

THE SOUNDPOST



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

SPRING 2021



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The Soundpost
Newsletter of the
California Chapter, Inc. of ASTA
289 S Armstrong Ave
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CIRCULATION

ASTA Members in California	808
President, Editors, Advertisers, Colleges & Universities	360

THE SOUNDPOST



SPRING 2021

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROBERT L. BECKER, PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues:

It seems that many of us have survived the abuses of Covid-19 and the fallout effect on our programs. And, sadly, some of us have not.. Each of us know dear professional colleagues, friends (because they turn into both), family, and other associates who have been affected deeply by this crisis professionally and personally. Those of you that kept teaching positively in spite of zoom issues, no in-person contact with students and fellow faculty are indeed heroes. Yes, we give tribute to the firefighters, hospital staffs, nurses, and doctors that stood in our place to fight this menace. But, lest we forget, humanity needs a reason to go on in the face of overwhelming difficulties whether it be Covid-19, the Holocaust, the Rwanda “cleansing”, HIV, overt racism, and the list goes on and on.

You, your teaching and programs are reasons to move forward as human beings. Whether it is Beethoven 9th at the Berlin wall or a Bloch string work played in the cafeteria for spacing with masks, we rise above the sewer of anger/prejudice/limitations to a newer world of respect and understanding.

Take a moment and look in the mirror-you are the positive face of the world going forward, the hope for human interaction, and the anticipated joy of playing music together again which separates us from other creatures. Tutti Bravi.

We urge you to go to the national website for ASTA and join one of the many discussion groups available to us during this time of isolation. Those groups are just one of the many reasons to join or renew your relationship with ASTA. We are all connected and here for support, dialogue, tears, frustrations and joy in what we do. Please don't fail to take advantage of this incredible resource that is one of the perks of membership and... don't be alone.

If you are not a member, please join this incredible group of “heroes,” and if you are up for renewal???? Please do so.. there are half-year payment plans now to assist those affected negatively fiscally by this Covid-19

AND.. we are looking for ways to use our new national ASTA Zoom account??? Master Classes that you are doing? Meetings with section Boards? Section Recitals? are several of the ways that we can make pragmatic use of this resource. Thanks to National ASTA for providing this to our sections.

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

I remain available to you to set any of those up for your section, program etc. AND, yes, I'll be here if you just need to talk to someone/scream at Covid or administrations/ and or to exchange ideas about the next steps forward for ASTA and your instrumental program or studio...

Best of good health always,

Robert Becker
President CalASTA

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



Fax form: 703-279-2114
Mail form: 4155 Chain Bridge Rd.,
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="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Studio | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Administrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Performer | <input type="checkbox"/> String Enthusiast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | <input type="checkbox"/> Conductor | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | |

What year did you start teaching music? _____

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

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

What is your primary instrument?

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

ASTA State Chapter

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

Dues Payment

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$116: Professional Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$57: Student member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$85: Senior Member | <input type="checkbox"/> \$162: Dual (age 62 or older) |

"ADD ON"

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

TOTAL \$ _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- ☐ Check—make payable to ASTA (U.S. funds only)
 Check No. _____
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By completing this form, I confirm that this information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Dues are nontransferable and nonrefundable. There is a \$30 charge for all items returned from the bank.



CALASTA ACCOUNTING REPORT

MICHAEL FEENEY, TREASURER

ASTA Calendar Year Accounting Report

California Chapter
Calendar Year 2020

Prepared by Michael Feeney, State Treasurer

Actual January 1, 2020 Bank Balance	7,186.41
Outstanding Checks as of 1/1/2020 (-)	761.51
Calculated January 1, 2020 Bank Balance	6,424.90

INCOME

Rebates from National	7,243.50
Soundpost Corporate Sponsorships	2,420.00
State Competition Entry Fees	2,916.41
Total Income:	12,579.91

EXPENSES

Rebates to Sections	3,621.37
State Solo Competition	5,592.98
Soundpost Production & Mailing	4,323.92
Website Support	1,580.48
Coalition Membership & Lobbying Expenses	250.00
Election Expenses	79.95
Miscellaneous Office Expenses	61.74
California Government Registration	25.00
Total Expenses:	15,535.44

Calculated January 1, 2020 Bank Balance	6,424.90
Plus Income (+)	12,579.91
Minus Expenses (-)	15,535.44
Calculated December 31, 2020 Bank Balance	3,469.37
Outstanding Checks as of 12/31/2020 (+)	742.35
Actual December 31, 2020 Bank Balance	4,211.72



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Greetings CalASTA Members!

