

THE SOUNDPOST



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

SPRING 2022



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The Soundpost
Newsletter of the California Chapter, Inc. of ASTA
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CIRCULATION

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

Cover Art by Gay Currier,
Sacramento Section

THE SOUNDPOST



SPRING 2022

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROBERT L. BECKER, PRESIDENT

Greetings to all of you incredible string teachers. This is my last President's message in SoundPost I believe. You will now be entering a new chapter in our Chapter's history. The indefatigable, technologically advanced, and wonderfully articulate Quyen Nguyen will be taking over the position of CalASTA President in August. It has been my honor to have served you in some feeble capacity during these last few turbulent years. As we look back at all the Covid adjustments, learning to teach via Zoom, the major changes in our national office and priorities, it's exhausting to even think about.. But here's the good news---we're still here, we're still teaching, we're still making a difference in our students lives and those of our colleagues in ASTA, in our schools and those who share our exuberance for teaching in the private studio.

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

Funding for our school programs will possibly be on a ballot initiative in November. ASTA is NOT a political entity but through its support of Stand Up for Music each year, we are in a position to help our own programs. Petitioners are needed to gather signatures to ensure that this can indeed take place. Please write me at beckervla@prodigy.net so that I may send you the link for you to make your own informed decision about whether this activism is for you to join.

I have learned so much about the workings of ASTA in our state and nation since taking this position a few years ago. The technology and resources now available to string pedagogues is considerable and useful. It is meaningful that we can actually reach out to each other in these times of separation and know that we are not alone and are facing many of the same issues as our compatriots. It is also especially helpful to those communities hardest hit by Covid, underserved in some ways, facing issues of equality, diversity and inclusion to know that there are others, there IS support, and there WILL be growth in all those areas.

We have an CalASTA election upcoming here shortly. Please write to me with ideas for state president, secretary, Board members etc. I'll be compiling that list and preparing us for that election in the next few weeks. Check your emails!!!!

I'm assuming that by the time this goes to publication, the issues in the Ukraine will still be with us all. As I have reached out to string players in that country, let's not forget the unifying force that music and teaching bring to our world. Small circles at times in our communities, but the force that caused 17,000 artists to sign a petition in protest and in threat of their jobs and maybe their very lives-that strength is not to be denied ultimately. Be strong for yourselves, your students and your ASTA colleagues. In community with all of you....

Robert Becker
Outgoing 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



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"/> Adult |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School [9-12] | |

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. _____
- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD NO. EXP. DATE CVV

NAME ON CARD SIGNATURE (PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION)

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 2021
Prepared by Michael Feeney, State Treasurer

	January 1, 2021 Chapter Account Balance	4,169.40
INCOME	Soundpost Corporate Sponsorships	1,920.00
	Total Income:	1,920.00
EXPENSES	Soundpost Production	591.00
	Delayed Payments for 2020 State Solo Comp Winners	500.00
	Website Support	543.04
	Coalition Membership & Lobbying Expenses	250.00
	Service Plaque	132.44
	Bank Fees	64.00
	California Government Registration	25.00
	Total Expenses:	2,105.48
	January 1, 2021 Chapter Account Balance	4,169.40
	Plus Income (+)	1,920.00
	Minus Expenses (-)	2,105.48
	December 31, 2021 Chapter Account Balance	3,983.92



California ASTA Solo Competition

Sunday, October 23, 2022

(Saturday, October 22, 2022 is reserved in case additional audition times are needed)

Sacramento State School of Music

6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819

2022 Guidelines

General Guidelines

1. Open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar or Harp) who are students of active California ASTA members.
2. Entrants must have participated in their ASTA Section Competition in either 2021 or 2022, and have been declared eligible by the judges to advance to the State Competition.
3. Sections may submit as many entrants as the judges in their section competitions deem qualified.
4. There are three age divisions: Novice, age 12 and under, Junior, age 13-18, and Senior, age 19-25. The cutoff date for the age divisions is the date of the competition, which is October 22, 2022.
5. The judges will declare one winner for each instrument, in each age division: Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar and Harp.
6. Any state winner may not compete again in the same age category, but must wait until they reach the correct age for the next age category.
7. Competition will be presented as a formal recital. All contestants will receive a certificate of participation the day of the event. Winners will be announced within two days and prize money will be mailed to the individual winners. The prize awards are as follows: \$150 for Novice, \$200 for Junior and \$300 for Senior.
8. All confirmations will be sent to students via email.

