



Sonata

Development
Edition



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

Vol. XX Opus. 2

The California Association for Music Education • Central Coast Section

Winter, 2009

From the Podium of Barbara Priest
CCS President



CCS Website has a new url ccsmusic.org

Submitted by Jon Christian

After several weeks, which seemed like months, the CCS Website is up and running again. After any number of phone calls and other types of contacts by Willow Manspeaker to have our old domain name renewed without success, it was decided to just change our domain name. Fortunately, the original web address we had a few years ago, had become available again. Thanks to the work by current webmaster, Frank Turner, our site is back functioning with the current web address: www.ccsmusic.org

(See Website on page 3)

Our 2010 Honor groups have been chosen! Our Chairs and Co-Chairs have secured an excellent group of conductors and put in a tremendous amount of time organizing these ensembles. Your music should arrive before Winter Break. A heart felt thanks to the chairs and all of the teachers who submitted audition recordings and to those who were able to help with the listening sessions. The dedication of our section members is the reason our students have this experience.

The instrumental listening sessions were a complete success in that, even with middle and high school temporarily on the same day, we had almost enough teachers in teams to cover each instrument section. Several teams listened to more than one section and it was a full morning with plenty of conversation, coffee, and confections. Many teachers expressed appreciation in seeing one another again, as many have not been able to attend recent CMEA conferences. The listening session was both productive and an opportunity for introductions and reconnections with colleagues long over due.

For a very small number of students, the 2010 CCS High School Honors Concert may have some scheduling conflicts with other regional or state honor groups. Although attendance policies remain the same within our membership, we acknowledge the situation and do not foresee a scheduling conflict in the future. Inherent to our mission, the CCS board makes every effort to schedule our section events around student performance opportunities throughout the region and state.

The availability, size, and cost of concert and festival venues are always an issue. In the past our section has received support for the cost of a performance venue from hosting school districts; Santa Cruz-

(See Podium page 2)

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(Podium from page 1)

Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, Watsonville-Mello Center, Pacific Grove-Performing Arts Center, MPUSD-Seaside HS, Stevenson School, Salinas High School District-Sherwood Hall, Hartnell College, etc. Aside from shared scheduling with community sites, this financial support for a festival or concert venue is not always available and logistical accommodations and date considerations must be made so that our Honors and Festival events can continue.

Keeping it all together.

Are you keeping healthy and staying positive through evening audition recording sessions and the annual climb through the obstacle course of preparation to your Winter Concert season? Our attitude affects our own health and, of course, our rehearsals. As you know, students pick up on our energy and attitude. Recently, I have had the opportunity to observe directors working with students in large groups and sectionals. From those observations I became acutely aware that minor changes in approach resulted in added successes in rehearsals. A little patience, even if it is perceived patience, goes a long way.

With serious distractions such as a stretched or an inequitable schedule and threats of further cuts, it is possible for students to pick up on the stresses music programs (and teachers) may be facing. In some cases directors are worried that their program will not exist in the not too distance future. If this is the case, we owe it to those music students to make it at least close to their best musical year ever. However, the reality is that it may not be the best year for music programs fiscally and the distractions of program cuts then cause fear of personal economic stability which becomes an equal and amplified distraction to an educator.

It is important to note that the approach many educators take in a year of cuts could be a personal best for that educator, but instead of recognition of a personal best, all a quiet & musical warrior may have left is his/her honor and a resumé. Some of our members are playing a game of dodge ball

where the categorical funds of music programs are being picked off piece by piece by the dishonorable. I join you in the meditation to keep focused on the music and the students and celebrate the positive. The best way to stay positive & find or share a new strategy or approach is by attending a professional development conference. The CMEA Bay Section Conference is January 8-9 at San Jose State University. In our capitol city of Sacramento, you will find many of your colleagues at the CMEA State Conference, March 11-13. I hope to see you there. Links to each professional development opportunity can be found on our section website: www.ccsmusic.org. The MENC/CMEA tab at the top of the page will take you to the CMEA State Conference info. Registration for the Bay Section Winter Conference can be downloaded at the following link: http://www.cmeabaysection.org/component/option,com_docman/task,cat_view/gid,47/Itemid,181/

Directors and principals are encouraged to verify that music students who participate in community ensembles are also enrolled in their own school music programs in some capacity. Some students choose to learn a new instrument if their school program does not match their experience. Ideally, a student in a community based performing ensemble should also be enrolled in their school program. This supports enrollment and helps sustain school music programs. This is also the policy for students to audition and participate in honor ensembles. Check with the directors of your community based performing ensembles for a roster if you are unsure.

