



CMEA BAY SECTION

Promoting the Advancement of Music Education

TEMPO

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WINTER CONFERENCE 2024

January 5th & 6th, 2024
San Jose State Univeristy

Celebrating Our Area Representatives

Session Previews

Registration Tips!

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YOU'RE INVITED TO CMEA BAY SECTION WINTER CONFERENCE 2024



By Sandra Lewis

Dear Bay Section Members,

I hope that your rehearsals and concerts are going well and that you have had wonderful success hitting all of your classroom and musical learning goals.

I wanted to remind you to join us for the CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference at SJSU on January, 5-6, 2024. From the many conference sessions and honor ensemble performances to the gathering of our members for the awards ceremony at the annual wine and cheese, this conference is quite unique to Bay Section. Our conference is an excellent forum for Bay Section music educators to gather and listen to newly minted and also seasoned ideas on pedagogy and classroom techniques.

Winter Conference is a place where I was encouraged by veteran teachers and inspired by the various clinics and sessions to try new approaches in my daily classroom teaching.

Meeting and talking to my colleagues has resulted in many long-standing friendships for which I am deeply grateful.

Bay Section Conference is a great way to reset, reach out, and be rejuvenated as you look at all the amazing and talented music educators we have in our section.

So, this January make sure to check in with a friend, include a new teacher, or support the knowledgeable clinicians at our Winter Conference! The



**Sandra Lewis, CMEA Bay
Section President**

executive board, special reps, area reps, site host and collegiate NAFME members have been working diligently to make this a conference where we can come together and celebrate music education in Bay Section.

With Gratitude,
Sandra Lewis

A LETTER FROM OUR EDITOR



Firstly, I hope you are having a successful and smooth fall season this year. I know this time of year can be busy and at times wear on you. I hope that the breaks coming up help you recharge, refresh, and revitalize.

The CMEA Bay Section is excited to bring to you our Winter Conference January 5th and 6th, 2024. The sessions this year are full of presenters who have a wealth of knowledge to share. As my position allows me to be privy to the sessions early on, I have been excited watching the articles highlighting this years offerings roll in. There truly is something for everyone.

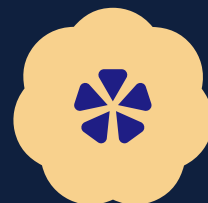
Another exciting portion of this conference are the honor bands that showcase the talent of our Bay Area student musicians, and can serve to refill your bucket before the start of the next chapter of our school year.

We are beyond excited to invite you to join us at the 2024 Winter Conference at SJSU to share and celebrate music education in the Bay Area!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah Musker".

Tempo Editor

2024 Winter Conference
San Jose State University
January 5th & 6th



JAZZ SESSIONS

By Dave Gregoric and Kyoto Yamamoto



You Can Do It!: Directing a Vocal or Instrumental Jazz Ensemble as a Classically Trained Musician, Kyoko Yamamoto

This clinic will inspire and encourage music teachers to successfully teach jazz ensembles, vocal or instrumental, even if they are not trained as a jazz musician.

As a classically trained musician from Japan, Kyoko will share her experiences teaching jazz in both middle and high school settings.

The clinic will cover different classroom/ensemble strategies across all grades (k-12), building fundamental techniques through warm up exercises, developing good listening habits, utilizing student leadership and technology (tuner/metronome/ireal pro, etc) for sectional or combo rehearsals, and maximizing their own musical



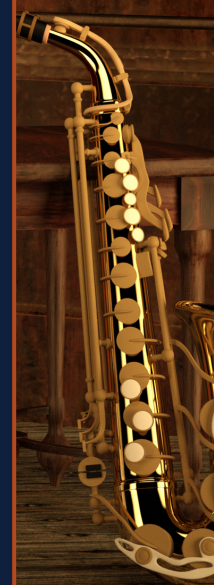
strengths and experiences to digest jazz chart as well as to direct ensembles. The participants will be inspired, encouraged, and will further their confidence teaching jazz ensemble.

On Friday from 1:30pm, CMEA will proudly present Bay Area Jazz Education legend John Maltester in a Seminar

This presentation will feature Mr. Maltester's latest publication "The Jazz Doctor- A Solution-Based Approach to Jazz Ensemble Development".

