

Vermont Music Educators Association

FALL CONFERENCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8 - BURLINGTON

2012 Sessions

A full list of sessions, as well as the conference schedule and graduate course information, will be released in late summer.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Peter Boonshaft

“Even A Fool Knows You Can’t Touch The Stars...”

A poignant and uplifting description of what is at the heart of being a music teacher: the essence of what we do and why we do it.

MARY BAUER & ALAN ROWE

“Collegiate Roundtable: Chatting With Veteran Teachers”

Join in the conversation with two of our state's leading music educators – Alan Rowe, Instrumental and Choral Director at St. Johnsbury Academy; and Mary Bauer, Instrumental Director at Mt. Mansfield Union High School. In this interactive session designed specifically for collegiate members, find out what has worked well and not-so-well for these educators as they answer your questions and reflect on their very successful careers. The collegiate ice cream social will also be during this session. Please enjoy the delicious Ben & Jerry’s ice cream.

PETER BOONSHAFT

“Teaching Music with Promise: 25 Things You Can Do Tomorrow To Improve Your Ensemble”

This session offers twenty-five simple things you can do to improve the quality of your ensemble, make any rehearsal more productive and energize the power of your teaching. Useful for conductors of any level and type of ensemble.

PETER BOONSHAFT

“Unleashing the Power of *Sound Innovations*™: The Revolutionary New Band and String Method”

Alfred Music Publishing's new method books for band and strings create choices that teachers have always dreamed about. Learn how to customize the techniques, contents and materials in your method book, CD and Smart Music. A free grade 1 band or string piece (only available at these clinics) will be given to every attendee. From the remarkably innovative features of the Standard Edition, like integrated master class DVDs, to the ability to change content, and add review or enrichment pages in the customizable Director’s Choice Edition, come see why band and string teachers everywhere are talking about this method.

2012 Sessions

JIM CHLEBAK

“The Whole Package: Linking Assessment, Teacher Evaluation & Advocacy”

What's next? Will Common Core sap our programs as NCLB has? Will we, like teachers in Tennessee, be evaluated based on our students' reading test scores? Will administrators who rarely come hear our students perform listen to us explain why learning music is more important now than ever?

Crystal balls are welcome, but even without them we can explore ways of using the technology we have today to ensure our students have music tomorrow. This session will focus on how we can use applications like SmartMusic and Noteflight; content management systems like Haiku and Moodle; and cloud storage/distribution systems like Google Drive to link teacher/program evaluation with student assessment and in so doing, provide data-driven evidence to our stakeholders of just how effective music education really is.

Tech-averse, have no fear. Big-picture thinkers, soyez les bienvenus!

TERRY FREY

“LAPRHYTH: Spotighting a New Strategy for Teaching Rhythm”

We're all too familiar with the challenges that surface while teaching rhythmic abstracts to beginning students, and the confusion that results for those less mathematically inclined. In this session you are invited to entertain a new strategy designed by the presenter which guarantees understanding and builds a solid foundation for rhythmic study in the elementary classroom. This proven visual and kinesthetic method will empower you and your students to decode all the basic rhythmic patterns essential to understanding ordered sound, and provide a lot of fun at the same time. To round out the session, Mr. Frey will share some of his most engaging activities and hopefully send you on your way with some affordable and motivating ideas!

ARON GARCEAU

“Surviving Guitar Class: Tips, Tricks and Techniques”

This workshop will offer strategies to music educators who find themselves teaching guitar class at any level. Part presentation, part question and answer, we will go over method books, chords, note reading, tablature, how to set up a guitar and how to deal with those students who want to seriously learn a new instrument and those who simply want to “rock out.” Veteran guitarists and teachers are also encouraged to attend to share their tips and tricks with the group. No guitar is necessary, though if you have specific questions about yours, feel free to bring it along. There will also be many guitar jokes, guaranteed to diffuse any tense student-teacher conflicts.

BETSY GREENE

“Conversational Solfege: More than Music Literacy”

Dr. Feierabend, author of Conversational Solfege™, provides music educators with a research-based sequential method for teaching music literacy. In addition, he outlines the principals of a 3D music education necessary for developing students into music artists. Learn how these principals can guide your music teaching decisions from curriculum to planning as well as make your teaching even more effective. This session is designed for both the practicing Conversational Solfege™ teacher and the music educator just wanting to learn more.

2012 Sessions

ANNE HAMILTON & GLORY REINSTEIN

“I’m Not Afraid! - Cooperative Learning in the Choral Rehearsal”

Finding time to teach and meet those ‘other’ music standards in the choral rehearsal might sound impossible and scary. Veteran music educators Anne Hamilton and Glory Reinstein will attempt to ease your fear with their insights and examples of class projects that have proven to be successful.

ANNE HAMILTON & GLORY REINSTEIN

“Sing! - A Choral Reading Session”

This reading session will incorporate music for middle school and high school choirs of varied levels of difficulty and voicing. Participants will be able to keep the music donated or purchased from publishing companies. The rest of the packet will be borrowed from colleagues’ libraries. If you would like to share one or two of your favorite pieces, please contact Glory Reinstein at 802.279.3233.

CAROL KRUEGER

“Building Literacy and Musicianship Skills into the Choral Rehearsal: TAKADIMI and Beyond”

Far too often singers are musically illiterate when they enter the choral setting and directors aren’t sure how to develop elementary skills in younger and older singers. Working from the premise that singers learn musical skills in much the same order as they do language skills, participants will explore how we ‘learn’ music through hearing and imitating patterns before reading and writing. The TAKADIMI rhythm-pedagogy system, a beat-oriented system whose originators see it as evolving from Gordon’s syllables, will be incorporated. The rhythm syllables can easily be applied in the elementary music classroom, instrumental and choral rehearsals and collegiate aural skills courses. Specific techniques for developing rhythm reading readiness, literacy, audiation, musical memory, dictation, and elementary composition will be addressed.

CAROL KRUEGER

“Building Literacy and Musicianship Skills into the Choral Rehearsal: Tonal”

In this session the sound-to-symbol learning sequence will be applied to tonal reading. To aid the development of aural-oral tonal skills, a sequence of vocal pitch exercises will be presented in a graphic form that can be utilized via overhead transparencies or an LCD projector. Teaching strategies and activities for developing tonal audiation, musical memory, dictation and aural skills will also be addressed.

SANDI MACCLEOD

“Music Composition: Why & How to Include it in All Your Classes”

Music students demonstrate improved music learning when composition is embedded into the curriculum for all classes: performing ensembles, general/classroom music, theory, music technology, history and appreciation courses. View student work and hear the evidence from a recent case study where students from grades 5-12 used *Inside Music: Exploring Composition* to enhance their performance skills and knowledge through creative expression.

2012 Sessions

TONY PIETRICOLA

“Advocacy and Keeping Students in Your Program: They Go Together”

Tony Pietricola, VMEA past president and 2003 VT Music Educator of the Year, had success keeping large numbers of students in the music program at the schools in which he taught. He also became a strong advocate for music education both in the communities in which he taught and the greater Vermont community in general. In his workshop he will share the resources and techniques he used in his 40 year public school teaching career to keep music in the forefront. This workshop will also show how advocacy and student enrollment in music programs can go hand in hand.

CONNIE PRICE

“London Bridge is Bouncing Down: Songs and Games for Musical Thinking”

This session will focus learning activities for developing children’s abilities in voice, improvisation, inner hearing, and form. Participants will experience a musical journey of sound utilizing songs and games of the American folk tradition. The roots of America’s art music will provide the road map for active music making, grades K-8.