



# Sonata

Development  
Edition



KEEPING YOU IN TUNE WITH THE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS OF THE CENTRAL COAST SECTION OF CMEA

Vol. XXI Opus. 2

The California Association for Music Education • Central Coast Section

Winter, 2010

*From the Podium of Barbara Priest*  
CCS President




## Solo/Ensemble Festival It's Worth It!

By Theresa Hruby, Solo/Ensemble Chair

### MENC-CMEA-CCS: Why membership? It's not just for students!

You are making history if you downloaded this premier on-line edition of the CMEA-CCS Sonata. Our website is now the primary method for distribution of our newsletter. You will again make history when you attend the First All-State California Music Education Conference, February 17-20 in Fresno for only \$85 with your MENC membership!

Why join? A membership means many things. Becoming a member of MENC is a national umbrella membership with CMEA (state) and CCS (local). You are aligning yourself with a professional community at the national, state and local level where connections are numerous and meaningful. MENC provides professional development through conferences and free member Webinars. Attending conferences is perfect for networking and there are mentoring opportunities on the online forums.

Your \$128 membership is distributed as follows: MENC=\$59, CMEA=\$49, The CMEA Magazine=\$10, and MENC Teaching Music Magazine=\$10. Locally, membership provides connections with other music educators. Connection is an essential priority in a profession that often has only one music teacher per school or even per school district. Your membership ensures that our eight communities of California music educators will stay connected and active with our colleagues across the nation.

Perhaps the most important reason to become a member of MENC is that part of your membership goes toward securing effective lobbyists to fight for VAPA legislation that supports the mission of our collective associations. MENC is the only professional music educators' organization to substantially contribute to legislative movement in Sacramento. Positive legislative actions translate into state and federal funding for music programs and support for standards in curriculum.

The Music Educators Journal is sent to all members quarterly. From the  
*(See Podium page 2)*

Once again, I encourage you to consider bringing your students to our annual Solo and Ensemble Festivals. When I taught music in Illinois (just a few years ago...) I got my feet wet when the school administration told me that the last music teacher was required to send all students to both the large group festival and the solo festivals. In fact, all local music teachers did the same. At that time, I had 120 band students in grades 4-8 and it was a part-time job. In

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MENC website you will find links to the state associations including CMEA, The California Association for Music Education. The MENC website ([www.menc.org](http://www.menc.org)) has the details on an abundance of opportunities for professional growth and opportunities for you, from lesson plans to easy membership renewal. Also, available on the MENC website are three free online only publications for members, which requires a login. Use your email and member number.

The publications are:

**General Music Today****Update: Applications in Music Education****JMTE: Journal of Music Teacher Education**

Our own CCS tri-annual Sonata newsletter is now found in PDF form on our website. Check out all the current section information, browse interesting articles, and do feel free to submit a lesson or helpful experience of your own to use in an upcoming issue. If you prefer to have a hard copy in booklet form of the newsletter mailed to you personally, contact editor and CCS Special Board Representative, Jon Christian. ([jonchristian41@gmail.com](mailto:jonchristian41@gmail.com))

**CMEA-CCS Performance Opportunities**

Honor Group and Festival information is continually updated on our website and all necessary forms for participation are also available for download on this site. Thank you for sending audition recordings and a special thanks to those who helped score and rank the many hopeful recordings on recent Saturdays! In addition to honor groups, we have two regional Solo and Ensemble festivals, which are qualifiers for the State Solo Ensemble Festival in Sacramento, May 13–14, 2011. Our large group instrumental festivals are adjudicated with consistent and updated criteria. Most festivals usually have a clinic with one of the judges after your performance. Contact the chairpersons for specifics and to schedule your groups! Board member Adam Petrocelli ([apetrocel@monterey.k12.ca.us](mailto:apetrocel@monterey.k12.ca.us)) is hosting our Band and Orchestra Festival at Hartnell College in Salinas April 15 and 16, 2011. Theresa Hruby, ([Maestrahruby@aol.com](mailto:Maestrahruby@aol.com)) board secretary, HS Honor Band chair and Special Rep. for Advocacy, also very generously hosts our popular Solo and Ensemble Festival at Seaside High School Feb. 26 and March 12, 2011.

Middle School Honor Choir chairperson Alice Hughes ([alice.hughes@pcsed.org](mailto:alice.hughes@pcsed.org)) and CCS board member Mark Bidelman ([mbidelman@sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us](mailto:mbidelman@sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us)) are co-chairing the Choral Festival at Cabrillo College in Santa Cruz January 12, 2011.

