



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT NEWSLETTER

June 2012

CM Information Chair: Sue Scofield: jandsscofield@earthlink.net

CM Coordinator: Judi Sands-Pertel

August Newsletter Deadline – July 31, 2012

Convention 2012

June 29 – July 3 Convention 2012 at the San Diego Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center

Membership Information

July 31 Membership dues for CM participation deadline

2012-2013 CM CALENDAR

Registration

July 31 Deadline for Branch Chairs and all Branch Instrumental chairs to be listed in the Database and emailed to CM Coordinator and all Council Instrumental Chairs.

August 12 CM Council meeting

August 31 Teacher Transfers (branch to branch) must be complete for CM participation

August 31	Deadline for Branch Chairs to get their requested dates to the Scheduling Chairs and Instrumental Chairs.
September 15	Database opens for Registration
September 30	Deadline for all Instrument Chairs to be listed in the Database.
October 1–31	Evaluator Choice Form posted at Teacher’s Home page.
November 15	11:59 p.m. Database closed for Registration for all branches. Branches may not make their own registration deadline. No late registration. Parent/Adult Consent Waiver must be completed
November 16	Registration Fees: one check only from each teacher must be submitted directly to the Branch Chair and must be postmarked no later than November 16. Work Contracts (if required by Branch) MUST also be submitted at this time
December 15	Branch CM fees due to State Office Check from Branch to State Office for the Branch CM fees must be postmarked by 12/15 or a 1% late fee will be imposed
December 15	Evaluator Schedules must be completed Enter Evaluation Information Online - Evaluator Input – Panel Input

Enter Evaluation Online – Evaluator Input – Panel Input

January 2	Database opens for entering evaluation information and Repertoire online. Note: Individual branch will set its own deadline for teachers to enter evaluation information online
January 2	Evaluator assignments published to Evaluators. Database opens for evaluators to verify assignments
January 15	Deadline for Panel students to enter repertoire online
January 15	Last day for Evaluators to verify assignments
January 15	Deadline for Panel students to revert to Non-Panel status
January 20	Evaluators assignments published to Branch Chairs. Database opens for Branch Chairs to confirm evaluator assignments.

January 31 Deadline for Branch Chairs to confirm Evaluator assignments

CM Evaluation Dates

Feb. 16 –Apr. 7 Branch CM Evaluations North and South (Excluding Easter Day March 31). Note: Teachers check with your Branch Chair for your branch’s evaluation dates

Panel Regionals

Feb. 23 – 24 Piano Panel Regional North
March 2

Feb. 23 – 24 Piano Panel Regional South
March 2 -3

Feb. 23 Strings (Violin & Viola) Panel Regional South

Feb. 24 Strings (Cellos & YAG for all Strings) Panel Regional South

Feb. 24 Winds and Voice Panel Regional South

March 15 Deadline - Panel applicants complete theory tests at their own branch

Panel Finals

March 15 Deadlines for Panel Final Application. No late applications

April 5, 6, 7 Piano Final Panel Auditions South

April 6 Voice & Winds Final Panel Auditions

April 7 Strings Final Panel Auditions North and South

March 23-24 Piano Final Panel Auditions North

April 8 Theory test materials may be released statewide

Convention and Other Year End Deadlines

April 15 Deadline for Convention Applications. No late applications
\$20 Convention Application Fee per student is due

April 15	Deadline to apply for Make-up Evaluations for High School Students only
April 25	Deadline for Chair to send MUP applications and fees to State Office
May 3-4-5	CM Council meeting
May 15	Deadline for Completion of Make Up Evaluations, High School Students only
May 31	Deadline for teachers to report database entry errors. No changes made after this date
May 31	Deadline to enter MUP results
June 1	Convention recitals schedules posted on the state website. Go to Convention 2013 , click on Student Performance Information
June 28 – July 2	Convention 2013 at the Santa Clara Hyatt

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News from our Coordinator

Dear Branch Chairs,

It's Convention time already and CM Council is very busy preparing recitals, training sessions and more. Please be sure to review the training calendar and take special note of the branch chair meeting Saturday at 9:00-10:30 a.m. CM Branch Chair/All Instrument Chairs, attendance is required or please send a representative.

Now is the time of year when CM Chair transitions begin to happen. The CM Council would like to know as soon as possible when someone new is stepping into the position. The Branch President and outgoing Branch Chair should notify the CM Council Liaison (Evaluator Training Chairs North/South) with the name of the new chair. They will tell you the procedures for updating information in the database and more.