Thanks to you all for your great attitudes and continued work with all of our CCS music students. Know that you are appreciated even if you don't hear it enough. Good luck with your wonderful concerts and best wishes for a musical holiday season.



CCS Calendar 2009-2010

Date	Event	Location	Time
Dec. 9	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Stevenson School	4:30 pm
Jan. 8-9	Bay Section Conference	San Jose State University	Two Days
Jan. 13	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Salinas H. S.	4:30 pm
Jan. 14-16	CCS H. S. Honors Event	Salinas H. S., Sherwood Hall	Three Days
Feb. 4-6	CCS MS/JH Honors Event	Pacific Grove Middle School	Three Days
Feb. 10	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Pacific Grove Middle School	4:30 pm
Feb. 27	Solo Ensemble Festival I	Seaside High School	All Day
Mar. 6	CCS Jazz Festival	TBA	All Day
Mar. 11-13	CMEA Conference	Sacramento	Three Days
Mar. 20	Solo Ensemble Festival II	Seaside High School	All Day
Apr. 14	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	GB Kirby	4:30 pm
Apr. 20	CCS Choral Festival	TBA	TBA
Apr. 21	Sonata Articles Due	jonchristian41@gmail.com	NA
Apr. 23-24	Large Group Instrumental Festival	Hartnell College	Two Days
May 8	State Solo/Ensemble Festival	Sacramento State University	TBA
May 12	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Monte Vista Christian Acad.	4:30 pm
Jun. 5	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Santa Cruz Area	5:00 pm
Jun. 5	CCS General Meeting & Dinner	Santa Cruz-Bidelman	6:30 pm

Sonata Publication Schedule

Edition	Articles Due	Print Date	Label Date	Mail Date
Exposition	September 2, 2009	September 8, 2009	September 9, 2009	September 11, 2009
Development	November 20, 2009	December 1, 2009	December 2, 2008	December 4, 2009
Recapitulation	April 21, 2010	April 27, 2010	April 28, 2010	April 30, 2010

(Website from page 1)

The menu items across the top pertain mostly to the events and important links having to do with our section and our events. The menu items on the bottom are mostly more general and have links to other organizations you might want to contact. There is a place to update your information on the tab labeled "Member Update." If you have changed your assignment recently, you can let me know through that form and I will update your information in our data base. A new addition to the "Music Ed Sites" that has a great set of resources is "Mike Strunk's Links." Mike is the percussion instructor at Cabrillo College in Aptos. I encourage you to browse Mike's links. If you have favorite websites you think would be of interest to our fellow music educators, you can email them to me. The board will review them for possible addition to our site.

If you find things on the site which need attention or correction, send me an email: jonchristian41@gmail.com

By the time you are reading this *Sonata*, you should also be able to view it online at our website. Just go to the Newsletter tab in the upper right of the home page.

SOLO and ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL TIME!

Yep, it's that time again. It's time to dig into your file cabinets or make a trip to your local music store and choose some challenging and fun solo or ensemble music for your students. They will benefit greatly by learning a solo or playing in a small ensemble group and attending our annual CCS Solo Ensemble Festival.

This school year we are offering two dates, both at Seaside High School: February 27 and March 20, 2010. If your student receives a "superior" rating at either of these CCS Festivals, they qualify to attend the CMEA State Solo and Ensemble Festival in Sacramento on May 8.

Students may participate in as many events as they desire. There is no limit. So, join in the fun as your students experience musical growth and rewards.

To enter, teachers that are MENC Members can call or e-mail Theresa Hruby. Forms and fees can be sent to Theresa Hruby at Seaside High School, 2200 Noche Buena St., Seaside, CA 93955.

Dates and Deadlines

Festival Date	Entry Deadline
February 27	February 14
March 20	March 5

◆◆ Help CCS stay current... Update Your information ◆◆

**USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH SCHOOL WHERE YOU TEACH.
PLEASE FILL IN THE DOTS FOR SCHOOL LEVEL AND SUBJECTS TAUGHT**

Once you have updated your information below, mail it to:
Jon Christian • CCS Data Base Manager • 7141 Hihn Road • Ben Lomond, CA 95005

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Teacher's Prose for Teaching Pros

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

Surviving the Storm

Submitted by Theresa Hruby, CCS Past President, CMEA Secretary

Just when we thought "It can't get any worse than this" it continues to get worse. Last year, while some districts entertained the notion of slaughtering entire music programs, others struggled to save what they could. By the end of the year, many of us had to say "goodbye" to cherished friends and colleagues as they lost their jobs and moved away. This has been profoundly upsetting to all involved. The truth of the matter is that many public school districts are frantically trying to avoid bankruptcy and subsequently being "taken over" by the state. It seems that things could get even worse by the end of this school year. Of course I firmly believe that there are many other things that can be done to make budget cuts that don't take away the arts or other programs that are so incredibly valuable to students. But that's another article at another time...