**Historical Event!**

Central Coast CMEA members have been dialoguing, as long as I can remember, about the difficulties of attending several conferences each year, including managing the financial burden of the various memberships to the major music educator's professional organizations, so that our students may participate in the worthy musical opportunities presented by these organizations. You will be a part of making history when you attend the first All-State California Music Education Conference this February in Fresno. This conference will be the first umbrella conference for California music educators. The California Association for Music Education (CMEA), California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA), and the California Alliance for Jazz (CAJ), are all collaborating with the California Band Directors Association (CBDA) for an amazing 4-day event. Register on line ([www.calmusiced.com](http://www.calmusiced.com)) or register at the CMEA registration booth at the conference. You only need a current membership in one of the four associations to attend and the cost of the conference in only \$85 dollars.

Each association will present several sessions in their respective areas of specialty. According to CMEA past president Jeff Jenkins, CMEA has scheduled sessions such as a presentation on how one teacher incorporates Smart Music in his own class, a session on "Recording Your Ensemble: Easy & Affordable Options," and session called "Free Internet Resources for Music Educators." The CMEA choral sessions will focus on 'recruiting guys', teaching the standards, building the young voice, and surviving the present economic and test-prep climate. A CMEA vocal reading session and a concert/clinic with Dr. Anna Hamre is scheduled. A presentation on the Venezuelan National Music Program called "El Sistema," where 250,000 children attend its music schools around the country, is also one of many other scheduled CMEA sessions.

I personally look forward to attending this conference

*(See Podium page 3)*

(Podium from page 2)

due to the evident excitement in communication and planning within the four presenting organizations. Having a current MENC membership and attending this conference is really the best way to support the unification of music educators. We are ambassadors of culture for our students through the study and instruction of music.

#### Now accepting nominations for:

#### 2011 CMEA-CCS Outstanding Music Educator Award 2011 CMEA-CCS Outstanding Administrator Award

There are many great music teachers in our area who not only use rehearsal time extraordinarily well, they make a difference for students and other teachers alike! Please help us properly recognize an outstanding music educator or administrator you may know.

To nominate a teacher or administrator for a 2011 award, submit the name, school and a short letter with supporting information for your nomination to President Elect, Drew Lewis, before January 1, 2011. ([dlewis@kirby.org](mailto:dlewis@kirby.org))

#### Past CMEA-CCS Outstanding Music Educators

#### Central Coast Section Recipients 2000–2010

Debbie Cirimele, 2000	Gloria A. Souza, 2001
Gary Stotz, 2002	Mark Bidelman, 2003
Theresa Hruby, 2004	Willow Manspeaker, 2005
Dale Harrison, 2006	Glenda Bernhardt, 2007
Joe Johnson, 2008	Barbara Priest, 2009
Drew Lewis, 2010	David Hoffman, 2010

State awards are vast in number yet we rarely get submissions. Help us recognize our talented members. State nominations are due October 14th each year. You can find the list of categories on the CMEA website under Awards. ([www.calmusiced.com](http://www.calmusiced.com))

## Educator Spotlight

The Board would like to recognize board member and vocal teacher Colleen Wall! Colleen drives two and a half hours each way from Morro Bay to attend our monthly board meetings and has inspired students and teachers to participate in CCS activities! Vocal teachers, please contact me if you would like a High School Honor Choir audition site in Morro Bay next fall. Colleen is open to hosting and is also working to get more of our members involved from the south end of our section. Thank you, Colleen. Your vision and dedication is so appreciated.

A big thank you to Glenda Bernhart for her service on our board and in the Central Coast community. We wish you well in Idaho but we will miss you! You have made such a difference for so many and we all know your students will remember their work with you for the rest of their lives.

Congratulations and welcome to Bob Aguilar, Maria Carney, and Rebecca Kincl to the Central Coast. Each of these teachers has recently joined the MPUSD and are new to our section. Thank you, all three, for jumping right in and attending the high school honor band and orchestra listening session on Saturday, November 6th. We appreciate your participation and donation of time!

Members are welcome to contact me, or any board member, with questions or even a need for a helping hand! We of course encourage inquiry from new and prospective members at any time. Also, if you would like to get involved with board activities or events, we would look forward to working with you. Please plan your calendar to attend the biannual CMEA-CCS General Meetings and dinner with a friend or two, in June and September.

I wish you effective rehearsals and wonderful winter concerts with plenty of rest by New Year's Day! Cheers to a musical 2011.