My name is Stephanie Holmes and I am your new Membership Chair. I am very excited to serve CalASTA. I was a member of Virginia ASTA for 20 years and then I moved to California. I have been a member of CalASTA for 10 years and I am eager to play a more active role.

We currently have 791 members. The Cal ASTA membership is divided in 7 sections; Bakersfield, Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco and Stockton. I have been sending friendly reminders to those of you who have a membership that is ending soon. The easiest way to continue your membership is to go to www.astastrings.org.

ASTA is offering a new renewal option: pay 50% of your annual dues now and 50% later through ASTA's auto-renewal program. To enroll in auto-renew, sign in to your ASTA account, click the Renew Now button, and follow the prompts.

<https://www.astastrings.org/Web/Membership/Web/Membership/Membership.aspx?hkey=eb9b-c2a8-2f79-46b9-8cae-6d0aa0ce57ba>

Here is a quick list of our latest resources and tools available to members. The ASTA National Office is also hard at work creating new resources for members.

Participate in the ASTA national conference <https://www.astastrings.org/NationalConference>

ASTA monthly webinars- ASTA has launched monthly webinars that are free to members. https://astastrings.org/Web/Community/ASTA_eLearning.aspx

ASTA Connect — our members-only online collaboration community, where our members are actively sharing ideas, discussing challenges, and exchanging resources.

ASTA's planning guides for Resuming Instruction During COVID-19 — including a new wellness resource and webinar recording.

Covid-19 Resources for Members — ongoing resources and support from ASTA and our industry partners during the pandemic.

Thank you for all that you do for your students and the profession.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Holmes

Membership Chair CalASTA



BAKERSFIELD SECTION

Hello From Bakersfield Section,

We had one virtual event in November. Our annual String Workshop was set up for 4 zoom meetings one for each instrument. After the first hour they switched zoom meetings to work on their particular level of song.

Debbie Ellis coached the Violin room and Level I, Whitney Herbst coached the Bass room and Level II,

Thomas Lowenhiem coached the Cello room and Level III and Tom Tatton coached the Viola room and Level IV.

The workshop went without a hitch, as we had our officers in each zoom room to facilitate. We had well over 50 participants even though it was on zoom. The feedback from teachers and students was very positive and the clinicians were outstanding.

As we are all learning about teaching through distance learning, we have planned our Festival and Competition to take place on May 1, 2021 through zoom. We will still give prizes for our competition winners. We feel it is important to help students and teachers keep striving for excellence and have a sense of normalcy as we work through this pandemic. Our officers will facilitate the students as they are coached live on Zoom by our judges Deiter Wolfhurst, cellist and Susan Doering, violinist.

We are looking forward to having another good turn out on Zoom while we patiently await for in person events, hopefully next season.

Keep making music!

Amy McGuire, CalASTA Bakersfield Section President



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FRESNO SECTION

The Fresno ASTA board has been hard at work to keep the area engaged during these intense times.

Due to COVID-19, we had to cancel our annual chamber music workshop, which usually takes place in the spring and our student recital, which would have taken place towards the end of the semester.

The board met a few times and set our annual student solo competition to take place on June 5, 2021 and will be once again a virtual competition as we did last year. We will be notifying our colleagues and students in the next couple of weeks. The competition is open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar or Harp) who are students of active

Fresno ASTA members. We 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.

Students are asked to perform two works, one from the Classical or Baroque period, and another one from a contrasting period. All solos will be performed without piano accompaniment to make it fair and will have to be played from memory.

The board also took some time to recognize potential new members in the community who should join ASTA and some who we would like to join the board so we can strengthen our board and our presence in the community. We are seeking young and energetic members who can help us come up with new ideas, recognize needs in our community, and help bring our chapter to the next level. We will report next time on the success of our efforts.

Respectfully,

Dr. Thomas Loewenheim
President, CalASTA Fresno Section



LOS ANGELES SECTION

GRANTS

We had one applicant for a grant this year, Education Through Music, which was awarded \$500.

STRING ALONG

Our latest edition was skillfully prepared, once again, by Wendy Velasco and is available on the CalASTA state website. It is emailed to our membership and is reputedly widely read outside of our Section.

SOLO COMPETITION

Our competition date has been set for April 18, 2021 for Bowed Strings (Preliminary Round), Harp as of Mar 12. 9 applicants) and Guitar (as of March 12.

18 applicants) and an expected application pool of 120 bowed strings. Applications are available on the State website.

CalASTA Los Angeles eNews is sent at 1st of each month (as soon as we get a new membership list) to 373 members. In addition, for some members we don't have email addresses and about 6 have requested that we not send email to them. We do not pay a service fee for monthly emails. These are sent in small batches of under 30 each using our ASTA.LA.eNews@gmail.com

ASTACAP

We have a current enrollment of 110 students for our upcoming ASTACAP evaluations.