So we've all heard about living on a "shoe-string" budget. How about surviving on no budget? It seems that everyone is scrambling just to survive. Have you tried fund raisers like See's candy, etc., lately? My students report severe difficulty in trying to sell chocolate lately. Now, I thought everyone needed chocolate and could not survive without it. Okay, I guess that's just me. The reality is that many people are just not able to support our school music groups like they were once able.

I think the most important thing to ensure our survival is to have the right attitude. You see, we may have zero budget, face severe casualties in the loss of our dear colleagues, be given impossible assignments, etc., but we don't have to run out of positive energy. That positive energy can often come from our students, but it is also important to find it within ourselves. With the glass half full, it's a lot easier to face every day and to allow creative energy to promote solutions to our challenges rather than to accept defeat.

One of my colleagues that teaches photography said he is "hunkering down to get through the storm." I thought that was a good way to think of all this mess: a storm. So here are a few ideas that may help you to get through this budget crises (or nasty storm).

Remember your grass roots:

- Teach kids and parents about the values of music education as often as you can. Provide brochures, articles and advocacy statements whenever possible. Get testimonials (in writing) from parents and students about how they feel music is helping them to excel both academically and in other areas in school. Collect these in a binder and have them ready for public view. Your parents are probably the most valuable in efforts to save your program if it gets put on the chopping block. Make sure your parent group is strong for the right reasons.
- Try to get your community to "buy into" your program. Visit and patronize local restaurants and businesses and let them know who you are and what you do. Invite local business owners to your concerts. Solicit ads for your concert programs (this is a great way to help with your budget woes). If you are able, get your kids out in the public as much as possible. Local businesses love seeing kid musicians out in their neighborhood performing. It makes them look good! Provide an "I Support XYZ Music Department at XYZ School" flier for them to proudly display in their shop window. Many businesses are desperate to bring in new customers and would be happy to provide incentive offers in their advertisements through your concert programs.
- Be creative with fund raising. Try some things that you haven't done in awhile, perhaps a car wash or a pancake breakfast. Of course, get parent and community help. Though we face economic distress, people still need to eat food and wash their cars. They are out looking for good deals to stretch their dollars. It's up to us to find ways to give a little while earning a little for the music program. Don't forget to hunt for grants or have a parent you trust set to this task.
- Be creative in ways you can stretch your music dollars. Perhaps your district will allow you to charge a "lab fee" for using a school instrument, or a cleaning fee for a uniform. Some teachers also have their students buy their own method books. Ask your students for their input. You never know what ideas they might provide!

These are just a few ideas that may help you survive these tough times. Bottom line: it's all in our attitude and our creativity on how well we weather the storm.

So you wanted to have a Choral Festival... but nobody came!

Submitted by Mark Bidelman, Soquel High School

This seems to be the case lately for the CCS Choral Festival. The days of 20 plus groups performing for each other and then receiving a wonderful clinic with one of our great guest clinicians seems to be a thing of the past. Last year we had to cancel our choral festival for the first time in my 34 years of teaching in the Central Coast Section. To say the least I was very disappointed for my beginning singers, who were looking forward to participating in their first choral festival.

I have always looked forward to taking my students, advanced and beginners, to hear what else is going on in all the other schools in the area. It would give validity to all the issues and nuance of singing that I have tried to present to them for the last 9 months. I believe for many of my students it is truly the high light of the year. My advanced singers were always motivated to improve on what they had done the year before by comparing the previous adjudication forms. I would use prior adjudication sheets to point out the areas we worked on in the past and the areas we needed to work on daily in our rehearsals. Those forms basically provided a guide line for our rehearsals and a rubric for my students self evaluation. I don't know about anyone else, but every time I'm evaluated by an administrator they always want to talk about benchmarks and assessment tools. These adjudication forms provide me with an excellent history of assessments of my performing groups. I have also used the CCS adjudication form as a listening guide for my students when they hear live or recorded music.