## Sonata Publication Schedule

Edition	Articles Due	Production Date	Label Date	Distribution Date
<b>Exposition</b>	September 1, 2010	September 13, 2010	September 14, 2010	September 16, 2010
<b>Development</b>	November 19, 2010	November 30, 2010	December 1, 2010	December 3, 2010
<b>Recapitulation</b>	April 20, 2011	April 26, 2011	April 27, 2011	April 29, 2011

*(Solo/Ens. from page 1)*

addition to requiring each music student to attend solo festival, they were also required to memorize their solos.

Through the process of preparing all of my students for solo contest in early March, I learned that it is indeed a worthwhile and quite valuable process. By starting the students on their solos in early December and working with individuals about 10 minutes per week, the students learned many important lessons through the months. Here are a few:

1. Don't bite off more than you can chew. Choose a solo that offers a challenge and an opportunity for musical and technical growth, but don't choose something impossible. Rely on your teacher to guide you.
2. Practice daily. You can't "cram"; it's just not possible. Learning and memorizing a piece, developing the necessary technical facility and ultimately achieving the musicality of the composer's intent all take time. Students learn about the necessary *process*. They learn not to procrastinate!
3. Set realistic goals for each week. Setting a goal (for instance that they will technically learn one line per week,) and then adding in the memorization aspect once the piece is learned teach the student that large projects can be tackled in small and obtainable sections. It doesn't have to be overwhelming. Of course this lesson will help them throughout their life!
4. Students learn to stop hiding behind the rest of the players in their section and realize that they need to stand on their own two feet in front of an audience. This experience is truly eye-opening for young musicians. I have found that in the majority of cases, students rise to the occasion because they understand that they are held accountable for their level of preparation. The more they prepare, the more positive the experience. Wouldn't that be true for all of their academic classes and life in general?
5. When it's over, the students are most often quite satisfied with themselves and their accomplishments. They realize that they had prepared well and learned not to fall under pressure.

6. Students learn to play along with an accompanist. This is no small feat! They learn the importance of keeping time and keeping their "cool." They can also learn some musical leadership skills, like how to communicate both verbally and non-verbally with their accompanist.
7. For students that participate in an ensemble, many more musical and leadership skills are learned.

For us music teachers, having our students participate in solo and ensemble festival is completely worth it because ultimately our students have learned some important music and life lessons. The result for us is a better sounding choir, band, or orchestra because it is made up of individuals that have learned so many important skills over several weeks or months.

I often hear from our local music teachers that there simply isn't time to teach their students to play solos. I know we are all pressed for time, but this experience is so worthwhile I sincerely hope you try it this year and see the results for yourself. After the experience, I suggest having your students write a short essay on their experience. I am willing to bet that you will be astonished at how many students write about the positive lessons they have learned. TRY IT! You won't be sorry you did!

Please note we offer two dates for solo and ensemble festivals on the calendar. If you are interested in having your students attend, feel free to give me a call or e-mail. I will be happy to answer your questions. We do NOT require memorization, by the way. Our festivals offer positive feedback from qualified adjudicators. Adjudicators will also recommend certain students in the advanced level to attend the state solo and ensemble festival.

So what are you waiting for? Dig out those solos, and start getting to know your students on a deeper, much more quality level! Start enriching their lives *even more* than you do already.



# Teacher's Prose for Teaching Pros

A FORUM FOR SHARING IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES USEFUL TO MUSIC EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

## TECHNOLOGY ADVICE—ROUND THREE

Submitted by Willow Manspeaker

I still think it's hilarious that I'm writing this article, let alone the third edition of an article on tech advice. I'm not a luddite; actually, I'm relatively computer literate (according to UrbanDictionary.com, I'm what you'd call a "Compi", pretty legitimate), but there are certainly those among you who are more skilled than I, and could probably be giving me advice. If that's you, please, please email me some of your tricks and ideas, I'll use them for the next time. If you're not yet among us 'compis', I hope you'll find some of these ideas useful. My advice, if you're just getting started, is to ease into it, start slowly, and ask your students for help. This last point is crucial, the kids know this stuff, they respond to it, and in my experience, they want to share their knowledge with you. I recently, no joke, had a fourth-grader show me the best downloadable software for editing my photos. His hands whirred over the keyboard, with effortless keystrokes, as he showed me how to create cool captions and change the look of the photo with hundreds of different filters. Humbling-slash-educational.

I recently attending the listening sessions for the upcoming honor band and orchestra, and frankly, I was surprised to still see schools submitting cassette tapes. I have a great solution for you if you're still using tapes: purchase a USB Microphone (Amazon.com has one by Logitech for \$19.99), plug it into your laptop or desktop, and WHAM, you can now record onto your computer and burn it to a CD. It's so easy. Again, when all else fails, employ a student to help.

