



National Association
for Music Education

The background is a white wooden surface. Two wooden drumsticks are crossed diagonally. There are three red clay-like musical symbols: a pair of eighth notes, a single eighth note, and a treble clef. A large, faint, grey treble clef is also visible in the background.

Tempo

CMEA Bay Section

Volume 55 | Fall 2022
Back to School

Tempo Editor

Ben Scharf



Hello Bay Area music teachers!

My name is Ben Scharf, and I am the new Tempo Editor for CMEA Bay Section. While my responsibilities are fairly straightforward, I am beyond thrilled to be a part of CMEA and to contribute to a great organization. Outside of CMEA I am the Associate Director of Bands at Homestead High School and the Orchestra Director at Cupertino High School. I am fairly new at being a music teacher (this year is year 3), but I am beyond thankful to have friendly and supportive colleagues in the Bay Area. As we slowly phase out of the pandemic, we emerge into a new world with drastic changes to the profession.

This issue of the Tempo includes messages from our executive board and our special area representatives, as well as quick peeks as to what's coming to CMEA Bay Section in the near future.

We're excited for what comes next!

Ben



President

Sandra Lewis



Hello from Bay Section!

My name is Sandra Lewis and I am serving my first year as Bay Section President. We had our first full board meeting on Sunday, August 28th and it was great to see both new and familiar faces. We have a new President-Elect, Craig Bryant and together members of our executive and full board I am excited to start the process of planning and implementing our Bay Section Conference and our many festivals. The past couple of years in music education have challenged us in many ways and I am looking forward to a more “normal” return to our school year.

Large group festivals are open along with the option to participate in what Bay Section calls “CMEA Comes to You”. This festival offering is where we have adjudicators go out to a school and adjudicate either multiple ensembles at the particular site or schools from the surrounding districts. Last year traveling and masking restrictions made this option popular and both the ensembles and judges mentioned that they enjoyed going out to various school sites and listening to the students and getting a chance to provide feedback.

Besides our regular festival offerings in the spring we will be once again be holding our Bay Section Winter Conference at San Jose State University, January 6-7, 2023. We are grateful to our site host Mr. Craig McKenzie along with his “team” of collegiate students that help set-up rooms, organize tech needs and move equipment. With a return to having Bay Section student honor ensembles our area representatives, special representatives and other full board members also play key roles in helping provide a successful experience for all of our student participants and Bay Section music educators.

Our Winter Tempo will highlight more information about our conference honor groups and clinic sessions. Make sure to check the Bay Section website for more information. I wish everyone the best of luck as they go forward into this new year!

With Gratitude,
Sandra Lewis

President-Elect

Craig Bryant



Greetings CMEA Bay Section Members!

My name is Craig Bryant and I teach instrumental music at Albany High School and Albany Middle School. I also serve as the new President-Elect for CMEA Bay Section. In this role I am supporting the executive board and special representatives in hosting our annual Winter Conference. We have finally emerged on the other side of the pandemic, and I hope you are enjoying what feels like the first “normal” school year in a very long time. The energy on our campus here is very positive, and I trust it is the same at your school. We are still rebuilding and nurturing the culture that we lost during the pandemic, but I feel things getting better each day. Our Fall Band Concert at Albany High is tonight, and I am so excited to be able to share music with our school community. It can be overwhelming to think of inviting a music teacher colleague to your school concerts, but I highly encourage you to do this. I also encourage you to attend your local colleagues performances. It gives you a fresh perspective (hey, you’re not in charge!) to enjoy students making music and hear new repertoire. It also shows support and camaraderie.

The real benefit of being a CMEA Bay Section member is being part of an incredibly supportive music education community. Whether you are new or have been around for 30+ years, we need you to continue that wonderful tradition. Please plan to attend the Winter Conference, January 6th-7th to reconnect with your colleagues. This is especially important for our newer colleagues, so please reach out to folks who might be new in your part of the Bay and bring them on board.

