



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT NEWSLETTER

August 2007

CM Information Chair: Amy Chen-Huey Martin, martin3750@comcast.net
October Newsletter deadline – September 30, 2007

2007-2008 CM CALENDAR

Registration

- September 15** Database is open for registration
- November 15** Registration is closed. **Branches may not make their own deadline date. Registration closes at midnight on 11/15 for all branches.**
- November 16** Fees must be submitted directly to the Branch Chair and must be postmarked no later than November 16
- December 15** Deadline for Branch CM fee 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.

Enter Evaluation Information Online

- January 2** Database is open for entering evaluation information online
Note: Individual branch will set its own deadline for teachers to enter evaluation information online
- January 15** Deadline for Panel students to drop back to None-Panel status

CM Evaluation Dates

- Feb. 23 – Apr. 6** Branch CM Evaluations North and South
Note: Teachers check with your Branch Chair for your branch's evaluation dates
4/15 Deadline to apply for Make up Procedures High School Students only

Panel Regionals

- Feb. 23 –24** Panel Regional Auditions North (Piano) and South (Piano)
Note: 2/23/08 South Strings at Cerritos Community College
- March 1 –2** Panel Regional Auditions North (Piano) and South (Piano)
Note: 3/1/08 South Strings at Valley College,
3/9/08 South Strings at AMAC in Arcadia

Panel Finals

- March 15** Deadline for Panel Final Application
- Mar. 28–30** Panel Finals South at Cal Poly Pomona
3/28–30: Piano
3/29 Winds (North and South) & Voice (North and South)
3/30 Strings (North and South)
- April 5–6** Panel Finals North (Piano only) at Diablo Valley College

Convention

- April 15** Deadline for Convention Applications
- May 2–4** CM Council meeting
- June 1** Convention recitals schedule posted on state website
- June 27–July 1** Convention at Riverside Convention Center. Celebrating the Music of America, featuring Oxana Yablonskaya

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Letter from Karen Becker: CM Coordinator

(please pass to your teachers)

Dear MTAC Teachers,

I want to thank you for the outpouring of positive comments regarding the new 2007 Piano Syllabus. The clarified, additional information in the front of the Syllabus, as well as the systematic and efficient technique and theory has gained the most applause. There has also been tremendous appreciation for the expanded repertoire lists, especially the Advanced Repertoire list.

It is my goal to clarify the repertoire requirements for levels Six to Advanced and answer a few questions that have arisen. Please remember that English is not a first language for everyone who will be reading this letter and that it is my goal to make it clear for everyone.

1) One piece must be selected from the Syllabus for the student's enrolled level.

- For example: a Level Six student must choose one piece from pages 67 – 69.
- There are numerous options here. As long as the piece is from pages 67 – 69, it will meet the level six requirement.

2) The remaining repertoire must be at or above the students enrolled level (exception: advanced level).

- It is not necessary to choose the remaining required pieces from the Syllabus.
- However, the Syllabus lists are extensive enough that a student could easily find the other required pieces (from three other categories) in the Syllabus.

2a) The question I am hearing continuously about this topic is: “How do I know if the piece is the correct level?”

- Using the “Guide for Choosing Repertoire” (pgs. 34-37) is one option.
- Using the lists in the Syllabus as a guide is another option. For instance, our Level Six student could not use one of Bach's little Minuets, since they are listed at a lower level.

3) Advanced Level - One piece must be selected from the Syllabus.

- Advanced students choose one piece from pages 88 – 91. Again, there is a wide range of options within this list.

4) Advanced Level – Pieces must not be lower than level 9-10

- This means that the remaining repertoire must not be lower than level nine.
- Please remove the following from p. 2 of the Errata Sheet. I have drawn a line through it / P. 86 - Repertoire Requirements, Bullet three **listed in the Advanced Level - Single Composers p. 88-91.**

- Level 6, 7, or 8 pieces listed at Level Nine are not acceptable.
- Of course, you may choose repertoire that is not in the Syllabus or you may use the repertoire lists and the “Guide for Choosing Repertoire” to assist you in choosing appropriate pieces.

I hope this clarification will assist you in choosing your repertoire. Please continue to read the CM News for updated information. Take care,
 Karen S. Becker
 CM Coordinator

More Info for Branch Chairs

- * 2007 Piano and Voice Syllabi are available at the State Office. Tel 800-834-3340 to order. Certificate of Merit Keyboard Technical Requirements booklet, 2007 Piano Syllabus, will be available at the State Office in mid-September.
- * Branches are strongly encouraged to hold a New Syllabus meeting and teacher training - "Understanding the CM Evaluation" for their branch. Details on page 7.
- * All Keyboard Evaluators are required to attend a training session before they work this 2008 CM Season. See evaluator training dates on pages 7-8.
- * 2007 Piano Syllabus Errata Sheet (for copies purchased at Convention) and “Meet the Syllabus” power point are now posted on the teacher home page at MTAC.org (have your teachers log in using their teacher name and password; it is the second link posted).
- * Evaluation length for levels eight and nine will be increased to 25 minutes in 2008 for all disciplines.
- * Please read and follow Lowell Webster’s notes on the Database, Branch Fast Scheduling and Generate Evaluation Report on pages 9-10.
 Every MTAC teacher needs to enter his/her email address in the online database.
- * The CM Encyclopedia and Chronology for CM Chairs, two useful documents, are in the process of being updated. These updated versions will be located on the MTAC website soon. Please study them and refer to them when you have questions before picking up the telephone or sending an email! Other helpful information (example: Registration Instructions & Fees, etc.) is also on the website. Please note that the CM Mailing #1 will again be posted at the state web site by Sept 1st. You will receive notice via the yahoo CM group page.
- * As you plan your “work force” for your Branch’s CM evaluation this spring, be sure to include a few detail-oriented teachers for the task of entering **ALL RESULTS**