Repertoire and Performance

1. Two works are required. One piece from the Classical or Baroque period, and another one from a contrasting period. All works must be memorized. Performances may not exceed 10 minutes for Novice Division or 15 minutes for Junior and Senior Division entrants (both pieces combined). Pieces may be pre-cut in order to fit the time limit, or the judges may stop a performance once the time limit has been reached. Judges may also ask candidates to play any part of a piece.
2. Piano accompaniment is required where appropriate.

Application Deadline and Fees

1. Applications and appropriate fees made payable to CalASTA must be postmarked by July 1, 2022. An entrance fee of \$50.00 must accompany each application.
2. A professional accompanist can be provided by ASTA for a fee of \$50.00, which must be requested and paid for at the time of application. The accompanist will provide a brief pre-performance run-through. If more time for run-through is desired, the competitor will be charged according to his/her assigned accompanist's personal rate. Competitors must request the additional time with their applications, so that arrangements may be made.

Online Application Link:

<https://forms.gle/rqWaHQUmjMpvapi29>

Please use Google Chrome as your browser
when opening this link



BAKERSFIELD SECTION

CalASTA Bakersfield Section State Report January 23, 2022, we have had a wonderful few months in the Bakersfield strings world, we had our Annual String Workshop in person! We had five groups this year. The beginning strings played Blue Jeans Blues all on open strings, the clinician was violinist Amy McGuire. Level I played Perpetual Motion, the clinician was Julia Haney, Concertmaster of the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra (BSO). Level II played Rigaudon, the clinician was bassist Sheldon Schelsinger. Level III played The Theme from Witches Dance, the clinician was cellist Paul Young, Asst. Principal in the BSO. Level IV played La Cinquantain, the clinician was violist Dr. Tom Tatton. Each group got one hour with a professional on their instrument and one hour with the appropriate song for their choice. The last 30 minutes each group played for one another in the Seibert Cafetorium. The attendance for this October 23, 2021, workshop was magnificent. Due to Covid no beginners were started last year, which meant that all 5th and 6th

graders started together in September. Although our enrollment was limited last year and class sizes are down this year, the beginners turned out strong and we had over 80 beginners in attendance, all playing open strings to Blue Jeans Blues. It was a fun and exciting experience, especially for the 80 beginners who had their first ever performance! It was quite an event at Seibert Elementary. There were 11 local ASTA members in attendance, as well. We especially want to thank Rebekah Stambook, principal at Seibert Elementary School and our host music teacher, Ambra Williams, who is also treasurer for our Bakersfield Section. February 16 will be a special event in collaboration with CalASTA at Cal State University Bakersfield. A two-hour seminar on "The Joy of Practice" presented by Dr. Tom Tatton. We are fortunate to have him as he prepares for the National Viola Congress in March 2022. We get to have a sneak preview of his tricks and talents as we experience "The Joy of Practice." The event will be on the eve of the CASMEC Conference. Come to Bakersfield as a half-way point to Fresno, CA. and attend this joyful event! Call and RSVP with Amy McGuire 661-858-9332, if you plan to attend the seminar at CSUB on February 16, 2022, we also anticipate that our Spring Solo Festival and Competition will be live and tentatively on Saturday April 30, 2022. Last year it was online and this year we hope to have it live at the Valley Baptist Church on Fruitvale Avenue. We will be booking our judges as soon as the date is finalized. Having over 100 students attend our Fall Workshop was very helpful, so we can afford to hire adjudicators for our solo festival and competition in the spring. Also, this spring, we will have a nominating committee for our CalASTA Bakersfield Section Officers. I think everybody's settling into their jobs on the board however, we would like to invite new members to join the board, as well. We will establish a nominating committee at our next meeting. We are still encouraging new membership for our Bakersfield section.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy McGuire CalASTA Bakersfield Section President.



FRESNO SECTION

The Fresno ASTA board has been hard at work to bring back our annual events which will include our chamber music workshop, the student recital, and the solo competition.