Here's a list of what I'm currently using in my own classroom. Some are repeats from my last two articles, some are new, and some I'm still experimenting with.

### USEFUL GADGETS

#### iPod

Price: Anywhere from \$100 for a refurbished one - \$300 for a new one with lots of memory.

Use: This is probably my single-most used gadget. I create playlists and share with kids by plugging my iPod into my stereo using a simple RCA cable. I record our rehearsals and performances, convert to mp3s, and email them to my students as critical listening assignments ... ..the possibilities are endless.

#### External Microphone for an iPod

Price: Griffin iTalk Pro (around \$50), Belkin Voice Recorder for iPod (around \$9)

Use: I use this to record rehearsals and performances without worrying about bulky microphones and equipment. Once I've recorded, I can just plug my iPod into my computer, download the file, and email to my students for their input.

### USEFUL SOFTWARE

#### SmartMusic

Services: Thousands of interactive online background tracks, students record themselves and submit assignments online.

Useful For: Ensembles and Private Students.

Costs: \$100 Subscription, \$25 per student. They also sell pretty good clip-on microphones for \$10

*(See Technology page 6)*

*(Technology from page 5)*

**Musition 4 and Auralia 4**

Services: Dave Hoffman at Pacific Grove High School just recommended this to me. Together, these two programs could cover all of your written and listening assignments. Dave uses it for his theory homework for his ensembles, but I'm even considering using it for AP Music Theory. It's versatile.

Useful For: Ensembles, AP Music Theory, and Private Students

Cost: \$149 - \$259 depending upon number of students and whether you bundle them together or purchase each program separately.

Audacity (or GarageBand, or WavePad)

Services: These audio editing programs allow students to record themselves and create an endless possibility of sounds ranging from solo performances to full bands with loops and layers of sounds.

Useful For: Young songwriters or bands, recording auditions, anyone really.

Costs: FREE - \$149

**USEFUL WEBSITES**

[www.JamStudio.com](http://www.JamStudio.com)

Services: Like GarageBand, this website allows students to create a full band sound using only the click of their mouse. Unlike GarageBand, this it EXTREMELY easy to use.

Useful For: Young songwriters or bands.

Costs: FREE

[www.eMusicTheory.com](http://www.eMusicTheory.com)

Services: Many, many theory drills that you can tailor to suit a specific concept, students turn assignments in online. All you have to do is check their scores!

Useful For: Grades 7 – 12 (Guitar Class, Ensembles, AP Music Theory)

Costs: There are hundreds of FREE drills. In order to create assignments the cost ranges from \$12-\$69/mo depending on the number of students you register.

[www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net)

Services: Good ear-training exercises (intervals, triads, seventh chords). Students print out or email percentage page for homework. Excellent interactive theory lessons, beginning to advanced.

Useful For: Grades 7–12 (Beginning Level Ensembles through AP Music Theory)

Costs: FREE

**BLOGS/SOCIAL NETWORKING**

Many schools also create blogs, websites, or Facebook pages where the students can chat with one another, upload videos that they or their parents took, share ideas about repertoire, discussing upcoming shows ... .. the possibilities for these types of forums are endless. The students use social networking sites (mostly just Facebook now) to connect with friends. They're on in all the time. Might as well try to sneak in some music now and again. Again, in my experience, the best way to go about setting up something like this would be to have a student do it.

I hope you find some, or even just one, of these suggestions useful. At the very least, you could just direct your students to this article and let them explore some possibilities themselves. If your schedule is anything like mine, the thought of adding something into my already minimized classtime seems daunting. But, I bet if you just devote a day to kids sharing their own ideas, or demonstrating some of their knowledge, you'll find ways to make your classes more efficient and fun.

## CCS Board of Directors 2010–2011

Position	Name	Work Phone	Email
President	Barbara Priest	831-646-6568x333	barbarapriest@att.net
President Elect	Drew Lewis	831-423-0658 x230	dlewis@kirby.org
Secretary	Theresa Hruby	831-915-5601	maestrahruby@aol.com
Treasurer	Tony Dehner	831-768-6154	tonydehner@mvcs.org
Member 1	Mark Bidelman	831-429-3909x142	mbidelman@sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us
Member 2	Willow Manspeaker	831-625-8339	wmanspeaker@stevensonschool.org
Member 3	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
Member 4	Shari McQueen	831-722-8178x158	sharimcqueen@mvcs.org
Member 5	Colleen Wall	805-771-1845 x2305	cwall@slcusd.org
Member 6	Adam Petrocelli	831-484-1173	apetrocel@monterey.k12.ca.us
Spec. Rep.	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	jonchristian41@gmail.com