ZOOM RECITALS

In lieu of in person events and due to Covid19, we are offering Zoom recitals. We had one today, March 14, with 23 performers representing 10 teachers. Our next recital is scheduled for May 23. No minimum experience is required – open to all.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have an anticipated balance of \$14,000 as of June 1, 2021 after paying all expenses related to ASTACAP and competitions.

ANNUAL AWARDS

The board voted on 3 recipients for Outstanding Professor of the year – Janine Riviere, Outstanding Studio Teacher of the Year– Linda Rose and Distinguished Service to the String Community – Kyle Champion. Each of these people receives 1 year membership in ASTA.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Dickstein
President, CalASTA -LA

Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication

California State University, Northridge

// Department of Music

Situated in the city of Los Angeles, CSUN's music department offers a vibrant curriculum and cultivates a nurturing environment for its dynamic student body.

The CSUN String Faculty:

Lorenz Gamma, Violin

Head of String Studies
Director of Chamber Music

Roberto Cani, Violin

Concertmaster L.A. Opera

Robert Berg, Viola

Studio Musician

Diane Roscetti, Cello

Director, CSUN Honors
String Quartet Program

Jory Herman,

Double Bass,
L.A. Philharmonic

Find out more about
our string program:

csun.edu/music

CSUN

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AND COMMUNICATION





SACRAMENTO SECTION

Past Events:

A virtual Fall Showcase Recital was sent out to all section members on Sunday, November 15, 2020. There were 15 performers including three of our 2020 solo competition winners. The recital can be viewed on the state website under our section page.

A zoom board meeting took place on Sunday, January 31, 2021 with all officers present. Thank you to Bob Becker for setting this up on our state zoom account.

Our section newsletter will no longer be sent out in print format.

The spring newsletter was emailed to all section members on February 27, 2021. It can also be viewed on the State website.

Upcoming Events:

On May 9, 2021 at 2:00 pm, our virtual spring recital will be sent to all section members, students and teachers.

The Sacramento section annual solo competition will take place on Sunday, May 16, 2021 through Acceptd.com. Our judges are Ruth Godfrey (Utah) for upper strings and Kyle Champion (California) for lower strings. Information, guidelines and application forms for both the recital and competition can be found on the calasta.org website under the "Sacramento" section.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Cole Feeney



SAN DIEGO SECTION

Greetings and warm wishes from San Diego,

The CalASTA-SD section board continues to work on encouraging growth and additional new members to our section. With the current pandemic and global situation, it has been a challenge to plan in-person activities. Most important is that we wish our members, and their families remain well and stay safe. Live performances and teaching in person are still not possible at this time however after checking in with several of our members it was reported that quite a few are having success with online teaching and all the varied platforms available from theory, composing to performances. There are many newly created wonderful webinars, online classes and many educational programs offering free training just for that type of teaching.

I believe it is important to remain connected not only to our members in their teaching activities but to reach out and offer suggestions for online platforms and training. We are here to assist in that capacity as our board members are all currently utilizing many of these platforms daily.

Our current situation as of March 2021:

1. Our SD section is in a holding position for activities due to the pandemic although some teachers are offering Zoom Solo Recitals in their private studios. Bravo to these teachers and their successes.
2. Some music education programs have created Zoom concerts that are posted on You Tube links for families, staff and students to enjoy. These have shown some incredibly creative productions since Zoom does not allow for ensemble playing. I have seen students lead and directors utilize wonderful skills in audio and video recording in producing these wonderful concerts.
3. Many have expressed that they are struggling financially and therefore it is difficult to plan for the varied and many musical activities that we would love to offer to our ASTA members.
4. The San Diego Youth Symphony commissioned and performed a piece composed by Brian Balmages titled, "You Are Amazing" which has a wonderful story behind the creation of this beautiful piece during this time of the pandemic. The SDYS invited area youth orchestra directors and their students to participate in this collaborative event in March for a wonderful virtual concert.

Composer, Brian Balmages, visited students and their directors in February to share his vision for his composition. The link to the completed virtual performance will be shared to the public in April.

For now, it is difficult to actually predict when live performances, festivals and recitals can once again take place in concert halls and such but in the meantime the online resources are many and varied. Many are not only user-friendly, but many are also free during this time which is most helpful to families that are finding their financial situation strained.

There is still much excitement in the prospect of hosting a CalASTA/Orchestra Festival, however this will have to wait until live music can return to the stages again.

For now, we are all hoping our members stay well, stay safe and practice all the necessary steps in combating this pandemic. I know we all look forward to the time when all have taken the vaccines and we can all resume in person music making in our collective mission in passing the torch of music to the future!

