


Hello Kern Branch,

Happy February  Remember: February 10 and 17 are holidays.

We have four branch events coming up in February:

Sunday, February 9 -- AMSL get-together for adult students, 4:00 at Deborah Nystrom's house. Jayne needs a count of how many will attend (adult students, spouses, teachers too). Deborah will provide a meat dish -- bring a salad, side dish, or dessert.

Thursday, February 13 -- Kern Branch monthly meeting, 9:30 at California Keyboards. All members are invited.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE MONTHLY RECITAL -- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15. Fee is \$7 per student. Form and fees are due to Meg.

- **Sunday, February 23** -- Monthly Recital, 1:00 at Millcreek Christian Church, corner of Truxtun and S. Carla will bring refreshments. Please ask your students to park in the back parking lot and enter through the gate.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE WINTER FESTIVAL -- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15. Fee is \$20 per student/piece. Students at all levels may participate. Forms and fees are due to Alma.

- **Saturday, February 29** -- Winter Festival at Beale Memorial Library on Truxtun. There will be three or four recitals from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. The theme is "Dance." Students at all levels may participate.

Guidelines for Winter Festival repertoire:

- any piece with "dance" in the title,
- pieces that are dance-like (jazz, rags, Latin rhythms),
- dances from the Baroque Suite (such as Minuet, Gigue),
- Nationalistic dances (such as such as Waltz, Mazurka).

We are following the guidelines for the Convention Theme Recital, printed below.

The Theme topic for Conventions in 2020 and 2021 is DANCE MUSIC. This can be any piece that has the word “dance” or “type of dance” in its title. Instrumental dance pieces such as Minuet, Pavane, Gavotte, Waltz, Mazurka, Polka, etc. are also included. Pieces may be from any musical period/category or country. Vocalists may consider music that is in ¾ with a definite waltz-feel, or music with a Spanish/South American flair is acceptable. Any music that has lyrics referencing dancing, for example: “I Could Have Danced All Night”, “Danza, danza fanciula gentile (Dance Gentle Maiden)”, “Ten Minutes Ago”, etc. Other considerations: • Jazz music, Swing-era, Bossa Nova, Ragtime, etc. • Any music with an “ethnic” flair. For example, danceable rhythms found in African, Middle-Eastern, South American, Asian, and European music, etc.

The Winter Festival Registration Form is in the Yearbook and may also be found at mtackern.com. The registration form and fees are due to Alma by Saturday, February 15. Payment may be made by check (one check for your studio written to MTAC, Kern Branch), or by PayPal, no later than February 15. Registration forms must be received by Alma (in Delano) no later than February 15 so plan ahead for mailing, or scan and email the forms to Alma.

Students who perform in the Winter Festival will receive written comments and evaluation from two judges. Students with scores in the top 20% will receive trophies.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE KERN BRANCH
BAROQUE (BACH) FESTIVAL -- SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 29** (same day as the Winter Festival, so plan ahead).

- Baroque Festival registrations are made online at SCJBF.org.
- Registration is open now.
- There is a \$10 teacher fee per year for the SCJBF website. Because of that added fee, there is no longer a Branch Teacher Fee.
- Student fee is \$25 for a J.S. Bach piece; \$20 for Anna Magdalena piece or any other Baroque composer.
- **Student fees are due to Rose by February 29 by check or PayPal.**

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## STATE PROGRAM NEWS

The Composers Today State Contest deadline is Wednesday, February 26. Please make this correction on your Yearbook Calendar (on the calendar, it is listed as Friday, February 28 which is incorrect).

## UPCOMING IN MARCH

\*Select Student Recital Applications (found in the Yearbook) are due to Donna on **Sunday, March 1**. Students who are level 6 and above and have a memorized 20-minute program may apply and audition. An address list for 20 invited guests must be included with the application. For selected students, the committee will send printed invitations to those on the guest list. The Recital will be April 18, with a possible additional recital April 25.

\*The monthly Branch meeting will be **Thursday, March 12**.

\*Certificate of Merit is scheduled **Saturday, March 14**. The location is new: Bakersfield College. Teachers who did not register students for CM and who would like to help at CM on March 14 should contact Marilyn.

\*Also on **March 14**, recital forms are due to Margo Mayer for the March 22 recital.

\*Select Student Recital Auditions will take place at Donna's on **Sunday, March 15** at 3:00.

\*Kern Branch Baroque (Bach) Festival at Beale Library will be **Saturday, March 21**.

\*Kern Branch Recital at Millcreek Christian Church--**Sunday, March 22**.

\*MSSL Recital -- **Sunday, March 29**.