The Jazz Doctor- A Solution-Based Approach to Jazz Ensemble Development, John Maltester

This book, similar to a thesaurus, is an outstanding tool teachers can utilize to identify rehearsal issues, identify reasons an issue occurs and then suggestions to solve the issue. This session will be a vital source of information for the younger teacher or the non-jazz teacher wanting to develop a solid jazz ensemble. Bring your rehearsal issues to the session.





President Elect – Craig Bryant

We often spin in different orbits with instrumental music and choir kids, but this united the kids in such a positive way.

By the time you read this most of us will be in the midst of Concerts, Semester Finals and looking forward to Winter Break. Good luck to all! I hope to see many of you at our Winter Music Education Conference in early January to catch up, share ideas and stories, and get rejuvenated for the second half of the school year. Being a music teacher is hard, and often times conferences can be the only time we get to visit and share with other music teachers. I especially encourage you to reach out to a colleague and bring a built in buddy to hang with. Just having one other person there that you already know can make things much more fun.

The annual Wine and Cheese time and recognition of outstanding music educators in our area is a special tradition that I hope you will stay for on Friday evening.

A theme for my school year has been collaboration. I've tried to incorporate this in various ways throughout my program at least once each quarter, and the response from my students has been super positive. This past month we hosted the Berkeley High School Orchestra (thank you Mary Dougherty!) to share our Fall Orchestra Concert.

Each school played their own set of music and then we combined for a fun finale at the end. We had a short 30 minute rehearsal on the combined piece, and then the kids shared a pizza dinner beforehand so they could get to know each.

The result was a big group of kids really interested in sharing their music and lots of fun. Also this Fall I shared a concert with my wonderful colleague Kate Huizinga (Albany HS Choirs)

to perform movements of Vivaldi's Gloria with our combined groups. We often spin in different orbits with instrumental music and choir kids, but this united the kids in such a positive way. In both cases it was really nice to share with a colleague, and the students got just as much out of it as I did. Later this year we have some things planned with my feeder program, and this is a collaboration that can really help with recruitment and building culture in your program.

I encourage you to think of adding an event where you invite another school over for a concert, or even just a shared rehearsal day. The ability for your students to work with students from outside their own school is an incredible experience, and well worth the effort of field trip forms etc.

In the spirit of collaboration I hope to see you in January at the conference if not sooner!



Choral Sessions & **HONOR ENSEMBLES**

By Jenni Gaderlund

Hello Choir Family!

As I write this, we have just finished performing our Fall Concert and are beginning to rehearse the music for our Winter Concert. There's nothing like practicing Winter Holiday music before it's even Halloween. IYKYK

If you are anything like me, you might be feeling a bit...tired. A bit...worn down. Sometimes taking a day off for your mental health can be helpful, but for me, the most helpful things are: **Inspiration and Connection.**

If you are feeling similar, please make sure you join us at the CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference on January 5th and 6th, 2024. Many of us are still on Winter break during that weekend. This conference is perfectly timed to give you that

dose of inspiration and connection that you need in order to feel ready and excited to go back to the classroom the next week!

For Inspiration: attend the choral interest sessions! Two sessions that will give you tons of ideas for strategies, games, activities, for your choral classroom are: **Solfege HopScotch**, led by Emma Benatar, and **Building Musicianship in the Choral Classroom** led by Jeff Morton from Homestead High School. Perhaps you have been wrestling with programming sacred and secular music for your Winter Concert. If so, you'll want to be sure to attend **All I Want For Christmas is Quality Repertoire** led by Beth Nitzen from Los Gatos High School.

If you are a high school or college level educator who is curious about using Kodaly strategies at those levels, absolutely don't miss **Kodály Strategies for Secondary and**

Collegiate Choral Ensembles led by Christain Emigh from Concord High School.

For EVEN MORE Inspiration: Whether or not you have students participating in the Honor Choirs, please join us for the **concert on Saturday January 6th at 2pm** in Morris Dailey Auditorium! The directors of our TWO honor choirs are LaNell Martin, the Artistic Director of the Oakland Youth Chorus, and Dr. Julie Ford, from St. Mary's College of California. Both of these women are absolutely legendary musicians and directors. I can't wait to see what they do with our choir students!