We are planning to hold a modified version of our yearly Chamber Music Workshop for the first time in two years on Saturday, March 19, 2022, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Fresno. The workshop will take place from 9:00 AM till 12:00 PM and will conclude with an informal recital at 12:00 PM. Unlike previous years, there will be no lunch time and we will follow strict Covid rules to protect our faculty and students. Students must show proof of full vaccination and must always wear a mask while indoors. Family members and guests who come to the informal recital in the

Sanctuary must wear masks and sit at least 6 feet apart from other families.

Due to limited space available to us at this venue, we can't accommodate beginning students as we have in the past. We will be screening applications to form compatible groups with similar technical levels and music reading abilities. Students who are accepted into this modified workshop will receive an email with the main piece of music each group will be working on during the workshop so coaches can concentrate on going beyond the basics of playing together.

The annual student recital will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Fresno ASTA teachers are asked to send 2-3 students representing each studio in town. This is a great opportunity for our students and colleagues to see the work that is done in other studios.

Our annual student solo competition is planned for Saturday, June 4, 2022, at the California State University, Fresno, Department of Music. The competition will be open to string players (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, Classical Guitar and 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 will be asked to perform two works, one from the Classical or Baroque period, and another one from a contrasting period. The competition this year is planned to be in person as in the past.

Respectfully,

Dr. Thomas Loewenheim
President, CalASTA Fresno Section



LOS ANGELES SECTION

The LA Section is continuing with all of its programs, some offered virtually because of ongoing Covid restrictions.

We had one applicant for a grant this year, Education Through Music, which was awarded \$500. We have decided to have rolling applications to offer opportunities to

People who may not have met the deadline.

Our Winter edition of String Along was skillfully prepared, once again, by Wendy Velasco and is available on the CalASTA state website.

Our bowed string solo competition preliminary round will take place in April.

We plan to do preliminary auditions through Accept'd again and Finals live. Additionally, we will have harp and guitar competitions in April.

CalASTA Los Angeles eNews is sent at 1st of each month and Kay Pech continues to maintain our Facebook page.

ASTACAP

We had 133 participants, representing 34 teachers in December 2021. Our next evaluations are scheduled in 4 different locations for March 19, 20, 26 and 27, 2022.

ZOOM RECITALS

In lieu of in person events and due to Covid19, we are offering Zoom recitals. We had one, January 23, with 10 performers representing 4 teachers and another is scheduled for March 27.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Dickstein
President, CalASTA Los Angeles Section

Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication

California State University, Northridge

// Department of Music

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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:

The Sacramento section had a very successful in person Fall recital on November 14 at the “Melonball” in Davis, CA. There were 21 performers, and everyone was masked.

Upcoming Events:

We are very excited to have our second “in person” recital since the spring of 2020. The recital will take place on Sunday, 2:00 pm, May 29th at the Harrison Oaks Studio located at 8524 Willings Way, Fair Oaks, CA, 95628. Due to the long length of our previous Fall Recital, we are offering an additional sign-up

time. If necessary, we will divide the recital into two sections. The recital coordinators will contact you for the schedule after all the applications are received. Please observe that there is a postmark deadline on the application. Both performers and audience members will be required to wear masks. Students of all ages and levels are welcome to participate. The application form can be found at www.calasta.org under the Sacramento Section page.

We are pleased to announce that in addition to our spring recital, our annual solo competition will also be “in-person” this year. It will be held on Sunday, June 5, at the UC Davis Music Building, Room 115. Solo competition guidelines and application are online at www.calasta.org. under the Sacramento Section page.

Longtime Sacramento ASTA member Raejean Anderson is moving back east to Dobbs Ferry, New York to live closer to her two daughters. We had an ASTA luncheon at a local restaurant to celebrate her new chapter. She will be greatly missed. A member spotlight article will feature her in our next newsletter.

Kimberly Feeney
Sacramento Section President



Warm wishes,
Ulli
CalASTA San Diego Section President

SAN DIEGO SECTION

At this point in time there is nothing to report from the San Diego area for ASTA as the infection rate being too high in the area schools and studios is keeping most all musical activities at a stand still. I wish there was more to report as to in person recitals and programs but most everyone is still remaining in a holding pattern.

Even professional musicians are finding that work that was supposed to start back up in this new year is being cancelled for many weddings, corporate events and such.

Like everyone else so hoping the current situation does improve in the coming months.