Respectfully submitted,
Ulli Reiner
CalASTA-SD Section, President
ureiner@earthlink.net (619) 804-4634



SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

Special Grants Fund

CalASTA San Francisco stands in solidarity with our fellow string teachers and their students during these difficult times. Because many of our teachers have lost significant revenue over the course of this past year, our board has simplified its annual grant application process and will be encouraging teachers who have suffered financial hardship due to Covid19 to apply. We are inviting members to make a financial contribution to our Special Grants Fund.

Grant Program 2021-22

CalASTA San Francisco will award numerous grants to our CalASTA San Francisco members during the 2021-22 school year who are either private teachers or who are affiliated with musical organizations that promote the art of string playing. The application deadline is May 1, 2021.

Scale Party

The scale party was Friday, October 23rd, 7-8 p.m., on Zoom. Our wonderful clinicians were Cookie Segelstein and Katrina Wreede. We were also fortunate to have Dr. Robert Becker, CALASTA President in attendance.

ASTACAP 2021

This year, all CalASTA San Francisco ASTACAP exams will take place online and will be organized by individual teachers or groups of teachers. To facilitate the organization of these exams we put together a brief survey.

Additionally, we made a few changes to the requirements for the exams:

1. Piano accompaniment is not required and the sight reading requirement is temporarily waived.
2. The exams will be completed via Zoom.
3. Students are given the option of making YouTube videos of their exam repertoire which the examiner can listen to if they need more information.

To date, SF CalASTA has done two Zoom ASTACAP exams:

1. Harp ASTACAP On August 22, 2020, there was a virtual ASTACAP exam for harp. The coordinator was Kristal Schwartz. Participants recorded their works and sent them to the ASTACAP coordinator in a google doc. They were given a time slot the day of the exam, (August 22nd). The examiner watched the videos ahead of time and either requested the performer to play all or part of the exam. This was a safety net in case there were technical issues and gave the students both the opportunity to record and perform. Moreover, there was a technical info day to learn about how to set up the harp for the best recordings and online performance.

2. Violin/Viola/Cello ASTACAP March 20, 2021 for Violin and Viola students coordinated by Stephanie Railsback and Monika Gruber-Gibbons.

There are several more exams coming up in April and May coordinated by Mayumi Takarabe.

CalASTA San Francisco 2021 Solo Competition The final round of CalASTA San Francisco's 2021 Solo Competition will take place via Zoom Sunday, April 25, 2021. The application period for the preliminary video round was February 1 and ended March 28.

MEETINGS

Our board met in October, January, and will meet in June/July this summer.

Respectfully submitted by: CalASTA San Francisco Section Board, (Joffria Whitfield, President)



STOCKTON SECTION

CalASTA Stockton Section has not had any recent events in hopes of possibly meeting in person again in the near future. We still intend to hold teacher training events (online or in person) and are looking into sponsoring a Trophy Festival for Stockton Section ASTA teachers' students. This would be modeled after the North Texas Suzuki Association's Annual Suzuki Trophy Festival that was held online this year for the first time. The festival is non-competition and non-adjudication based. Students will receive feedback about their video performance from another ASTA teacher from the Stockton Section. Participation is voluntary for a small festival fee and students who

participate would receive a trophy.

We also closed our baking account at BBVA and opened a new checking and CD account to Farmers & Merchants Bank. This was a smooth transition that will better serve the needs of the CalASTA Stockton Section.

Griena "Goody" Choi-Trask
CalASTA Stockton Section President



CALIFORNIA ORCHESTRA DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

The California Orchestra Directors Association continues to work diligently to support students, educators, and communities across our state.

In January and February, both the California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) and California All-State Ensembles were held in a digital format. Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers (representing all CASMEC partner organizations), students and educators continued to have access to the professional development and honor ensemble opportunities they deserve.

Conductors this year included Robert Moody of the Memphis Symphony leading the High School Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Robert Baldwin of the University of Utah guiding the High School String Orchestra, and Dr. Cathie Hudnall of

Brookwood High School (GA) directing the Junior High School String Orchestra (she is also a frequent ASTA clinician and presenter). All-State performance videos are currently being constructed and will be released later this spring.

Looking ahead, there are two items of note for our ASTA colleagues.

First, CODA recently held an election where the 2021-23 officers were selected. The new slate of officers includes Tiffany Ou-Ponticelli (President), Joni Swenson (Vice President), Yu-Ting Wang (Treasurer), and Greg Conway (Secretary).

Second, CODA is thrilled to relay the news that a second junior high school orchestra is scheduled to be added to the CASMEC ensemble list beginning in 2022. The addition of a second junior high school orchestra will allow more students across our state to take part in the All-State Orchestra experience.

