



Newsletter

December 2015 Edition

Certificate of Merit®

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A Message from the CM State Chair

Dear Teachers, Branch Chairs, and Instrument Coordinators,

I'm happy to announce again that our CM registration is up by 541 students. This is more students statewide than last year with increases for all Instruments (including Harp) and Panel!

Now onward to the Evaluations!

Please watch your Branch announcements for the specific timeline for database entry of repertoire, Convention Recitals, carpools, and other requirements that must be fulfilled for your Branch to be ready for Evaluations. As we all know, our CM Evaluation day(s) require an incredible amount of collaboration, coordination, and cooperation. Please approach each other with a willing spirit and helpful attitude as we all share the same vision and goals for our students, which is to have smooth evaluations.

While reading this newsletter, please watch for:

- Panel Announcements
- Calendar - check for specific deadlines
- "Tip of the Week" – be sure to review for updates and reminders

Branch Chairs and Instrument Coordinators, I will email you directly with any new information.

I hope you enjoy the upcoming Holidays. Thank you again for supporting this amazing program.



Regards,
Judi Sands-Pertel
CM State Chair

Certificate of Merit®
Newsletter

Sue Scofield, Editor
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*Wishing you a
Happy Holiday Season!*

- CM Council

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** Branch Fast Schedule/Generate Evaluation Report

Piano Panel Regional Auditions

January 2-15, 2016; Panel Teachers may enter repertoire for the Evaluation Report Form online, and apply for Convention and Branch Honors. Detailed information was emailed to Panel Teachers in November.

YAG applicants must send 2 hard copies of both sides of the CM 2015-2016 YAG Letter of Intent and Regional Repertoire List to the Panel Regional Coordinator by January 31, 2016.

Pamela Lam
Piano Panel Regional
South Coordinator
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Grace Yu
Piano Panel Regional
North Coordinator
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From the State Board: Convention Recital Days!

New Materials - Friday all day

Theme - Saturday all day

Piano Festival - all days

Piano Ensemble - Friday

Strings - Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Winds – Sunday and Monday

Voice – Sunday and Monday

*CCSR - CM Chair Computer Support Representative:
Branch names from:

- ♦ **Alameda–Golden Gate:** Sue Scofield
- ♦ **Hacienda Heights–Los Angeles County:** Marie Kaneta
- ♦ **Marin County–Orange County West:** Peggy Taylor
- ♦ **Palo Alto–Riverside County:** Michelle Rumley
- ♦ **Sacramento County–San Mateo County:** Ryan Huo
- ♦ **Santa Barbara County–Sonoma County:** Cheri Hutchison-Dierl
- ♦ **South Bay–Yolo:** Susan Beaty

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Piano New Materials, Theme, &
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A Compilation of TOW

CM TIP of the Week

CM TOW listed in this issue is a compilation of CM Tip of the Week which were previously sent to CM Branches starting September 2015.

🕒 **September 8, 2015** 📌 **Tip of the Week**

The Piano Advanced Level Etude must come from the Etude list on pages 153-158 of the 2012 Piano Syllabus.

- The Etude may be by the same composer as another work being performed.
- The Etude cannot serve as the Syllabus piece. The Syllabus piece must be from the Advanced Level Syllabus choices on pages 145-152.
- The Etude may be chosen as the Convention piece.

For other instruments, please refer to the technical requirements listed in your Syllabus.

The Theme topic for Conventions in 2016 and 2017 is Sounds of Nature: a combination of different elements and sounds inspired by nature and the out-of-doors. See the CM August Newsletter for more details.

🕒 **September 29, 2015** 📌 **Tip of the Week**

The CM database will be open for student registration October 1 through October 31. There will be no late registration. Check the following information carefully:

- Correct spelling of student's name. Once submitted, the spelling is final.
- Correct instrument.
- Correct school grade.
- Correct CM Level.
- Correct date of birth. Check with parents to be accurate.

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2015-16 Certificate of Merit® Calendar

Enter Evaluation Information Online, Evaluator Input, and Panel Input

January 2	Database opens for entering evaluation information and Repertoire online. Note: Each branch will set its own deadline for teachers to enter evaluation information online.
January 2	Database opens for Evaluators to confirm assignments.
January 15	Deadline for Panel Teachers to enter repertoire online. Deadline for Panel students to revert to Non-Panel status. Last chance to revert.
January 15	Deadline for Evaluators to confirm assignments.
January 20	Database opens for Branch Chairs to verify Evaluator List.
January 31	Deadline for Branch Chairs to verify Evaluator List.
January 31	Deadline to submit YAG Letter of Intent and repertoire.