All my best to you and your students.

Craig Bryant
CMEA Bay Section
President-Elect

Treasurer

Tim Walker



Hello All,

My name is Tim Walker and I am the new Executive Treasurer for CMEA Bay Section, succeeding Ulices Chavez. I am a trombonist and lawyer and look forward to working with all of you. See you soon!



Adjudication

Bruce Lengacher



Greetings Bay Section Music Educators!

I'm Bruce Lengacher and I am the new Adjudication Chair for CMEA Bay Section. I'm excited for the opportunity to follow my friend and colleague, Dr. Robert Calonico and continue working on the rubrics and adjudication procedures to ensure that all those attending festivals continue to get an educationally worthwhile experience.

One of the things that I'm working on is expanding the pool of adjudicators for Bay Section. Hopefully you all saw the "New Adjudicator Nomination Form" that went out earlier this year. Some folks nominated individuals who were already judges, but we identified 7 new potential new adjudicators. That slate of folks will be vetted by the executive board and those moved forward will be able to do their training via two videos. The first is a performance and an example of a clinic on that selection and the second is a video explaining the classification system, rubric, score sheet and instructions on how the rubric is to be used when adjudicating. Potential nominees will then complete an assessment to ensure that they understand the procedures and tools necessary to adjudicate at Bay Section Festivals. The videos will be available on the Bay Section website soon.

At Winter Conference this year we will have two demo sessions that will allow attendees to use the rubric, while hearing what a panel of adjudicators heard in the performance. There will be a Q and A session after the presentation. These sessions are not only for adjudicators, but also for conductors. Knowing how the process works is very beneficial when preparing your students for the festival experience. Looking forward to seeing you at Winter Conference at SJSU on January 6th and 7th 2023

Finally, I'd like to encourage all of you to not only attend a festival this season, but also to fill out the adjudicator evaluation form that is now online. This is the only way that we get feedback on how our adjudicators are doing. In the past we have had very low response to this form and it makes improving our processes challenging.

I hope you all have a good winter concert season and I'll see you at Conference!

Bruce Lengacher
CMEA Bay Section Adjudication Chair

Band

Jorge Jimenez



Having taught high school instrumental music in the Bay Area for a number of years now, I am very excited to be involved with CMEA Bay Section as your Band Representative!

Currently, I am the Director of Instrumental Music at College Park High School in Pleasant Hill (Mt. Diablo USD - Contra Costa County), where I teach band, orchestra, jazz and AP music theory. Previously, I taught instrumental music at all levels (K-12) in the Sacramento area with River Delta USD & Woodland Joint USD. I am excited to bring my varied experiences to the CMEA Bay Section Board and I'm looking forward to helping provide a wonderful conference for our Bay Area colleagues.



Choral

Lauren Diez



Greetings, Colleagues! My name is Lauren Diez, and I am proud to serve as your Choral Representative on the CMEA Bay Section Board again this year. I spend my day directing the choirs at Los Altos High School, and I also serve on the board of the California Choral Directors Association. I am pleased to introduce my new Assistant Choral Representative and friend, Jenni Gaderlund, who is the Choir Teacher Extraordinaire at Graham Middle School in Mountain View.

Jenni and I are excited to finally bring back the Bay Section Winter Conference Honor Choir after a two year hiatus! This is an important and unique opportunity for our local Jr. High singers, who will sing under the direction of the wonderful Angel Vasquez-Ramos from CSU Bakersfield. This year's Winter Conference will also have plenty in store for our choral educators, including two repertoire reading sessions and an array of interest sessions on choral pedagogy, leadership, diverse programming, and more. See you on January 6-7, 2023 at SJSU!



Orchestra

Richard Vaughn



Hello Bay Section Orchestra Educators!!