As always, thank you to our ASTA colleagues who work diligently to support the young musicians of our state. Please do feel free to reach out with ideas, observations, or other considerations.

Thank you.

Matthew Mulvaney
California Orchestra Directors Association



STRING PROJECT

SACRAMENTO STATE STRING PROJECT

Andrew Luchansky, Director

Anna Presler, Assistant Director

Judy Bossuat-Gallic and Timothy Stanley, Master Teachers

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

Spring 2021 Sacramento State String Project

Both Fall 2020, and Spring 2021, the String Project teachers taught virtual individual lessons for all the returning students and others who already had string instrument experience. In addition, a new “Preparation for String Playing” class allowed children with no playing experience to join the lessons

a nice head-start. Our spring semester teachers include graduate students Daniel Boschee-violin, Julian Sommer-cello and undergraduates Kathleen Gallagher-violin, Anna Murray-violin, Hector Morales-cello and Trevor Reynolds-violin.

Plans for Fall Semester 2021 are underway. Our traditional Beginner, Intermediate and Orchestra groups will be recreated and the optional individual lessons will continue. The California State University protocols may mean continuing with virtual classes, but the teachers and students have proven that progress definitely can be made through virtual string classes. Everyone has become much more adept at successfully dealing with the virtual medium. In addition, more students will be in classrooms during the day, so will be less “zoomed out”!

Please check our website for more information as our class options become clearer.

Project Benefactors

The Sacramento State String Project would like to thank Westervelt Ecological Services for their generous donation in support of the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Their support allows us to continue providing quality string education and mentorship for Sacramento youth despite the hardships brought by COVID-19. We are truly grateful for their partnership.

The Sacramento State String Project is made possible each year through the generous support of many individuals and organizations including the Sacramento State Associated Students Incorporated and the Sacramento State Retirees Association. We partner with the Robla School District and are proud members of the National String Project Consortium.

CALASTA STATE SOLO COMPETITION WINNERS



Aiden Kim, age 12, started to take cello lessons with Mr. Sangwon Cho at the age of 6. Aiden manifested his musical aptitudes by participating in many competitions. Aiden, along with his twin brother Zachary, made his Carnegie Hall debut at the age of 7 after winning the 2016 American Protege International Concerto Competition for their cello duet piece. Aiden also soloed at Carnegie Hall after winning the American Protege International Piano and Strings Competition. He has won numerous competitions, including Satori Summer Music Festival, SYMF (Southwestern Youth Music Festival), MACOC (Musical Arts Competition of Orange County), and MTAC (Music Teachers Association of California) Piano Competition. He and his brother won the Grand Prize in the Ensemble Category at the Satori Certificate of Musicianship 2020 Summer Music Festival.

Aiden also participated in Chamber Music of OC's Pre-College program and in a cello ensemble class from CSU San Bernardino. Additionally, he won various violin competitions in SYMF. In addition to his musical abilities, Aiden speaks five languages: Chinese Mandarin, French, Korean, Spanish, and English. In his free time, Aiden likes to swim, read a lot of books and play duo and trio musical pieces with his brothers, Zachary and Theodore.



Allison Park, 17, is a senior at Harvard-Westlake School and currently studies under Gina Coletti at the Colburn Music Academy. Allison is an accomplished musician and has performed as a soloist with Beach Cities Symphony Orchestra, Bellflower Symphony Orchestra, and Palos Verdes Regional Symphony Orchestra. She has also won awards in regional, state, and international competitions, such as California Association of Professional Music Teachers and Lansum International Music Festival. Allison shares a passion for music through volunteer programs at The Miracle Project, The Help Group, and Harmonic Youth Orchestra Inc.



Aria Delgado

I have been playing the harp for almost 9 years and I am a current member of the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra of Fresno and UHS Orchestra. I also played the harp with CASMEC Honor Ensemble in 2019 and 2020. Other than the harp, I play the clarinet, the piano and the ukulele for fun. Aside from music, I love drawing, and recently I have been creating art digitally. I also enjoy volunteering for the Fresno Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, so I have raised baby owls, baby hawks and a duckling. Music, art and animals are definitely my favorite things to work with.