For Connection: I hope to connect with you at the Wine and Cheese Reception during the Winter Conference! Please attend and say hello! Then, make it special and go out to dinner with your colleagues that you only see once a year! You'll be so glad you did.

Higher Education Sessions

Higher Education will be offering four terrific sessions that I hope you will be able to attend at this year's Winter Conference. All Higher Ed sessions will be in the Student Union Room 1. Additionally, there will be a **"Pizza with the Presidents"** lunch for our collegiate members to meet with current and past Bay Section presidents on Friday afternoon.

Friday morning will start with **"The Middle School Conductor: Reinforcing Fundamentals Through Purposeful, Intentional Gesture,"** a hands-on session led by **Dr. Erin Bodnar**, Director of Bands at the University of North Florida. In this session, participants will explore the influence of middle school teachers' conducting in reinforcing the teaching of fundamentals. Dr. Bodnar will examine the effect of posture, horizontal gestures, breathing, musical releases, and much more on creating a better sound from your ensemble. Participants will practice a variety of gestures that will aid their current teaching and leave the session with tangible strategies for improving the sound of their ensembles through gesture.

Later that afternoon, **Ian Hart**, Repair Shop Manager at JAMS Music in Dublin, CA and proud member of the National Association of Professional Band Instrument Repair Technicians, will present **"It Was Like That When I Opened the Case!"** a practical session that equips you with the skills to quickly diagnose and troubleshoot common instrument issues, from bent keys to missing key corks. You'll leave with a newfound confidence and a list of essential supplies and tools to keep handy.

We begin Saturday morning with **"Towels, Trap Tables, and Tambourines: Tips for a Thriving Percussion Section"** led by Dr. Jonathan Latta, percussion instructor at University of the Pacific. He will share innovative solutions to elevate your percussion section's musicality. Discover how a simple black hand towel or a well-chosen throne can make a world of difference. These tips are designed to enhance the overall musical experience for your percussion students while maintaining their health and well-being.



By Vu Nguyen

On Saturday afternoon join us for **"From Student to Teacher: A Panel on Student Teaching Success"** a thought-provoking panel discussion led by two esteemed educators, **Dr. Ruth Brittin**, Director of Music Education at the University of the Pacific, and **Mark Morello**, music teacher at Bristol Middle School. This session delves into the transformative journey from being a student to becoming a teacher, providing inspiration and practical guidance.

Save the date for January 5th and 6th. We look forward to sharing these exciting sessions with you at the CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference. See you in January!

Band Sessions



By Jorge Jimenez and Brittany Shankle

Welcome to a quick preview of the Band Sessions that will be offered at the 2024 CMEA Bay Section Conference! This year, we are pleased to have a slate of fantastic clinicians from throughout the Bay Area and beyond. Our band sessions will cover a range of topics to help all Bay Area band directors improve their craft as music educators.



Band Reading Session, Keith Johnson

In this session, Mr. Johnson will share a wonderful list of repertoire with you that is not only fun and exciting, but also grabs the attention of students and serves as a wonderful catalyst to teaching technique, developing musicianship, and promoting a positive experience in ensemble playing. We still need players and all band teachers are welcome to sight-read in the band! Just bring your instrument, take a seat and play some music with us.



So You've Studied the Score... Now What? Dr. Andy Collinsworth

This session will explore practical applications of the Laban movement method and practice strategies that connect conducting gestures with musical elements found in the score, promoting musical communication between the conductor and ensemble. Bring your baton to participate in what promises to be a fun and interactive session!



Mallet Wrapping and Other Percussion Techniques Margaret Billin

Do you have mallets that have lost their yarn? Does it seem you're replacing yarn mallets every year or sometimes even more frequently? Save money by learning how to wrap your own used mallets and bring them back to life! Margaret Billin, currently teaching at JLS Middle School in Palo Alto will take you through the process of wrapping yarn mallets for the band director. Save your mallets!