My name is Richard Vaughan and I'm excited to be starting off this year as your new representative. I'm a cellist and have been a teacher at Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park. for the past 22 years, though I've been teaching for over 30. My experience includes concert bands, jazz bands, choirs, and various music electives, as well as string and full orchestras. Hillview also hosts the Choral West festival in the Spring.

As I began this second post-Covid year, it still felt like my first years of teaching. So many links, once thought secure, are having to be re-established and reinforced. It is truly a time for rebuilding and renewal. Recruiting those students who stopped because they couldn't play at home, getting the parent booster back up and running, reaching out to the elementary schools to make sure the feeders are supported, touching base with the local high schools and setting up visitations, doing inventory and trying to track down students who still have instruments at home hidden in closets or under the bed - all of these are so vital to creating a strong, vibrant and lasting program. It can seem daunting and that is why being a part of CMEA is so important. We can rely upon each other!

As music educators, we do more than just teach technical skills, historical awareness and music literacy, we touch the souls of every student and lift the spirit of our communities. I am honored to represent you all and look forward to meeting many of you at the Bay Section Conference at San Jose State on January 6 & 7. If I can assist in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out.

rvaughan@mpcsd.org

Jazz

Dave Gregoric



Hello Music educators,

My name is Dave Gregoric and I am the new jazz representative. I am taking the gig as Andrew starts a new chapter in the Big Apple. I have been a CMEA member for some time now and I look forward to developing relationships with teachers with the common goal of building creative jazz programs. I can think of nothing better than collaborating on strategies to create classrooms and concerts that energize young musicians in this art form we all love.

I am a trombonist and have had a career playing with a lot of great bands and musicians in the Bay area. I have also been lucky to work with some great jazz education organizations including the Monterey Jazz Festival, Jazz School, SF Jazz, San Jose Jazz and the Stanford jazz workshop where I am currently the director of the Giant Steps project (summer and year long middle school program) . I have taught at the Marin School of the Arts, Valley Christian schools, Hayward school district and am currently at Mills High School in the San Mateo Union High School District.

Please reach out to me and let's talk about your program (I love to talk shop). My own classes introduce fundamental concepts through call and response, focused listening, transcribing and groove intensive work. I have regular debates with my friends about song choices, approaches to improvisation, and trumpet ranges. I would enjoy discussing the "perfect set" with you. I look forward to serving you in this position.

Dave Gregoric

Elementary

Keith Hunter



Hello Everyone!

My name is Keith Hunter and I've just entered my 11th year of teaching music and this is my first year on the CMEA Board as the Elementary Music Representative. I currently teach 5th grade band for all of the Palo Alto Unified School District elementary schools and am excited to be a part of the board this year. My board position has been slightly changed from the "General Music Rep" to the "General/Elementary Instrumental Music Rep. The CMEA Board hopes that this change will help include more music conference sessions for members that work in these areas. I hope to help make this small change to the conference successful this year.



Higher Ed

Vu Nguyen



Greetings!

My name is Dr. Vu Nguyen, and I am the Director of Bands at the Conservatory of Music at University of the Pacific. It is an honor to serve on the CMEA Bay Section Board as your Higher Education Representative, a role I began during the 2021-2022 school year. I hope this last summer was a good time of rest, rejuvenation, and quality time spent with friends and family. As you are reading this now, we are all well into the fall semester, enjoying the sounds of our students making music with one another. I write with two things on my mind as we continue through this first part of the school year – reflecting on our teaching philosophy and finding opportunities to connect.

I teach a course each fall for senior music education majors preparing to student teach in the spring. One of our opening discussions revolves around the importance of developing a teaching philosophy. I am sure this is something we all created during our undergraduate education, but when was the last time you thought about it or pulled it out to look at it? It is particularly important at this time of year when some of our students and we may be experiencing the “October Slump.” The initial adrenaline rush of the year has worn off, and we feel the accumulation of daily stressors. I find that this is the perfect time to remember to prioritize taking care of yourself, getting enough rest, and remembering your “why.” Revisit that teaching philosophy statement and reflect on your values, goals, and beliefs to help you refocus and recharge. And if you have never put these ideas in writing, consider taking the time to do so, as I have found it a powerful thing to do. University of Minnesota Center for Educational Innovation has a nice resource with questions to help you get started.