AUDREY MA, age 9, began her violin studies at the age of four with Chika Wie and currently studies with Prof. William Fitzpatrick. She has won 1st prize in her division in the 2020 CalASTA State Solo Competition, 31st Bellflower Annual Concerto Competition for Young Artists, 2020 Community Youth Orchestra of Southern California Concerto Audition, 2018 Classics Alive National Young Artist Auditions and 14th Southern California Philharmonic Young Artists Competition. Over the years, she has appeared as a soloist with Southern California Philharmonic, St. Margaret's Summer Music Festival Orchestra, California Solisti Chamber Orchestra and Community Youth Orchestra of Southern California Sinfonietta. As part of her ongoing musical training, she has participated in master classes with Paul Kantor, Cornelia Heard, Philip Setzer of the Emerson Quartet and

Dennis Kim. Audrey is currently a fourth grader in Santiago Hills Elementary School, and her hobbies include piano, reading and visual art.



Doris's passion for music combined with her interest in medicine reflects in her collaboration with different non-profit organizations and outreach programs, as well as her desire to further research the field of music therapy. Besides volunteering and researching the neuroscientific effects of music, she enjoys performing either solo or in various chamber ensembles. Even though she appreciates all musical styles and genres, she is especially passionate about the music originated from the Balkans, which reflects in her writing.

Doris is currently a junior at USC Thornton School of Music, where she's studying guitar in the studio of Professor Brian Head. She has worked with many world-renowned guitarists throughout the years and learned from the very best, such as

Pepe Romero, Paolo Pegoraro, Mak Grgić, Gabriel Bianco, Margarita Escarpa, Paul O'Dette and many others.

She's been competing on a national and international level since 2009; she's received first prizes at a national and international level. Her most recent achievements are second prize at Gohar&Ovanes Andriassian Guitar Competition in Los Angeles (2019), and first prize at both CalASTA Los Angeles and CalASTA State Guitar competition (2020). She's performed at numerous occasions, one of them being the GFA Las Vegas Symposium (2020). This summer she recorded her first solo videos at Guitar Salon International. She is currently a volunteer at LAC+USC Medical Center's music program and enjoys sharing her love for music with their patients and staff.

Doris was born in 1999 in Slovenia and started playing guitar at the age of 6. She is actively participating in USC Guitar Orchestra and is the music director of USC all women a cappella group "Sirens" which is currently working on releasing their first EP. She is also pursuing a jazz studies minor and is a member of the Trojan Boxing Club.



Emilia Diaz Delgado is an 11-year-old guitarist, birder, and aspiring party entertainer, also talented at writing, crafts, imagination, and losing solitaire.

She has had the honor of studying at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College with Scott Cmiel, where she has performed in various recitals. She has also played with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Sonora in Mexico, and in fundraising and community concerts.

She has had masterclasses with Manuel Barrueco, Julian Gray, Smaro Gregoriadou, David Leisner, Joao Luiz, Michael Newman, Laura Oltman, Judicael Perroy, Richard Savino, Christopher Stell, Meng Su, David Tanenbaum, Marc Teicholz,

Ben Verdery, and Jason Vieaux.

She won first place in the Novice division of the California American String Teachers Association competition, and was featured in the NPR From The Top episode number 388.

She enjoys staring off into space at the most inconvenient times (like algebra class) and Harry Potter (she is working on a movie/musical adaptation of the book series.) Before the California fires started, she played on her front porch once in a while, in firm belief that the birds sang along with me. She also enjoys interacting with all nature (not counting the Komodo dragons, of course.) She loves having fun, playing games with her grandparents and (in case you hadn't figured this bit out) making jokes. She is currently learning how to blog without deleting all posts.



Grace Hong was born and raised with the family of Father, Mother, Brother and Dog Rina in Southern California. She started learning harp at the age of 7. Grace is the principal harpist at the Korean American Music Foundation, a member of the Los Angeles Youth Harp Ensemble, and Junior Chamber Music. Grace has won various prizes including 4th in US National Harp Competition at the age of 10 in 2019, 2-time winner of Valeria Finzi Scholarship Competition in 2018 and 2019, and the 2nd prize winner at 2020 International Fringe Music Competition.

Currently, Grace is a 7th grade student at Harvard-Westlake school. She is the principle harpist at the symphony of her school and a competitive swimmer at her swim team. Grace enjoys playing computer games with her friends, reading books

and travelling with the family.



Simon Minami, 17, has studied classical guitar with Yuri Liberzon for 8 years. He has participated in a number of competitions and adjudicated festivals, and was awarded first place in the US Int'l Music Competition and finalist in the Classics Alive National Young Artists Audition in 2018. Most recently, he was the first place winner in the 2020 CalASTA State Solo Competition and the Great Composers Competition Best Bach Performance. Simon was invited by the South Bay Guitar Society to open for Iliana Matos's concert, and has performed at the Sacramento Guitar Society Young Artists Showcase as well as the Junior Bach Festival multiple times. He plays a guitar built by Gil Carnal in 2014. Also a dedicated cellist, Simon studies with Jonathan Koh, and is an avid chamber musician.