## CCS Event Coordinators 2010–2011

Event/Project	Coordinator	Work Phone	Email
<b>CCS H. S. Honors Site Host</b>	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
CCS H. S Honor Band	Theresa Hruby	831-915-5601	maestrahruby@aol.com
CCS H. S. Honor Choir	Cathy Findley	831-392-3861	cfindley@mpusd.k12.ca.us
CCS H. S Honor Orchestra	Eddie Mendenhall	831-625-8339	emendenhall@stevensonschool.org
<b>CCS M. S. Honors Site Host</b>	Barbara Priest	831-646-6568x333	barbarapriest@att.net
CCS MS/JH. Honor Band	Diane Gehling	831-443-7212 X452	drgehling@yahoo.com
CCS MS/JH. Honor Choir	Alice Hughes	831-479-7785	alice.hughes@pcsed.org
CCS MS/JH. Honor Orchestra	Chris West	831-626-5200	cwest@stevensonschool.org
CCS Choral Festival	Alice Hughes	831-479-7785	alice.hughes@pcsed.org
	Mark Bidelman	831-429-3909x142	mbidelman@sccs.santacruz.k12.ca.us
CCS Jazz Festival	Brian Handley	831-624-1821x335	bhandley@carmelunified.org
CCS Large Group Inst. Festival	Adam Petrocelli	831-484-1173	apetrocel@monterey.k12.ca.us
CCS Solo/Ens Festival	Theresa Hruby	831-899-7028 x234	maestrahruby@aol.com
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Newsletter Editor	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	jonchristian41@gmail.com
Medals Chair	Tony Dehner	831-768-6154	tonydehner@mvcs.org

**Bay Section  
Winter Conference  
January 14–15, 2011  
San Jose State University**

Registration is open to all MENC/CMEA members.  
Registration forms <http://www.cmeabaysection.org>

Pre-registration deadline is December 31, 2010.  
On-site registration begins at 7:30 AM on Friday  
On-site registration begins at 8:00 AM on Saturday.

The cost is \$75 if paid by December 31, 2010.  
After that date it goes up to \$90.

**California All-State  
Music Education Conference  
February 17–20, 2011**

Fresno Convention Center  
Radisson Hotel • Holiday Inn Hotel  
Saroyan Theatre

Sessions to include

Band, Orchestra, Jazz, Choir, General Music,  
Multicultural Music, Technology, and Advocacy

All State Honor Bands • All State Honor Orchestra  
All State Honor Jazz Band and Choir

Register only ONCE for this conference through  
CBDA, CMEA, CODA, or CAJ.

### CCS Calendar 2010–2011

Date	Event	Location	Time
<b>Dec. 8</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Georgiana Bruce Kirby</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
<b>Jan. 12</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Cabrillo College</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
Jan. 12	CCS Choral Festival	Cabrillo College, Bidelman/Hughes	All Day
Jan. 14-15	Bay Section Conference	San Jose State University	Two Days
Jan. 20-22	CCS H. S. Honors Event	Salinas High School	Three Days
Feb. 3-5	CCS MS/JH Honors Event	Pacific Grove Middle School	Three Days
Feb. 17-20	<b>California All-State Music Education Conference</b> CBDA/CMEA/CODA/CAJ	Fresno, CA	Four Days
Feb. 26	Solo Ensemble Festival I	Seaside H. S. Theresa Hrubby	All Day
Mar. 5	CCS Jazz Festival	Carmel H. S., Brian Handley	All Day
<b>Mar. 9</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Pacific Grove Middle School</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
Mar. 12	Solo Ensemble Festival II	Seaside H. S. Theresa Hrubby	All Day
Apr. 15-16	Large Group Instrumental Festival	Hartnell College, Adam Petrocelli	Two Days
<b>Apr. 13</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Morro Bay</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
Apr. 20	Sonata Articles Due	jonchristian41@gmail.com	
<b>May 11</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Pacific Grove Middle School</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
May 13-14	State Solo/Ensemble Festival	Sacramento State University	TBA
<b>Jun. 4</b>	<b>CCS Board Meeting</b>	<b>Santa Cruz Area</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Jun. 4</b>	<b>CCS General Meeting &amp; Dinner</b>	<b>Santa Cruz, Mark Bidelman</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>

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On the CCS Website: [www.ccsmusic.org](http://www.ccsmusic.org)

Click Member Update: fill in your info, click submit