CM Evaluation Dates

February 13 – April 3 2/13, 2/14, 2/20, 2/21, 2/27, 2/28, 3/5, 3/6, 3/12, 3/13, 3/19, 3/20, 3/26, 4/2, 4/3	Branch CM Evaluations, North and South. Note: Teachers check with Branch Chair for your branch's evaluation dates.
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Panel Regional Dates

February 20-21, 27-28	Piano Panel Regional North. Auditions will take place at Diablo Valley College in Pleasanton.
February 20-21, 27-28	Piano Panel Regional South.
February 21	Strings Panel Regional North. Auditions will take place at Diablo Valley College in Pleasanton.
February 21	Strings Panel Regional South.
February 28	Winds and Voice Panel Regional South.
March 6	Voice Panel Regional North. Auditions will take place at San Mateo.
March 10	Deadline for Panel applicants to complete theory tests at their own branch.

Panel Finals Dates

March 10	Deadline for Panel Final Application. No late applications.
April 1-2-3	Panel Final Auditions South (Piano). Auditions will take place at Cal Poly Pomona.
April 8-9-10	Panel Final Auditions North (Piano). Auditions will take place at Diablo Valley College in Pleasanton.
April 2	Winds and Voice Panel Final Audition North and South. Auditions will take place at Cal Poly Pomona.
April 3	Strings Panel Final Audition North and South. Auditions will take place at Cal Poly Pomona.

Convention and Other Year-End Deadlines

April 3	Deadline for completion of Theory Make-up.
April 4	Theory test materials may be released statewide.
April 15	Deadline for Convention Applications. \$30 Convention Application Fee per student is due.
April 15	Deadline to apply for Make-up Evaluations (MUP) for High School Students only, with valid excuse.
April 25	Deadline for Chair to send MUP applications and fees to State Office.
April 30	Deadline for Branch Chairs to submit the Branch Assessment of Evaluators.
April 29, 30, May 1	CM Council Meeting.
May 15	Deadline for Completion of MUP evaluation, High School Students only, with valid excuse.
May 15	Convention Recital Final Schedule posted on the state website.
May 15	Branch Chairs may begin to request CM 2017 Evaluation dates.
May 31	Deadline for teachers to report database entry errors. No changes made after this date.
May 31	Deadline to enter MUP results.
July 1-5	Convention 2016 at the Hilton Los Angeles Airport.



A Compilation of TOW

CM TIP of the Week *(continued from page 3)*

❖ October 7, 2015 📅 Tip of the Week

Has the student you want to register for Certificate of Merit changed teachers since he/she was last enrolled in CM? If the answer is yes, you need to complete a Change of Teacher request form. To do this:

- Log into your Teacher Home page.
- Select CM Students -> New student registration
- Click YES to the FIRST question

Fill out all the requested information.

A CCSR will complete your Change of Teacher Request within 48 hours. You can then enroll the student.

❖ October 26, 2015 📅 Tip of the Week

As you check Syllabus repertoire requirements keep the following in mind:

When a piece with a "not" in the single composer list of the 2012 Piano Syllabus is also listed in an Anthology without a "not" it is OK to use for evaluation.

Other than this exception, music listed with a "not" may not be used either as a syllabus piece or as another repertoire piece.

❖ November 7, 2015 📅 Tip of the Week

Piano Repertoire:

For CM 2016, The Frederick Harris *Celebrations Series: Perspectives* has been replaced by *Celebrations Series: 2015 Edition*.

Teachers may use any pieces in the new 2015 Edition Repertoire and Etude books as Syllabus pieces, level for level (for example: Level 7 Books for CM Level 7, etc.).

Teachers may continue to use the out of print *Perspectives* on hand as Syllabus pieces until a new piano Syllabus is released.

❖ November 16, 2015 📅 Tip of the Week

The Theme topic for Conventions in 2016 and 2017 is Sounds of Nature: a combination of different elements and sounds inspired by nature and the out-of-doors. Check the August CM newsletter for details. The Newsletter is available at your Teacher Homepage under documents. Students may perform up to 3 short works from a suite or collection. Attached is the Convention Recital Program Guidelines for 2016.

❖ December 1, 2015 📅 Tip of the Week

From the Piano Syllabus page 14:

"The ensemble piece will be a part of the student's CM repertoire."

From the August 2015 CM Newsletter:

Piano Ensembles:

1. The "non-memorized option" supersedes the "two memorized pieces" rule for Levels Prep - 2. So, Levels Prep - 2 may play in an ensemble and only have to memorize one piece.
2. Different parts may be at different levels for different leveled students as long as each part is at the registered level or above for each student performing in the ensemble. Instrument solos (including piano) with accompaniment, are not accepted as ensemble pieces.
3. Maximum number of pianos used in the Convention Ensemble Recital is two.