Violist, Sydney Whipple, is native to Oakland, California. She is a current student of Carol Roland at The Juilliard School where she is a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship. Sydney began lessons on the violin at age 5 and switched to the viola when she was 10. With a desire to share her love of music, she created a year-long music program-teaching violin at her middle school. More recently, Sydney organized a benefit concert to support music education in San Francisco public schools.

Sydney spent her freshman year at Interlochen Arts Academy as a student of Renée Skerik, and the rest of her high school years studying under Dimitri Mur-rath at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College Program.

She has spent past summers at Encore Chamber Music Academy, California Summer Music, the Elias Goldstein Viola Intensive, Bowdoin International Music Festival, and Music@Menlo. In addition she has played in master classes for Kim Kashkashian, Ori Kam, and Donald McInnes and won top prizes at the 2019 Cal ASTA and Northern California Viola Society solo competitions. Sydney also has an interest in neuroscience and how music relates to the brain and empathy.

2020 CalASTA State Competition Results

October 1, 2020

Kyle Champion, Chairperson

Placement/Division	Student Name	Instrument	City	Teacher Name
Winner- Novice	Emilia Diaz Delgado	Guitar	Santa Clara	Scott Cmiel
Winner- Junior	Simon Minami	Guitar	Palo Alto	Yuri Liberzon
Winner- Senior	Doris Cosic	Guitar	Los Angeles	Brian Head

Placement/Division	Student Name	Instrument	City	Teacher Name
Winner - Novice	Grace Hong	Harp	Los Angeles	Koni Choi
Winner- Junior	Aria Delgado	Harp	Sanger	Laura Porter
Placement/Division	Student Name	Instrument	City	Teacher Name
Winner- Novice	Audrey Ma	Violin	Irvine	William Fitzpatrick
Winner- Junior	Hannah Kim	Violin	Newport Beach	Linda Rose
Winner- Senior	Jackson Snead	Violin	Fresno	Limor Toren Immerman

Placement/Division	Student Name	Instrument	City	Teacher Name
Winner- Junior	Allison Park	Viola	Sherman Oaks	Gina Coletti
Winner- Senior	Sydney Whipple	Viola	Oakland	Carol Rodland

Placement/Division	Student Name	Instrument	City	Teacher Name
Winner - Novice	Aiden Kim	Cello	Anaheim	Sangwon Cho
Winner - Junior	Jessica Lee	Cello	Rancho Palos Verdes	In Kyu Lee
Winner - Senior	Shayne Baldwin	Cello	Squaw Valley	Dr. Thomas Loewenheim

On behalf of the CalASTA Board I would like to recognize all the participants for this biannual competition. Drawing from all sections of the state, over 70 students qualified for and 61 registered for participation in this year's competition. Due to COVID restrictions the competition was held through the online service Acceptrd. Their assistance was invaluable as I moved from a recital format to a totally online format for this year's competition.

Thanks to the chairs of each Section's competition for getting me the information I needed to contact all qualifying students from 2019 and 2020.

Because of the online presentation I was able to secure judges from around the country and I appreciate their dedication and willingness to serve. Their biographies are below.

First Place students received awards from the State Chapter. The Novice division award was \$150, Junior \$200 and Senior \$300. Checks were mailed directly to the winners. All participants received a certificate of participation.

Teachers represented

Aimee Kreston	Leslie Ho
Alan Stepansky	Lorenz Gamma
Bongshin Ko	Marcia Dickstein
Brian Head	Mindy Ball
Carol Rodland	Mori and Park Violin Studio
Cheryl Kim	Linda Rose
Christine Choi	Phillip Levy
Clive Greensmith	Rebecca Brooks
Dimitri Murrath	Richard Andaya
Donna Rickard	Sam Fischer
Dr. Limor Toren-Immerman	Sandra Lewis
Dr. Thomas Loewenheim	Sangwon Cho
Elmer Su	Sarah Koo Freeman
Elvira Arambula	Scott Cmiel
Gina Coletti	Shintaro Yana
Hee Jin Yoon/Jo Ann Turovsky	Vasil Chekardzhikov
In Kyu Lee	William Fitzpatrick
Jonathan Koh	Yuri Liberzon
Kelvin Diaz Inoa	Zhao Wei
Koni Choi	Zhou Long
Laura Porter	

Judges for the 2020 State Competition

Harpist **Ellie Choate's** versatility affords her the opportunity to touch every area of music making, including opera, symphony orchestra, and with many headline artists. Recent performances include Opera Santa Barbara, and soloist with Jennifer Hudson at the Ravinia Festival. She has worked on the scores of major motion pictures (such as "Spiderman II" and "Mission Impossible III"), and recordings (Ray Charles "Genius Loves Company") as well as on-screen, and is active as a soloist, chamber musician, clinician, and teacher. Ellie has also produced publications and several CDs of her arrangements of pop and jazz, classical, and inspirational music.