**Developing Your Students’
Creativity in the Band
Rehearsal,
Dr. Troy Davis**

Creativity is a key component to developing comprehensive musicians. However, it can be a challenge to provide students the opportunity to think beyond the technical elements of the music. In this session, Dr. Davis will present some ways to cultivate an environment of curiosity, self-expression, connected engagement, and deeper musical understanding in the band classroom.



**The Band Music of Yukiko
Nishimura,
Yukiko Nishimura**

We are excited to welcome award winning composer, Yukiko Nishimura! Born and raised in Kyoto, Japan, and now based in Los Angeles, Yukiko will talk in-depth about her compositions for band as well as provide insight on her composition process and what inspires her to continue to write for such a diverse setting of instruments as the concert band. Among her honors are a special mention at the 15th and 26th International Competition for Original Composition for Band

in Corciano, Italy, and the 6th Aoyama Award. We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Yukiko and hope to see many of our Bay Area band directors at this session!



Jorge Jiménez is the Band Representative for CMEA Bay Section and the Director of Instrumental Music at College Park High School in Pleasant Hill.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to the CMEA Bay Section Board and all of my colleagues for all the work they put in for our students and for this conference. I hope to meet as many Bay Area band directors as possible in January. If you see me, please stop me, introduce yourself and say hi! Here’s to a fantastic Bay Section Winter Conference!

Orchestra Sessions and Honor Conductor

Richard Vaughn & Stephanie Holmes

What I love about music is that it builds connections. This Fall, I've been lucky enough to play in the pit for some musicals on the peninsula. It's been so much fun to see old friends and make new ones both on the stage and in the pit. Not surprisingly, many of them are music teachers. We all need to keep our "chops" up as professionals and whether it is playing in pits, chamber ensembles, community orchestras or the "pick-up" wedding gig - it is our connection through music that makes us better educators and leaders for our students.

Another way to connect with fellow music educators is by attending the Bay Section Conference in January. Your Bay Section Board has been busy creating a wonderful series of workshops, clinics and sight reading sessions as well as providing an opportunity for your top 7-9 gr. students to perform in the Honors Festival on Saturday, January 6.

The Orchestra Sessions are going to be amazing! Nationally recognized educator and clinician **Daryl Silberman** will be leading three of the sessions.

Ms. Silberman is a professional violinist/violist, an orchestra director at Scullen Middle School in Naperville, IL, and a director for the Youth Symphony of DuPage. Daryl is also a 200RYT yoga instructor and mindfulness trained educator. She has served as a guest conductor and clinician for middle and high school orchestras all around the country and has presented at many national and state educator conferences.

On Friday morning, Daryl will be starting us off early with a **Mindfulness Stretch and Yoga** session. On Saturday, make sure to attend her two sessions on **teaching improvisation** and **extended "alternative" string techniques**. The first will be held with San Mateo's Aragon high school strings and focus on introducing these concepts to a large group. This will be followed by a second session that will give teachers the opportunity to work directly with Daryl on improving individual technique - so make sure to bring your instrument!

Speaking of which, **BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT** and join San Mateo's Aragon High School strings as they read

through this year's selections of new music picked by their director, John Chen. Please join us on the stage in the Main Concert Hall!

Also, on Friday morning, **Alison Gamlen**, San Mateo County's Office of Education VAPA Coordinator will be on hand to discuss and answer all of your questions with regards to **Prop 28**. If you have questions about how much additional state funding your district is receiving, what it can be spent on and what the guidelines are for developing new music programs, please plan on attending.

This year, the **Honor's String Orchestra** will be under the baton of **Mary Dougherty**. Mary is the orchestra director at Berkeley High School and a violin instructor and conductor with the Cazadero Performing Arts Camp. She has chosen a challenging and inspiring program. Please plan on attending the Saturday performances of all our ensembles.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of your students! See you at the Conference!

Innovation and Learning

Casey Jones

I hope you are having a successful fall season, whether it is showcase concerts, marching shows, or any other events. The fall season is busy. In between careful planning and putting out every proverbial fire, I know that educators are looking for ways to make their planning more efficient and effective. I hope when you attend our winter conference you will find the session that helps refresh your perspective and kick start your lesson planning.