This is also an important time to remember that we are not alone. It is easy to feel isolated, especially if we are the only person teaching our subject area at our sites. Now is the time to reach out to colleagues and brainstorm, commiserate, ask for help – anything, really, to connect with someone who understands our successes and struggles as music educators. Perhaps there is an opportunity to visit a colleague’s classroom. Perhaps there is an opportunity to bring in a colleague to work with your students. Maybe you can schedule a professional development session that is specific to music. What do you want to get better at and get inspiration from? I feel confident speaking for my higher ed colleagues when I say we would enjoy any opportunity to visit you or your students. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us. Any chance to connect and be in community with each other as musicians and educators is a good one.

I will share more in the next issue about the higher ed sessions offered at the Bay Section Winter Conference, but for now, be sure to mark January 6-7 in your calendars. It will be an excellent opportunity to reflect and recharge. In the meantime, what will you do to stay connected to one another?

Innovation

Casey Jones



Greetings my fellow music teachers!

I hope you have found a warm welcome back, many of us have had conferences, mid-terms, homecoming, shows, and many other events and I hope that you are as glad as I am to be able to do all these events in person growing and learning from what the previous years have challenged us with. I have worked in the North Bay for 10 years, teaching elementary school up through high school. I am currently in my fourth year at Analy High School, directing bands and orchestra as well as teaching a beginning instrumental.

From my first attempt at projecting videos for my recorder class in my first year to having my current students record and produce music, I have been a huge advocate for technology in helping aid in education. Although, as with many of us, I do not want to run a zoom band ever again, nor do I have immediate interest in editing multi-track videos anytime soon. I feel it is a silver lining to have so much technology aid in our musical journey. What was originally a fun gimmick or one-time experiment app can be a great aid in our musical journey and I hope as we continue with our year we can really explore what it means to build a human connection in music with the technology at our fingertips.

I joke with my students that robots can't replace us yet because we can still make beautiful music. In January I hope I can bring innovation sessions that help explore what it means to make music in your classroom and I hope it can help equip you with tools for better musical exploration and engagement. Please join us on January 6th and 7th at San José State University, I am excited to bring industry professionals as well as knowledgeable colleagues to share a variety of tools and practices to create the best experience possible for us and our students.

Multicultural

Emelynn Montoya



Hello, esteemed colleagues!

My name is Emelynn Montoya, and I am delighted to serve you as your Multicultural Music Representative on the CMEA Bay Section Board. In the past I have been reaching out to teachers in the South Bay as the Area VIII Representative and mistaken as both a student and a parent during CMEA festivals. Haha! I teach choir, ukulele, and music appreciation at Sierramont Middle School, and I live in North East San Jose with my spouse, our toddler, and our 16-pound senior cat.

Like several music programs, mine has seen a dip even lower than last year. We are facing lower enrollment numbers from the elementary schools as well as families leaving the area due to rising housing costs. Continuing our priority from the previous year, we are focusing on quality, not quantity. We are bringing back the playfulness in music making.

We are also working diligently to center musical traditions and cultures not previously in the Western lens, while carefully avoiding cultural appropriation. The message boards on social media full of concerned and caring educators bring me hope. Thank you for taking the time to learn about the culture(s) in an authentic way. It does not have to be scary. Your questions and concerns are valid. Let's help you go further than tokenization and help these cultures be fully seen and heard.

Emelynn Montoya (she/her) is currently teaching choir, ukulele, and music appreciation at Sierramont Middle School. She directs the East Bay People's Choir and serves on the boards for both California Music Educators Association as Multicultural Music Representative and the California Choral Directors Association as Junior-High and Middle School Repertoire and Resources Chair.