In addition to her private studio, Ellie is on the applied music faculty at UC Irvine, CSU Fullerton, and CSU Long Beach Cole Conservatory. She has served the harp and string community as an officer and Institute Chair for the American Harp Society, Inc., and as President of the Greater Los Angeles Section of the American String Teachers Association. She has also conducted master classes and workshops on arranging, rhythm and pedagogy for chapters of the American Harp Society, AHS and ASTA national conferences, the biennial *Harp in Worship* conference at Azusa Pacific University, and for various composers' education groups.

Annie Chalex Boyle, Associate Professor of Violin at Texas Tech University, is internationally recognized as an educator, soloist, and chamber musician. Equally comfortable with classical and contemporary works, Chalex Boyle has performed numerous new works composed for her as well as commissioned for the Harrington String Quartet, where she was first violinist for almost a decade. Chalex Boyle has won prizes at the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, Seventeen Magazine/General Motors National Competition and the Irving M. Klein International String Competition and was a finalist in the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition.

Violist **Maggie Snyder** is Associate Professor of Viola at the University of Georgia, Principal Violist of the Chamber Orchestra of New York, with whom she records for Naxos, and is on the Artist-Faculty of the Brevard Music Festival. In 2001, Ms. Snyder was a semi-finalist at the 8th Primrose International Viola Competition, and made her recital debut in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall with her sister duo, Allemagnetti in 2009. The New York Concert Review called the group a "winning pair" with a "highly promising debut". She has performed chamber music with members of the Cleveland and Tokyo Quartets, Jonathan Carney, the Aspen String Trio, Jon Manassee, Ivo Van der Werff, Itamar Zorman, and Norman Kreiger, among others. Her latest solo recording, titled "Viola Alone: Old New and Borrowed," was released on Arabesque Records in January 2018 and features the premiere of a new piece commissioned by Ms. Snyder by Libby Larsen. Ms. Snyder has given master classes, clinics, and recitals at universities and music schools throughout the country, including The Universities of Michigan, Colorado, Minnesota, Michigan State, Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina, Interlochen, Hartt, and Converse College, among others. Ms. Snyder earned graduate degrees from The Peabody Conservatory of Music, where she was the teaching assistant for Victoria Chiang. Her Bachelor's

degree is from the University of Memphis, where not only she was born and raised, but where she was a Pressar Scholar.

Cellist **Gloria Lum**, a native of Berkeley, California, attended both the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Southern California, graduating from the latter institution magna cum laude. A student of Gabor Rejto and Ronald Leonard, she was a member of the Oakland Symphony and the Denver Symphony before joining the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 1985. She currently holds the Linda and Maynard Brittan Chair.

A frequent participant of the Philharmonic's Green Umbrella series, Gloria has been involved in tributes to Elliott Carter, György Ligeti, and Witold Lutoslawski, and most recently appeared in a solo work by David Lang. On the Chamber Music series, she has appeared with André Previn, Emanuel Ax, Lars Vogt, and Joshua Bell. In the summer of 2015 she was a featured artist in the Cactus Pear Music Festival in San Antonio, Texas. Gloria currently teaches cello and chamber music at Occidental College.

Honored in 2013 with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Guitar Society, **Jack Sanders'** performances have included The Sitka, Kapalua, GFA, Oregon and Arrowhead Bach Festivals. He has performed with the St. Petersburg, Colorado, and Angeles String Quartets and as a Piatigorsky Foundation artist, Sanders concertizes throughout the US. Recordings include two CD's with violinist, Clayton Haslop, and a solo CD featuring the complete preludes of Ponce, Villa-Lobos and Carlevaro.

An accomplished luthier, he builds reproductions of historical guitars and modern instruments, and Yale University, UCLA, CSUDH, CSUN, SF Conservatory, Columbus St. University and others own his guitars. A faculty member of Pomona College and Claremont Graduate University since 1980, he received his degrees from California Institute of the Arts.

Dr. Theodore Buchholz is the cello professor and head of strings at the University of Arizona. Described by critics as a "virtuosic cellist" with a "warm beautiful sound," Buchholz has recorded for Centaur, Toccata, and Lorelt Records, and performs internationally as soloist and chamber musician. During the summers he is on faculty at the Killington Music Festival. He served as President of ASTA-Arizona and as Cello Forum Editor of *American String Teacher*. Dr. Buchholz studied with Bonnie Hampton, Sadao Harada, and Robert Jesselson.



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