
Kathleen Balfe
President, CalASTA San Francisco Section



Stockton Section

CalASTA Stockton Section held a Board Meeting via Zoom on Friday August 5 to discuss plans for the upcoming school year. We also welcomed our new Stockton Section Secretary Stephanie Chen to our Board!

Stephanie is a cellist who lives in Manteca and maintains a private studio at her home. She also teaches in the Mountain House Suzuki Strings program. She has lived in the area for a little over a year and we are excited to have her join us!

We thank Sydney Scott for her service as our Stockton Section Secretary for these past few years and wish her luck on her new adventure in Switzerland! We also thank Donna Harrison who doubled as our treasurer and secretary during the interim.

We have decided to make our Trophy Festival a biennial event and plan to hold it again in October 2023. We have two events planned for the Spring semester: our annual Chamber Music Festival in March 2023 and our annual solo recital in April 2023. More information will follow as the time gets closer.

Griena "Goody" Choi-Trask,
President, CalASTA Stockton Section



Happy Fall! My name is Tiffany Ou-Ponticelli, and I am honored to continue serving as President of the California Orchestra Directors Association. CODA is looking forward to a fantastic year, with a return of the full version of our CODA December Honor Orchestras, along with an exciting slate of conductors and repertoire for All State at CASMEC 2023.

CODA December Honor Orchestras

December 2-3, 2022

San Diego State University and Patrick Henry High School

The CODA Board is excited to announce the return of our full Honor Orchestra event from Dec 2-3, 2022. This event will host a Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Michael Gerdes (San Diego State University) and a String Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Alexander Kahn (Sonoma State University). Audition materials are [available here](#)! **Audition materials are due online on October 11th.** Please encourage your students to apply!

We are also looking forward to our All State Ensembles in Fresno from Feb 16-19, 2023. This year, CODA will offer four ensembles:

HS Symphony Orchestra

HS String Orchestra

JHS String Orchestra

JHS Concert Orchestra

CODA is excited to the return of our JHS Concert All-State Orchestra for 7th and 8th grade students, after a successful first ensemble at CASMEC 2022! CODA has been fortunate to receive large pools of auditioning students over the last few years, and the second JHS ensemble allows us to include more students in the All-State experience.

Junior High School orchestra directors, and private teachers of 7th and 8th grade students - this is a great year to encourage your students to audition for All-State! **The Junior High excerpts were updated last year to encourage accessibility** - please do encourage your students to take a look and consider auditioning!

Excerpts for auditions can be found here:

•[High School All-State Orchestra Audition Materials](#) (please note that Cello excerpts were updated 8/31/22 and Bass excerpts on 9/11/22 - please do make sure your students who plan to audition have the most recent versions).

•[Junior High All-State Orchestra Audition Materials](#)

It's also time to renew your CODA Membership! [Become a member today](#) and help take an active role in supporting students, educators, and school orchestra programs across the state of California. Click [here](#) to view membership class information and [here](#) to join the organization or renew your membership.

I hope your fall season is filled with music, laughter, and hopefully a little more stability than the last year offered us. Wishing you the best!

Tiffany Ou-Ponticelli
CODA President

Stay connected with the California Orchestra Directors Association throughout the year. Join us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and via our [website](#).



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String Project

Sacramento State String Project

Once again, the Sacramento String Project is fulfilling their goal of offering twice weekly low-cost training in violin and cello to students grade 4 and up. In the process, Sac State music students get experience and learn how to be successful teachers.

As this is written, we are in the middle of the first week of fall semester at Sacramento State. Mr. Stanley has begun outreach presentations to schools finding students interested in playing strings.

The college student-teachers have begun classes to learn the pedagogical progression that we use to teach the children. This involves creating the simulated box violins and cellos for the very beginning of the semester and preparing to tune the many real instruments we will need shortly. The Parent meeting is scheduled for September 19 with students begin classes on September 21st.

Our Fall Semester student teachers are graduate student cellists Elena Porter-Bohla and Laura Robb-Martin, cellist undergraduates Makenna Mann and Abigail Willer. Violinists include Kathleen Gallagher-McLellan and Mayling Lopez.

Our May 2022 concert was a huge success! An enthusiastic crowd filled Capistrano Hall to hear the progress of the students. Intermediate players inspired the 2nd semester beginners to new musical heights playing repertoire they had only dreamed of achieving.

Join us for the **free concert at Capistrano Hall on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm.** This concert, under 60 minutes, is a wonderful opportunity to encourage attendance by children of all ages.

This program, under the umbrella of the National String Project Consortium, helps college students gain 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., Westervelt Ecological Services String Letter Publishing, the Robla School District, Twin Rivers School District, and the National String Project Consortium.

The String Project is supported in part by an Anchor University Strategic Investment Grant, with funds provided by the University Foundation at Sacramento State.

These grants and donations allow costs to remain low for the children.

Low-cost group classes, optional individual lessons, enthusiastic teachers!

Check out our website for more detailed information:

Website: <https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/music/spotlight/string-project.html>

Please contact: Timothy Stanley tstanley@csus.edu

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