

# April 2019 Kern Branch Newsletter

Hello Fellow Teachers—  
Lots of news!!!

Marilyn sent an email to all CM teachers. The **CM packets of tests and evaluation comments** are at Dorothy's house. Please text or call 549-3181 when you would like to pick yours up. If not picked up before Thursday of next week, you can get it at the April 11th meeting at California Keyboards.

As a reminder, you can pick up **trophies** from Donna for students who earned 100% on their theory test.

The Nominating Committee has been working on a slate of officers for 2019-2021. Accordingly the bylaws, the slate of officers is to be announced 10 days before our next meeting — we will vote at the April 11th meeting.

Here is the **slate of officers the Nominating Committee is presenting:**

President—Dorothy Burgess,  
1st Vice President (Recitals)—Jayne Wilson,  
2nd Vice President (Membership)—Natalya Rufino,  
Secretary—Alix Hawley,  
Treasurer—Alicia Ellsworth.

This week on Thursday, **Meg Wise will be playing organ pieces in the Lenten Recital Series**, held at First Congregational Church on Stockdale Hwy and Real Road. Come at noon, buy a sack lunch (\$5) if you wish to eat during the recital, and enjoy her wonderful music as well as some pieces with friends.

The recital is from 12:15-12:45. This is sponsored by the American Guild of Organists (AGO). This is a free concert, but donations are accepted.

Our next big event is the **Baroque Festival on April 6**. The program has been finalized with Recitals at 11:00, 1:15, and 2:30. All is organized and ready for the Festival at Beale Library. Remind your students to bring their music for the judge to see. All teachers are invited to hear wonderful Baroque music and see what the Bach Festival is like. If you haven't entered students in the past, this will help prepare you and give you inspiration for next year. There is no fee to attend.

**Scholarship Applications are due on April 11th to Alicia.** You can bring them to the meeting and they will be delivered to Alicia the same day. The scholarships are Youth Awards for participation in Branch and State MTAC Programs. The Malquist Award is for a high school student with the highest number of points. The Rummelsburg Award, in honor of Helen Rummelsburg--our long-time member, is by audition and is open to grades 9-12. The Carol Rodgers Award is by audition and open to students in grades 11-12 who plan to Major in music in college and continue studying piano. The

scholarship amount will be awarded to the college for the student's account after registration is verified, but must be claimed within one year of high school graduation. Scholarship Applications are in the Yearbook.

**Our Annual Meeting will be our April 11 meeting at 9:30 at California Keyboards.** We will vote for our next Board of Officers.

Early in the year, it was suggested that we have a **panel discussion on Group Lessons/Teaching**. Because summer is coming soon, you and your students might like a change of pace by trying one or more group lessons. If you have taught group lessons in the past (or currently), please text Dorothy (548-3181) so we can plan our presentation. After a short Panel Presentation, we will open it up for questions/comments from the other members.

**CM—Please write any comments you have about how CM went this year** (positive or negative). Include thoughts about flow of students, judges' written comments, the pianos being used (all were tuned during the previous week), and comments from your students about any of the above. This will be helpful to Marilyn for next year—we should write our comments while they are fresh on our minds! If you can't attend the meeting, please email your comments to Dorothy ([doburgess@aol.com](mailto:doburgess@aol.com)).

Two days after our meeting, on Saturday, April 13, **three students will be performing in the Select Student Recital**. Each will perform 15-20 minutes of memorized music. Thanks to Margo and her committee for holding the audition, to the teachers for preparing their students well, and to Donna for securing a home of a non-member as the venue for this event. If you would like to attend, please let Margo and Donna know — we need to be sure to borrow or rent enough chairs. The Recital will be Saturday, April 13 at 7:30 PM. A reception will follow.

Remember that **students who were selected in CM to play in a Convention Recital** must pay the Application Fee in the Parent Portal no later than **April 15 (which is during Spring Break—so you should alert the parents before they may leave on vacation)**.

**Composers Today students playing at Convention must register by April 15 and pay by April 19 (during Spring Break).**

**Improvisation students must register by April 20 and pay in the Parent Portal no later than April 25.** The Convention Fee is \$40.00.

The State will give a **free Convention registration** to a teacher who has never attended Convention in the past. Three of our teachers are interested. Anyone else who would like to be considered should notify Dorothy before or at the April meeting.

If you need to reserve a room at the Hyatt in Santa Clara for Convention, log in at [mtac.org](http://mtac.org).

Our **Honors Recital** is coming up **Sunday, April 28 at Mill Creek Christian Church**. Check now with your students who earned Branch Honors in CM, as well as winners from the Jazz-Pop Festival, Romantic Festival, and after this weekend check with winners from the Baroque Festival (winners in the J.S. Bach category as well as winners in the Baroque category). A list of names and pieces (with all regular information needed for recitals) is **due to Alma by Saturday, April 13, the first day of Easter Break**. Perhaps we should confirm with our students before Spring Break that they will participate in the Branch Honors Recital.

There will also be a **regular April recital the same day, with a \$5 fee** and registration due to Alma by April 13.

**Saturday, April 27 is the deadline to enter one student** of your choice in the **May Showcase Recital**. In addition, the students who are selected to receive Branch Scholarships are invited to perform. There is no fee for this recital. The Showcase Recital will be **Saturday, May 4 at Beale Library**. Send student names and pieces to Andrea Allen.

You received a ballot to vote for State Officers about a week ago, and a second ballot a couple days ago. If you didn't send in your first ballot, save the pre-addressed envelope to use with the second ballot. The first ballot listed one of the offices incorrectly, so use the second ballot.

Musically,  
Dorothy Burgess  
Kern Branch President