My beginners have always been very excited to participate. It has provided them with a goal to aim for in their musical development, particularly my men's chorus. They tend to be very competitive and it gives me a great chance to channel that energy into positive musical development. I also like them to understand how difficult it really is to create quality music, recognize it, and to be supportive of those that do it well.

All that said, I don't doubt that all of my colleagues in the Central Coast Section do understand the value of participating in this event. I guess what the CCS Board really needs to know is what we can do to create an event that more groups can participate in during the school year.

This year Tony Denher is the chair of the Choral festival and we have tried moving the date in to April as we have heard that the end of the year is too busy. I hope this will help more of us to participate this year.

Please understand that this is your festival and we want to know what changes we can make to meet your needs. Please call me at Soquel High School, or speak Tony Dehner at Monte Vista Christian School, or contact any of the other Board members. Your input is what guides us in creating a festival that will service the most choral programs in our CCS area of CMEA. Contact information is on page 7 of this Sonata. I hope to hear from you soon.



CCS Board of Directors 2009–2010

Position	Name	Work Phone	Email
President	Barbara Priest	831-646-6568x333	barbarapriest@att.net
Past Pres.	Theresa Hruby-Percell	831-915-5601	maestrahruby@aol.com
Secretary	Steve Ettinger	831-385-4400	dallapiccolo@msn.com
Treasurer	Mark Bidelman	831-429-3909x142	mbidelman@scs.santacruz.k12.ca.us
Member 1	Glenda Bernhardt	831-624-2785 x128	gbernhardt@carmelunified.org
Member 2	Willow Manspeaker	831-625-8339	wmanspeaker@stevensonschool.org
Member 3	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnsoncomcast.net
Member 4	Drew Lewis	831-423-0658 x230	dlewis@kirby.org
Member 5	Tony Dehner	831-722-8178x154	tonydehner@mvcs.org
Member 6	Shari McQueen	831-722-8178x158	sharimcqueen@mvcs.org
Spec. Rep.	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	jonchristian41@gmail.com

CCS Event Coordinators 2009–2010

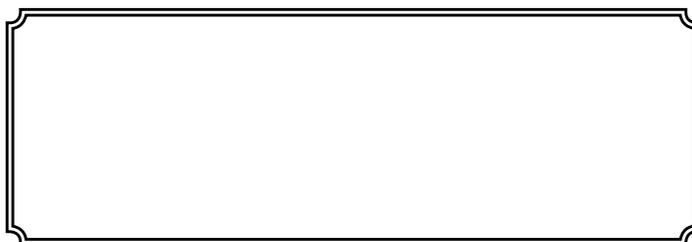
Event/Project	Coordinator	Work Phone	Email
CCS H. S. Honors Site Host	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnsoncomcast.net
CCS H. S Honor Band	Dave Hoffman	831-646-6590 x204	dhoffman@pgusd.org
CCS H. S. Honor Choir	Cathy Findley	831-649-1042	cfindley@mpusd.k12.ca.us
CCS H. S Honor Orchestra	Willow Manspeaker	831-625-8339	wmanspeaker@stevensonschool.org
CCS M. S. Honors Site Host	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	Glenda Bernhardt	831-624-2785 x128	gbernhardt@carmelunified.org
CCS MS/JH. Honor Orchestra	Chris West	831-626-5200	cwest@stevensonschool.org
CCS Choral Festival	Tony Dehner/Willow	831-722-8178x154	tonydehner@mvcs.org
CCS Jazz Festival	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
CCS Large Group Inst. Festival	Brian Parker	831-675-2495	bcparker@alumni.calpoly.edu
CCS Solo/Ens Festival-North	Tony Dehner	831-722-8178x154	tonydehner@mvcs.org
CCS Solo/Ens Festival-South	Theresa Hruby	831-915-5601	maestrahruby@aol.com
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7141 Hihn Road
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CCS Sonata Newsletter



Bay Section Winter Conference

**San Jose State University
Music Center
January 8-9, 2010**

Download Registration Form
from Bay Section Website

[http://www.cmeabaysection.org/component/
option,com_docman/Itemid,181/](http://www.cmeabaysection.org/component/option,com_docman/Itemid,181/)

CMEA Development Conference



**Sacramento
Convention Center
March 11-13, 2010**

Download Registration Form
from the CMEA Website

<http://www.calmusiced.com/conf2010.htm>