of ALL PATH A STUDENTS onto the database. This is a task that goes quickly and reliably if two people work on it at a time, one to read results and the other to enter the data.

- * Request that teachers of “multi-discipline” students notify you before they are registered to avoid conflict and complications.
- * Remember that the Theme Festival for 2007-08 is “Music of the USA.” There is a list of suggested composers on the website, but others may be eligible.

Photocopies-Copyright!!

MTAC teachers are expected to comply with the laws governing copyright. In nearly all cases, copying music without permission from the author or publisher is illegal. Complete copyright information is available at www.copyright.gov.

Q. I just got a transfer student who has been working on a piece by Isak Berkovich (20th century Russian composer) called "Variations on a Theme by Paganini." His previous teacher gave him photocopies of this work. I told him that he won't be able to use it for CM unless we can locate a hardcopy. His previous teacher went back to Russia permanently, so I can't get the book from her. I tried looking for the piece on-line. There are no US publishers, and it's not available through the UC/Cal State library system. It is a Russian-published work, and, according to one professor who taught the piece to his student in Ohio, the only way to buy this book is to go to a used music book store in Russia. I'm not sure if there is a way to contact the Russian printing company to confirm if the work is out of print; I can't read Russian.

If it's any other piece, I won't think twice about switching the kid to playing something on the syllabus, but this is one of those "once in a lifetime" pieces that I just can't let go. I haven't been so excited to teach a new piece since I heard Morel's Etude de Sonorite No. 2 (and drove all the way to Covina to buy the only copy of it in Southern California). Any suggestions?

A. You are correct in telling your student that he won't be able to use a photocopy for CM evaluation. Please do enjoy teaching this piece to your student, it sounds like it will make an excellent addition to a studio recital or even a branch festival that doesn't require original works to be furnished.

The responsibility of getting permission to copy an out of print music is on you: the teacher, not CM Coordinator or the CM Council. You may try the National Association for Music Education web site: menc.org/information/copyright.html, click on out-of-print works, for Inquiry form for Out-of-Print Music.

Amy Martin, Information Chair

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Q. Thanks again for all the hard work and the very entertaining CM sessions at the convention. I enjoyed very much.

Out of the many valuable information at the new syllabus, one thing really stood out for me is the importance of respecting copyright. You mentioned that you often buy printed sheet music online. Would you mind sharing with me what website you often visit? I recently discovered the CD sheet music which comes in only 1 CD (\$19.95) with complete works of a classical composer like Bach, Beethoven etc. From the information I read, it looks like that I can print out unlimited copies of any sonata for my students from the CD that I purchased. It is considered a legal copy since it does have trademark on top of the page. This will be very convenient since I often assign a movement of a sonata for my student and not sure if I want them to buy the whole volume. Have you used that venue for printed music? Thanks for your input in advance.

A. Thanks for the kudos and for the excellent question. My favorite website for purchasing music is [everynote.com](http://everynote.com) ... they have sheet music for most disciplines. So far, I have found every thing I have searched for; it is incredibly vast.

Here is a paragraph from the February CM News:

One of my Branch teachers told me last year to go to [everynote.com](http://everynote.com), you can buy and download one single piece you want and pay a small fee. I just checked the web site and saw Bach WTC I no.1 in C Major, costs \$1.86, Debussy Claire de Lune, \$1.86, Massenet Melodie "Elegie" is \$2.19, Bach Goldberg Variations, BWV988, \$3.49. I checked Violin etudes and found Etude 6 Concert Etudes, Op.16, \$2.19. 24 Caprices in the Form of Etudes, 1-12, 13-24, each \$2.19. Complete 1-24 is \$3.11. You can view entire 1st page before buying. I think this will help parents, students and teachers.

As far as the CD Sheet music disc, you can print out as many copies as you need since you have purchased the CD.

Be sure and include the necessary information for the evaluators; the URL for downloaded music and the logo of the publisher or permission letter from the CD sheet music. Thanks again for all you do for CM.

Karen S. Becker, CM Coordinator

I'd like to add one comment.

I saw a CD sheet music disc last year during evaluation. It's convenient.

However, a word of caution: the best edition is not always on the disc. As a result, teachers may not like the editorial suggestions or the font is small not easy to read, etc. I'd prefer an Urtext edition for Bach or Beethoven.