For our innovation and technology sessions we have several that I hope find inspiring. With Proposition 28 as well as grants and funding for Career Technical Education (CTE), we have two sessions that will show you innovative ways to serve your students. For our first session on Friday at 10:25 am Mr. Matt Verplaetse from Marin School of the Arts will talk about Rock Band (or as some know it “Modern Band”). His session will give insight on how to manage rock groups and put together a class to best serve your students.

For our second Friday session at 2:30pm Aaron Moss from Stockton Unified School District, Caesar Chavez High School and Dan Sedgwick from Del Norte High School, Del Norte County Unified School District will talk about teaching repair in the high school setting. This will not only cover how to get such a class started, but also how it can fulfill the needs of your program and students. Mr. Moss and Mr. Sedgwick will talk about the repair class in terms of the Career Technical Education (CTE), so I invite many folks interested in advocacy for the trades (or those just curious about CTE to join us.

For our Saturday 8 am slot. I will be covering all of the technology shortcuts that will make your life easier. Whether it is YouTube shortcuts (did you know you can transpose videos?!), backing tracks, designing a concert poster or Google classroom tools, I hope my session has something for everyone. Lastly we will close our portion of the



conference with Holly MacDonell’s Music Technology for K-8 General Music Class session. Mrs. MacDonell will share the tools, tips, and lessons that have worked in her Kindergarten through 8th grade general music classrooms. I hope you find any one of these sessions helpful for your teaching goals and inspiring for your students.

Multicultural Sessions

Emelynn Montoya

CMEA Bay Section Winter Conference is one of my favorite conferences to attend to see cherished colleagues as well as learn new and interesting strategies ready to use in our classrooms. My goal this year is to have a variety of sessions where fellow Bay Area music educators can find new approaches to teaching and thinking about our diverse student musicians. I am honored to present the following sessions.

On Friday morning, we have University of the Pacific's own **Darita Seth**, where he will teach us about the beautiful soundscapes of Southeast Asia. He is a conductor and composer of Cambodian descent. During his session, we will learn of the regions' connectedness as well as the exciting programming options for developing choirs. During school year breaks, Darita serves as the director of Choral Audacity, a Bay Area-based chamber choir that focuses on centering the stories of BIPOC and other marginalized communities through choral music.

On Friday afternoon, we have Melanie Kang, a long-time practitioner of Orff Schulwerk. She will be presenting basic ribbon dance movement along with an Orff arrangement of a Chinese New Year song. Ms. Kang is from the central area of China. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in music education from Xi'an Conservatory of Music and earned her master's in music from the School of Music, University of Utah. She recently published her book of Chinese folk music with the Orff approach, *Lions, Lanterns, and Ribbons*.

Saturday morning will be jam-packed before the Honor Ensemble concerts. First, we will have Néstor Dominguez from the Chicago Public School District. This will be an interactive session where educators will learn the essential elements of starting your very own Mariachi education program. It will pay particular attention to incorporating musics from Indigenous, Afro-Mexican, and Regional Mexican music. Originally from the state



of Guerrero in Southwest México, Mr. Dominguez has been teaching Mariachi, world percussion, wind band, and music technology for the last ten years.

Late Saturday morning, we will have Henry Hung (San Francisco Unified School District), Holly Shogbesan, Zack Pitt-Smith (Oakland Unified School District), and Ted Allen (retired Oakland Unified School District). They will discuss and offer alternatives as well as solutions to how we can honor ALL music students. They will present possible options of how to make honor ensembles more equitable and welcoming to students of all backgrounds.

Have a wonderful winter break. I look forward to seeing you all in January!

We want to take a moment to celebrate the hard work of our Area Representatives, who, in addition to their roles as music educators, help CMEA organize and execute the music festivals within their respective areas! If you happen to come across them, don't hesitate to say hi, introduce yourself, and express your gratitude for their valuable contributions.

