



CalASTA Sacramento Section Summer/Fall 2021 Newsletter

Dear ASTA members,

I hope everyone has enjoyed a relaxing summer. Congratulations to the winners of the "Annual Section Solo Competition" held online through Acceptd.com on May 16. Biographies of our judges can be found on the second page of this newsletter. Awards went to the following students:

Junior Violin – Karen Meng (Jolan Friedhoff)
Junior Cello – Sophia Lao (Andrew Luchansky)

Both winners will be showcased at the Sacramento ASTA Fall Recital on November 14 at the Eskaton Monroe Lodge in Sacramento, CA. In addition to the above winners, the following participants were recommended (if they choose) to enter the California ASTA State Solo Competition in the fall of 2022. It will take place in Northern California. Please check the state website at www.calasta.org for more information in the spring of 2022.

Ryan Xu – Junior Violin – (Maria Hojos)
Ayden Gregory – Junior Cello – (Maria Hojos)
Arnon Guo – Junior Cello – (Susan Lamb Cook)

Meet Our Solo Competition Judges

Kyle Champion

Kyle is principal cellist with the Redlands Symphony, and former principal cello with the Riverside County Philharmonic and the Oklahoma City Chamber Orchestra. He is a current member of the Long Beach Symphony and has played with the Pacific Symphony Orchestra and Los Angeles Opera. Kyle was also a member of the American Sinfonietta, under the direction of esteemed conductor Michael Palmer. He joined the Sinfonietta on three European tours, participated in their Summer Music Festival in Bellingham, Washington, and can be heard on their All-Mendelssohn and Beethoven in Bellingham CDs. He rounds out his performing schedule playing chamber music recitals with the cello quartet Quatracelli. He has twice been a featured guest soloist with the Redlands Symphony. He performs on a Christopher Dungey cello made for him in 2001.

Kyle is currently Artist Teacher of Cello at the University of Redlands and Director of their String Project. He teaches at the UR Community School of Music and the Arts, as well as at his home in La Verne. He is the String Instrumental Music Specialist at The Webb Schools of California, a position he has held since 2011. He has been a highly sought-after adjudicator for ASTA, MTAC, SYMF, and other musical organizations. He has been a regular coach for sectionals with the Claremont Young Musicians Orchestra and Intermezzo Orchestra in Claremont, and the Youth Symphony at the University of Redlands Community School. He has also been a chamber music coach for Junior Chamber Music and at the UR Summer Strings Workshop.

A strong advocate for music education, Kyle served two years as President of the Los Angeles Section of ASTA and was heavily involved in both the LA and State competitions for over 20 years.

Kyle completed his Master of Music degree in cello performance at the University of Southern California, where he was a student of Ronald Leonard, and his Bachelor of Music Education degree at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He has studied chamber music with Donald McInnes, members of the New Hungarian String Quartet and the contemporary music performers, Voices of Change.

Ruth Godfrey

Ruth Ann Godfrey received her Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance from San Francisco State and her Master of Music degree from the University of Arizona. Her career has taken her from California where she was a member of the Santa Rosa and Sacramento Symphony orchestras to the Tucson Symphony and then Rome, Italy where she played for the Teatro dell' Opera for nine years. In Michigan in the early 90's she did extensive orchestral work, performing in the Ann Arbor, Flint, Saginaw, Lansing, and Toledo symphony orchestras and the Michigan Opera Theatre. She began her Suzuki training at Stevens Point, Wisconsin the summer of 1995, followed by continued training in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Ithaca, New York, and Salt Lake City, Utah. Since 1996 Ruth has made her home in Salt Lake City where she played in the Ballet West Orchestra for 22 seasons, maintains a full Suzuki studio, and participates in the Suzuki Association of Utah. In the summer she teaches at the Intermountain Suzuki String Institute in Draper, Utah. Ruth is a co-director of the advanced violin performing group, Rocky Mountain Strings. Currently she is serving the Utah chapter as President of the Suzuki Association of Utah. Her interests include skiing, hiking, and scuba diving as well as reading and family history. Ruth has five stepchildren with her husband Kevin, and seven adorable grandchildren.

Member "Spotlight"

Maria Hojos

Maria Berenice Hoyos was born in Cocorna, Antioquia, Columbia and has been playing cello since the age of 16 after spending her younger years learning voice and guitar. She received her degree in cello performance from Antioquia University in Medellin, Columbia and has been teaching and performing professionally for more than 30 years. She taught cello at the Fine Arts Institute, the "Red de Escuelas de Música" (El Sistema) and Antioquia University. She served as principal cellist in the Medellin Philharmonic from 1998-2002 and frequently performed as a soloist with the orchestra. She is fluent in both Spanish and English.

In 2002, Maria came to Sacramento for graduate study in cello performance with cellist Andrew Luchansky at CSUS. She is currently the principal cellist with the Camellia Symphony Orchestra and teaches full time at Sacramento Country Day school and [Oasis Music inc.](#) She also plays with various orchestras in Napa, Folsom, Auburn and Sacramento. Maria is a member of several associations including the American Federation of Professional Musicians (AFM), the Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA), the California Music Teachers Association (MTAC) and the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). She studied the Suzuki method with master teachers Rick Mooney, Carey Cheney, Tanya Carey and Pamela Devenport in Utah, Houston, Colorado, Los Angeles and Stanford University. She has attended several summer orchestral and chamber music workshops in Las Vegas and San Francisco. She is very involved in local ASTA events and is dedicated to participating in local recitals and competitions with her students.

Maria has a very musical family including her husband who plays flute and saxophone and a 14-year-old daughter who studies piano and will be starting high school at Rio Americano this year.

2021 Fall Showcase Recital

We are very excited to have our first in person recital since the spring of 2020. The recital will take place on Sunday, November 14th from 1:00-3:00 pm at Eskaton Monroe Lodge located at 3225 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95818. Both performers and audience members will be required to wear masks. Students of all ages and levels are welcome to participate. We are hoping for a brief outdoor reception following the performances. The application form is included in this newsletter and can also be found at www.calasta.org under the Sacramento Section page.

Our current board for the Sacramento section is as follows:

President - Kimberly Cole Feeney - kcolefeeney@gmail.com

Vice President - Gay Currier - gcurrier7@gmail.com

Secretary - Reylynn Imai - reyllynny@gmail.com

Treasurer - Catherine Heusner - catsviolin@gmail.com

Member-at-Large - Rejean Anderson - rejvcl@gmail.com

CalASTA SACRAMENTO SECTION

Kim Feeney, President ♦ Reyllynn Imai, Secretary ♦ Catherine Heusner, Treasurer

ASTA FALL SHOWCASE RECITAL 2021

Sunday, November 14, 1:00 PM

Students of ASTA members, all ages and performance levels are welcome!
The registration fee is \$10.00. Accompanist is not required but may be included. (Duets or other ensembles are the same \$10.00 total.)

Each teacher's students may combine for a total of 18 minutes maximum.

Performance guidelines: 1) Dress: dressy! 2) Music does not need to be memorized, but it is encouraged (except sonatas and chamber music)

Due to COVID regulations, all performers and audience members will be required to wear masks.



ASTA FALL SHOWCASE 2021 RECITAL ENTRY FORM

Please mail this portion to Kim Feeney, 28 Batavia Ct., Sacramento, CA 95835

Deadline: November 1, 2021, postmark

Performer's Name: _____

Instrument: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Home address: _____

Composition: _____ Composer: _____

Name of Movement: _____

Length of Piece: _____ Teacher's Name: _____

Teacher's email: _____

Please make your check payable to "ASTA Sacramento Section"