Current Bay Section Festivals

If you have questions please contact the Large Group Festival Chair Greg Conway.



Area / Region	Jazz Festivals	Fri. Date	Fri. Time	Sat. Date	Sat. Time	Site	Host
East (II)	Jazz East	1/20/2023	4:00 PM - 9:30 PM	1/21/2023	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	El Cerrito High School	Keith Johnson
West (VI)	Jazz West	1/20/2023	1:00 PM - 7:30 PM	X	X	Mills High School	Dave Gregoric
South (V)	Jazz South	1/27/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	1/28/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Gunn High School	Todd Summers
South (V)	Jazz Combo South	X	X	1/28/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Gunn High School	Todd Summers
Area / Region	Choral Festivals	Fri. Date	Fri. Time	Sat. Date	Sat. Time	Site	Host
East (III)	Choral East	3/24/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	X	X	Dublin High School	Claire Yackley
North (I)	Choral North	4/7/2023	11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	X	X	Marin School of the Arts	Margaret Starr
East (II)	Choral East	4/21/2023	3:30 PM - 10:00 PM	4/22/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Liberty High School	Laura Carreon
South (V)	Choral South	4/21/2023	4:00 PM - 9:00 PM	4/22/2023	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Graham Middle School	Jennifer Gaderlund
West (VI)	Choral West	5/12/2023	3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	5/13/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Hillview Middle School	Richard Vaughan
South (V)	Choral South	5/5/2023	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	5/6/2023	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Palo Alto High School	Michael Najjar
Area / Region	Band/Orchestra Festivals	Fri. Date	Fri. Time	Sat. Date	Sat. Time	Site	Host
East (III)	Band & Orchestra East	3/17/2023	2:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3/18/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Livermore High School	Justin Enright
East (II)	Band & Orchestra East	3/24/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3/25/2023	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	El Cerrito High School	Keith Johnson
East (II)	Band & Orchestra East	3/24/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3/25/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	San Ramon Valley High School	Brant Nishida
South (V)	Band & Orchestra South	3/24/2023	1:00 PM - 9:30 PM	3/25/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Saratoga High School	Mike Boitz
South (VIII)	Band & Orchestra South	3/24/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	3/25/2023	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Sobrato High School	Greg Chambers
North (I)	Band & Orchestra North	3/31/2023	4:30 PM - 9:30 PM	4/1/2023	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Maria Carillo High School	Matt Bringedahl
West (VI)	Band & Orchestra West	4/7/2023	3:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/8/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Capuchino High School	Johnathan Hsu
South (V)	Orchestra ONLY South	X	X	4/15/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Gunn High School	Sandra Lewis
North (VII)	Band & Orchestra North	4/21/2023	3:00 PM - 8:30 PM	4/22/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Benicia Middle School	Paul Hanna
East (III)	Band & Orchestra East	4/21/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/22/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Irvington High School	Charlie Rodda
West (VI)	Band & Orchestra West	X	X	4/22/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Aragon High School	Kevin Gallagher
East (III)	Band & Orchestra East	4/28/2023	3:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/29/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Amador Valley High School	Jon Grantham
East (III)	Band & Orchestra East	4/28/2023	3:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/29/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Castro Valley High School	Keita Hasegawa
South (V)	Band & Orchestra South	4/28/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/29/2023	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Fremont High School	Joe Kelly
South (V)	Band ONLY South	4/28/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	4/29/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Gunn High School	Todd Summers
South (V)	Band & Orchestra South	X	X	5/6/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Cupertino Middle School	Jeff Yaeger
East (II)	Band & Orchestra East	5/5/2023	4:00 PM - 10:00 PM	5/6/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Pittsburg High School	Jennifer Martinez
Valley (IV)	Band & Orchestra Valley	5/5/2023	3:00 PM - 10:00 PM	5/6/2023	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Hughson High School	Katye Maki