Area I



Matt Verplaetse



-open-

Area II



Sara Stafford



Lauren Gibson

Area III



Lieven Smart



Carolyn Russ Slous

Your paragraph text



Kayte Maki



Joey Aguilar

Area IV

Area V



Philip Aduan



Ben Scharf



Oliver Bishop



Lance Ohnmeiss

Area VI

Area VII



Michael Riendeau



-open-

Area VIII



Kelly Walker



Victoria Arribere

ELEMENTARY MUSIC SESSIONS

By Keith Hunter

The clinicians presenting at the 2024 CMEA Bay Section Conference are profoundly talented, as well as really amazing people. My goal was to find clinicians that would support the elementary school music educators with a variety of important topics. I'm lucky to call these clinicians my close friends or colleagues and are people who I highly respect and admire. Here are the four clinics we have prepared for you:



Keith Hunter is the Elementary/General Music Representative for the CMEA Bay Section, and is a music teacher in the Palo Alto Unified School District in Palo Alto, CA.

On Friday morning, **Gary Ortega and myself** will be presenting a session titled *Teaching and Incorporating Improvisation in a Beginning Instrumental Ensemble*. Through our experiences teaching jazz and working side by side, we will share some ideas for teaching students how to improvise in a large beginning ensemble. We encourage you to bring your instrument or a secondary instrument to test out some of the exercises during the session (required technique and range will be at a 5th-7th grade level). It is easy to leave out improvisation in a beginning instrumental class because there are so many other things to work on. We have found it to be a great addition to extending the curriculum for many students while also differentiating and teaching students about harmony. There are many ways of incorporating improvisation in your class and in concerts. We hope our ideas help you find the courage or the means for adding improvisation to your beginning instrumental curriculum!

Later on Friday, **Laura Lo and Kelly Martin** will present *Exploring the Social and Emotional Benefits of Music Making for Special Education Students in the Elementary Learning Center Classroom*. They will be sharing what they have learned so far during their pilot music program for special education students in a moderate to severe learning center setting. In addition to sharing what they have learned, they will also share tips, tricks, and other activities to support differentiation in both general music classes and beginning instrumental programs. Their passion and ideas for supporting students will provide you with some starting points to bolster your programs.

Saturday's first session will feature my colleague and general music master **Robin Smith**. Her session is titled **Recorder Reconnoiter: Or Tactics for Showcasing Your Recorder Curriculum**. She will share her life's work of designing and implementing

engaging activities to help students perform music on the recorder. Bring your recorder to play and test out some of the activities in real time to experience the magic of recorder.

Our final session on Saturday will feature a fellow educator and friend, **Oscar Pangilinan**. His session titled **Help! I trained to be a band director, and now I'm teaching elementary music!** will help new teachers or teachers not feeling prepared to teach elementary music. I know that I struggled to adapt and figure out how to teach younger grades and I'm sure that Oscar's insight will be valuable to anyone who attends. I'm always captivated with what Oscar has to share and I know you will leave his session with some great ideas on how to navigate the challenges by adjusting or altering your teaching and mindset.

I hope these session descriptions do them justice and excite you for this conference! Have a wonderful holiday break and I look forward to seeing you in January.



Adjudication Sessions

Bruce Lengacher

I hope you survived the winter concert season and for some of you the end of first semester. We have two adjudication sessions at this year's Winter Conference at SJSU on January 5th and 6th, 2024

Do you have questions about the rubric? Does the Classification system and the sliding scale seem hard to understand. Have you ever thought about hosting a large ensemble festival? Would you like to have all the materials to host that festival? Are you new to the festival system and want to know what it's all about and how it benefits you and your students? Do you struggle selecting repertoire for festival?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should attend the Adjudication sessions at the Winter Conference on January 5th and 6th at San Jose State University

Friday Session 10:15am Revisiting the Rubric- Bruce Lengacher

This sessions is for directors and adjudicators. We will examine the construction of the rubric, explain how the sliding scale works, discuss how the scoresheet correlates with the rubric and how directors can use the rubric as a teaching tool in the classroom.

Saturday Session 10:00am Festival Do's and Don'ts-Bruce Lengacher, Keith Johnson, Greg Conway

This session will provide attendees with information about how to host a festival, give repertoire selection strategies, explain the procedures of how a festival is run from the host and attendee perspectives. All attendees will receive all materials digitally. Please bring your own device.



**Register for Winter
Conference 2024
January 5-6th, 2024
@ SJSU**

LOOK OUT FOR:

- Early Bird Registration through Dec.1st
- First-Time Attendees
- Honor Group Participants