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SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

2022 Solo Competition

We are pleased to announce that the final round of CalASTA San Francisco Section's 2022 Solo Competition will take place **May 15, 2022**, at Saint Alban's Church in Albany. Audience members are welcome, the venue requires that candidates, panel members, and audience members be vaccinated and masked. For the preliminary round, we have twenty-seven applicants who are currently being reviewed by our volunteer preliminary panel on the platform "Acceptd."

The First Annual Housewright Awards

Applications accepted March 20-April 20, 2022

This year, the San Francisco section of CalASTA is offering a new event parallel to the Solo Competition. The Housewright Awards were created in order to give recognition, performance experience, and professional evaluations to musicians that are enrolled in their **school music programs**, both public and private, and to help **stimulate student participation** in those programs. The Housewright Awards were named after the Housewright Symposium of 1999**. In addition to special recognition awards and cash prizes up to \$100 which can be exchanged for private lessons with a specialist from our SF section roster. As with the solo competition, all applicants receive feedback from string professionals. Acceptd is also handling applications for this event. Please read the guidelines for more information.

** The Housewright Symposium on the Future of Music Education, held at Florida State University in Tallahassee in 1999, assembled 175 music educators, industry representatives, community arts leaders, and students to speculate about what music education might look like in 2020 and the directions the field might take.

<https://nafme.org/about/history/vision-2020-the-housewright-symposium-on-the-future-of-music-education/>



STOCKTON SECTION

CalASTA Stockton Section Report Sunday, January 23, 2022, CalASTA Stockton Section hosted a Trophy Festival on Saturday October 23 at Grace Church in Ripon. Annie Reed was the coordinator for the event, and we had a very successful participation number of students. At a \$15 registration fee we had 57 students (violin, viola, cello) from 5 different teachers register. 51 of those students came in person to the event while several sent in videos instead of doing a live performance and a few students were absent due to illness. Our three guest adjudicators were ASTA members Dieter and Susan Wulforth from Fresno and Don Grishaw from Modesto. Each student received verbal

and written feedback about their performance, and all went home with a well-deserved trophy. This event was non-competitive and included very beginning Pre-Twinkle students all the way through advanced teenagers. A good time was had by all, and we plan to continue this event next Fall. We also have our Annual Chamber Music Day planned for Saturday March 19, 2022, at the First Presbyterian Church in Turlock. Registration cost is \$25 or \$20 if a student of an ASTA member teacher. Registration, payment, and teacher recommendations are due on March 1. Myriam Cottin-Rack is the coordinator for this event. You can contact any member of the CalASTA Stockton Section Board for more information. On April 30, 2022, CalASTA Stockton Section will host their annual Solo Recital at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Stockton. Students of all levels are invited to participate. Donna Harrison is the coordinator of this event. Our piano accompanists will be Jason Jeffrey from Stockton and Dash Reed from Ripon. We are happy to collaborate with our string community for these events and hope to include all who are interested.

Griena “Goody” Choi-Trask,
CalASTA Stockton Section President



STRING PROJECT

SACRAMENTO STATE STRING PROJECT

Our December 2021 concert was a huge success! An enthusiastic crowd filled Capistrano Hall to cheer on last September's new crop of over 40 new beginners who worked hard to learn the basics of playing and performed admirably at the end of their first semester. They were joined by returning intermediate players who demonstrated some of the exciting pieces the beginners would play in May at our final Spring Concert. In addition, some former String Project teachers returned to play along during the concert. What a joy to see so many young adults sharing their love of music with the younger children!

Our Spring Semester student teachers: violinist Maria Cheglakova, and cellists Elena Porter-Bohla, Makenna Mann and Hector Morales are helping the

students improve at every class.

Join us for the free concert at Capistrano Hall on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 7:00 pm. This concert, under 60 minutes, is a wonderful opportunity to encourage attendance by children of all ages. Please check with the music department to confirm if the vaccination proof/recent test policy is still in place at that date.

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. and individual donors Marvin Israelow, Rosemarie Oliver, Paul Rittenberg Fred Teichert and Audra Lehman.

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

Sacramento State String Project

Andrew Luchansky, Director

Anna Presler, Assistant Director

Judy Bossuat-Gallic and Timothy Stanley, Master Teachers

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