As announced in the State Board MTAC Newsletter May issue, a Parent/Adult Consent Waiver must be signed "on-line" for participation in all State programs. The consent/waiver form is required and is similar to what parents already sign for their children for school or sports activities. A special computer lab will be available for your Branch representative to have special "hands on" training. Both Mac and PC computers will be available.

We recommend that you send a Branch Rep to one of the sessions, we're all new with this, but hopefully it will only take a few minutes to practice the procedure. Please send someone from your Branch to "drop in" during one of the 45 minutes sessions.

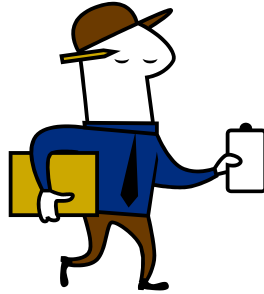
Another important announcement from the State Board is the elimination of Path B. A few chairs have sent me their feedback both negative and positive. Included in this letter is the input from the MTAC Newsletter and CM Council's info to help Chairs and teachers with this transition. We will only be referring to "Certificate of Merit," the term "path" will be removed from our policies and other documents. Also, at the end this newsletter you'll see the reasons and importance of why Path B was removed from our program.

Be sure to purchase your Piano and String Syllabi during Convention for the special convention discount.

My sincere thanks to each of you and your committees for all the work you do for CM. Please remember to forward this newsletter to your members.

See you soon,

Judi Sands-Pertel
CM Coordinator



Quotes from the May MTAC Newsletter Madeline Miller/State Board

Certificate of Merit, Path B

In the March issue of the MTAC News, I spoke to you regarding our intellectual property and the need to protect our State Programs. The State Board appointed a special committee to gather information and advisement from State Chairs, Certificate of Merit Council, MTAC State Office personnel, and outside experts regarding the best ways to protect our State Programs.

Based on the committee's findings, the MTAC State Board of Directors has decided to eliminate Path B of the Certificate of Merit program. This was a difficult decision. It affects all who participate in the program.

The 2012 Theory Tests will not be sold at Convention but will be available for purchase by members through the MTAC website.

More information will be provided at the Certificate of Merit meetings at the MTAC Annual Convention. We look forward to seeing you all in San Diego soon.

Parent/Adult Student Consent Form and Waiver

Beginning in the 2012-2013 fiscal year, MTAC will require all parents to sign an online consent form and liability waiver for children. Adult students, 18 years and over, will need to sign the forms themselves. The form will be similar to those signed by parents when their children participate in youth sports, school music programs, and other extracurricular activities. This will involve some changes for teachers in the online registration process for State Programs next year. Training sessions will be provided for you or your designated Branch representative at the MTAC Convention to help facilitate this process.



Certificate of Merit Training

Attention Branch Chairs/Instrument Chairs!

**Active Evaluators and Interested Applicants!

Teacher Info sessions for all Instruments!

Remember to confirm the schedule when you receive your Convention Program. All Training sessions are in the Town and Esquire Meeting Rooms and all training participants must be registered for the convention to attend the training sessions.

Friday 6/29

10:15-11:45 a.m. Piano Syllabus Debut/Introduction (Held in Pacific Salon 1-2)

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Branch Fast Scheduling

1:00 – 1:45 p.m. * Parent/Adult Student Consent Form and Waiver (abbreviated as Parent Consent) “log in” training. The Parent Consent training sessions are open to Chairs & Teachers.

2:00 – 2:45 p.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Piano “Active” **Evaluator Training

Saturday 6/30

9:00-10:30 a.m. CM Branch Chair/All Instrument Chairs – General Meeting

10:45-11:45 a.m. Branch Fast Scheduling

10:45 – 11:30 a.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

12:30-2:00 p.m. CM Teacher Information Meeting

2:15-4:15 p.m. String “New Syllabus” Teacher Mtg/“Active” **Evaluator Training

4:30-5:00 p.m. For “New Applicant” Evaluators for all Instruments: “How to Become a CM Evaluator” A quick review of the application and training process.

Sunday 7/1

9:00-10:00 a.m. Voice Teacher Training

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

10:00-11:30 a.m. Voice “Active” **Evaluator Training

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Branch Fast Scheduling

11:30 – 12:15 p.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

1:15-3:15 p.m. Piano “Active” **Evaluator Training

4:30-6:00 p.m. Winds Teacher & “Active” **Evaluator Meeting/Training

Monday 7/2

10:00 – 12:00 p.m. Piano “Active” **Evaluator Training

12:00 to 12:45 p.m. * Parent Consent “log in” training (Chairs & all Teachers)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Winds Teacher & “Active” **Evaluator Meeting/Training

*Madeline Miller, State President, and Judi Sands-Pertel, CM Coordinator: will lead the Parent/Adult Student Consent Form and Waiver “log in” training sessions.

** These sessions are for “Active Evaluators” who must attend Evaluator Training once every two years in order to remain on the Active Evaluators List.



NEW MTAC PIANO SYLLABUS FOR 2013 EVALUATIONS

Special Convention Session

10:15 a.m. Friday, June 29, 2012 – Pacific Salon Room 1-2

- Consideration of teacher requests for clarity & expansion of repertoire
- Addition of Ear Training at the Preparatory Level
- Represents Four Repertoire Categories: Baroque, Classical, Romantic & Impressionistic, and 20th and 21st Century (composers who have "come of age" in the 20th Century or were born after 1880)
- Offers greater choice and flexibility with the addition of new and additional varied and exciting repertoire
- Built upon the success of previous syllabi

NEW MTAC STRING SYLLABUS FOR 2013 EVALUATIONS

Special Convention Session

2:15 p.m. Saturday, June 30, 2012 - Town and Esquire Meeting Room

- Represents Four Repertoire Categories
- Addition of Theory, Ear Training and Sight-reading in Levels Preparatory through Level 3
- Technique is standardized – all students in each Level play the same scales and arpeggios
- Double-stop etude requirement for Levels 6 and 7 has been removed
- Etudes are 1-1/2 to 2 minutes in length for Levels 4 through Advanced (10)
- Etudes/orchestral excerpts have been re-distributed into more appropriate levels.
- Repertoire is broader with a range of difficulty at each level. Some pieces are listed at multiple levels
- Students may only play pieces at or above their enrolled level (not below)
- Known out-of-print repertoire has been removed. Out-of-print pieces may still be played at CM evaluations but not as the syllabus piece



Purchase the New Piano and String syllabi on site at the 2012 MTAC State Convention for \$30, after Convention the price is \$35.



2012-2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

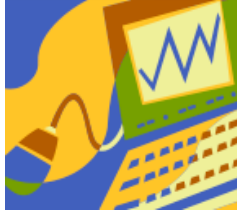
By now all members should have received their 2012-2013 Membership Renewal Invoice from the State Office. Dues may be paid in one of three ways:

1. Pay online through your Teacher Home Page with a credit card or Pay Pal account.
 - Log in to your Teacher Home Page using your username & password
 - From the Shopping link Click: Membership Renewal
 - Verify information
 - Click: Add to Cart
 - Click: Checkout and follow remaining screen instructions
2. Return the bottom portion of your renewal invoice to the State Office along with a check made payable to MTAC for the amount due. Include your Member ID# on your check. Processing of payments received without a Member ID# (such as an online check) will be delayed.
3. Provide your credit card information on the bottom portion of your renewal invoice and return the renewal invoice to the State Office.

Dues must be postmarked on or before July 31, 2012 for:

- Maintaining your Membership for 2012-2013
- CM Eligibility for 2012-2013
- Listing in the 2012-2013 State Membership Directory and Referral Guide

Please help us to ensure that all members wishing to renew for 2012-2013 do so by the July 31st deadline.



STATE MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Teacher Transfer Requests

**THE OPEN DOOR PERIOD FOR ALL BRANCH TEACHER TRANSFER REQUESTS
IS FROM APRIL 16th TO AUGUST 31st**

To receive approval, all Branch transfers must be requested between the periods of 4/16 to 8/31. This allows our webmaster adequate time to move the CM students in the database to the new Branch of their teacher's choice prior to the opening of CM registration. Any member wishing to make a Branch transfer request will be unable to do so between September 1st and April 15th because this is the active period for Certificate of Merit. State Membership Secretary, Verna Balch



HARP INFORMATION

Anyone interested in the Harp program, please attend the Teacher Info Meeting on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. in the Towne/Esquire Room, or see Sue Scofield/Info Chair

STRINGS NEWS



Convention 2012
String Meeting - New Syllabus Information &
String Evaluator Training
Saturday, June 30, 2:15~4:15 p.m. Towne/Esquire Room
Tammy Tsai ~ CM Strings Chair South



VOICE TEACHERS

Below is a quick chart with voice events at the convention this July.
Hope to see you there!!

Voice Events: Convention 2012-San Diego Town and Country Hotel

Date	Time	Event	Room	
Sun. 7/1/12	9:00-10:00	CM Voice Teacher Training		Towne
Sun. 7/1/12	10:00-11:30	Cm Voice Current Evaluators Training		Towne
Sun. 7/1/12	1:15-2:00	Panel Honors Recital: Voice, Winds, Strings		Tiki Pavillion
Sun. 7/1/12	3:15-4:00	Voice Festival Recital		Tiki Pavillion
Mon. 7/2/12	10:00-11:00	Vocal Accompanying Session: Tom Macfarlane		Pacific Salon 1-2
Mon. 7/2/12	11:00-12:00	Voice Festival Recital		Pacific Salon 4-5
Mon. 7/2/12	12:00-1:00	Voice Festival Recital		Pacific Salon 4-5
Mon. 7/2/12	1:15-2:00	Guest Artist Recital: Milena Kitic		Sunrise
Mon. 7/2/12	2:15-3:15	Master Class: Milena Kitic		Sunrise
Mon. 7/2/12	4:15-5:00	Voice Festival Recital		Tiki Pavillion

Sarah Sandvig
CM Voice Chair, North/South



WINDS NEWS – CONVENTION SESSIONS

Winds Teacher & “Active” Evaluator Meeting/Training
Both Sessions are in the Town –Esquire Meeting Rooms

Sunday - 4:30-6:00 p.m. and Monday - 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Michelle Rumley ~ Winds Chair, North/South



CONVENTION REMINDERS FROM THE STUDENT INFO LETTER

VIDEO CAMERAS

If you wish to take video of a convention performance, do so only from the side or back of the room. Please video only your child’s performance. In some rooms there is a projection of the performer so audience members in a large room may view the performance in detail. This is not to be mistaken for a recording of the performance. MTAC does not provide video of the performances at the convention. No flash photography is allowed. Please turn off cell phones.

RECOMMENDED ATTIRE

Student performers are requested to observe the following dress recommendations: Girls should wear a dress or skirt that is at or below knee level with a blouse or top that covers the waist. Boys should wear dress slacks with dress shoes. No athletic shoes, please. Pianists should wear shoes appropriate for pedaling.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Friday, June 29 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 30 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 1 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Monday, July 2 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



CONVENTION THEME RECITAL 2013 – 2014

We're excited to announce that the theme for the 2013 and 2014 Convention Theme Recitals will be "Latin American/Spanish Music." This would include music by composers who were born in or lived and worked primarily in South America, Central America, Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Spain and Portugal, as well as music by composers not of Spanish heritage but written in a Latin American or Spanish style. A few composers to consider, though there are many more:

Albeniz	Chavez
De Falla	Ginastera
Granados	Lecuona
Piazzola	Turina
Villa-Lobos	

And we know that Debussy and many modern-day American composers have written music in Spanish or Latin American style. Let's find more!

This includes all Instruments: Harp, Piano, Strings, Voice and Winds.



REGIONAL – FINALS PANEL

Panel Regionals

Feb. 23 – 24

March 2

March 3

Piano Panel Regional North and South

Piano Panel Regional North and South

Piano Panel Regional South

Panel Finals

March 15

March 23, 24

April 5, 6, 7

Deadline for Panel Final Application. No late applications.

Final Panel Auditions North

Final Panel auditions South

Nancy Jensen ~ Panel Chair North

Email letter to Branch Chairs from Madeline Miller and Judi Sands-Pertel, 5/24/12.



Dear Chairs,

The MTAC State Board and CM Council realize the elimination of Path B comes as a surprise to many teachers, especially the teachers who utilized the program as it was originally intended.

However, there are several reasons for which the program was eliminated in the best interests of the organization and all our members. Some examples are as follows:

- The number of participants in Path B has been declining over the last few years, with more teachers, parents, and students interested primarily in Path A.
- Parents did not understand the difference between Path A and Path B, which resulted in confusion.
- Some Branches used Path B to decrease the number of Path A students which caused unfairness across the state by not allowing the benefits of Path A to all students, such as Convention Recitals.
- Colleges and universities desire transparency about the achievements of students who participate in Certificate of Merit when listed on college applications, and the parallel existence of Path A and Path B reduced transparency.
- Outside organizations have attempted to replicate large portions of the CM program from previous Path B materials, in conflict with copyright and trademark laws.

Teachers can still effectively use the CM Curriculum and Materials for all their students and are free to set up their own in-studio evaluations using the CM Curriculum as a guide, but may not represent that the in-studio evaluation is a Certificate of Merit Evaluation or use the trademark name "Certificate of Merit" on any studio certificates or awards they provide to students.

For more information, please read the MTAC Newsletter, by logging in as Chair or Teacher > MTAC > MTAC Newsletter > May issue.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Madeline Miller, State President, or Judi Sands-Pertel, CM Coordinator.

Sincerely,

Madeline Miller, MTAC State President
Judi Sands-Pertel, CM Council Coordinator