Amy Martin, Information Chair

## **News from Judi Sands-Pertel: Evaluator Chair North Training & Recruiting**

North CM Evaluator training will be held as listed below. Please let potential evaluators/colleagues know about the training. Reminder: All Keyboard Evaluators are required to attend a training session before they work this 2008 CM Season!

- Friday August 24 in Sacramento - 2 morning sessions
- Sunday Sept 9th in Santa Clara - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Friday October 19th in Sonoma (merged with teacher training) - morning session
- (Tentative) Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> in Oakland - afternoon session, time TBA
- Sat or Sun in November - TBA
- and probably Sunday Jan 6th... "last call" for training in Sacramento

Please RSVP [jspmidi@aol.com](mailto:jspmidi@aol.com) for times and address info.

Branches are strongly encouraged to hold a New Syllabus meeting for their branch.

CM Chairs and Branch Presidents, if you are interested in our CM Council members visiting your Branch for teacher training - "Understanding the CM Evaluation", please contact Judi Sands-Pertel at [jspmidi@aol.com](mailto:jspmidi@aol.com)

It would be more practical and of course more fun if some of the branches met together. Obviously the Council members cannot travel to each branch by December.

Remember Chairs, CM Council will support you, when you tell the teachers that your Branch CM meeting is "required attendance". Some branches are offering two sessions - on the weekend and one weekday morning.

How do we enforce "required"? At this point we don't really have any consequences, however, after CM Evaluations if one of the "non attendees" has any issues with Evaluations, several "remain at levels", not understanding the categories etc. they will have been warned ... and we will then proceed with a "training plan" for the teacher, that will involve them attending a training session and possibly doing path B the next year.

## **News from Peggy Taylor: Evaluator Chair South Training & Recruiting**

**Please put the following information in your Branch Newsletter**

**Here is the Evaluator Training Schedule for the South:**

Sunday, October 14th 2:30 pm at the home of Sharon Townsend Roth (Glendale)  
Sunday, October 21st 2:30 pm at the home of Rosemary Yang (Corona)  
Sunday, November 4th 2:30 pm at the home of Karen Becker (Oxnard)  
Sunday, January 20th 2:30 pm at Field's Piano store (Santa Ana)

Please RSVP [peggy09876@yahoo.com](mailto:peggy09876@yahoo.com) so we will know how many to plan for each session.

- Remember, every evaluator must attend a training session this year in order to evaluate this spring.
- We are always in need of new evaluators. Please encourage any branch members who are interested in evaluating and who have a few years experience with CM to apply for an application at the above email address.

### **Incentives for CM Chairs Evaluators!**

Things we've heard before, but heard again at Convention ... "live information"  
We know some Branches are paying their CM Chairs an honorarium; here are some ideas we learned about at Convention:

- Pay a specific amount per registered student, some ranged from \$1 to \$3
- Present them with a gift certificate to dinner
- Personal gifts
- Pay for Convention registration

It's also appropriate for the Branches to offer incentive to evaluators, especially those who have a long distance to travel

- Offer hotel rooms
- Gas allowance per mile
- Gas gift certificates
- Snacks "for the road"

### **Facility Do's and Don'ts**

Facility issues are always a concern, but please keep in mind that minimum standards should be observed!

Appropriate:

- Card tables
- Large desks
- Good overhead lighting
- Ask for menu preferences, including caffeine

## Not appropriate:

- Music stands for the students music
- Small student desks “gathered together” to make one writing desk
- “high carb” morning snacks, protein keeps our blood sugar more level

Judi Sands-Pertel  
CM Training Liaison  
Eval. Chair North, Training

### News from Lowell Webster: Database and Branch Fast Scheduling Chair

Please welcome Melissa Mandeville of the Sierra branch to the Customer Service Representative group (CSR). She has been the CM branch chair and has been using the database and the scheduling programs since CM 2000.

The CSR group is very pleased that she has decided to join us in helping support the branch chairs. Branch chairs should contact their CSR for any problems and questions according to the following list.

Branch names from A – L: Peggy Taylor ([peggy09876@yahoo.com](mailto:peggy09876@yahoo.com))

Branch names from M – San Diego County: Melissa Mandeville  
([Msmelisma@surewest.net](mailto:Msmelisma@surewest.net))

Branch names from San Fernando – W: Judi Sands-Pertel ([Jspmidi@aol.com](mailto:Jspmidi@aol.com))

The CSR group would like to thank Bobbette Cameron for her service as a CSR for the last two years. Please read Bobbette’s CM Encyclopedia and Chronology for CM Chairs on the website at <http://www.mtac.org/programs/CMforms/index.shtml>.

Notes on the Database;

1) Important notice to all CM Chairs. Please change your branch password to the CM Database by September 15. Please make it a policy to change it at least once a year.

2) Chairs can get a file of all of the passwords for teachers in their branch from August 15 to September 15 from the Reports link on the Branch home page.

3) CM registration will open on September 15, 2007 and close on November 15, 2007 at 11:59 pm. For more information go to the Teacher/Chair help page at <http://www.mtac.org/programs/CMregistrationhelp/index.shtml>

4) **There are two changes to the registration process. Teachers will no longer have to delete students that will not be reenrolled.** Students that are reenrolled from last year or are newly enrolled will be registered for CM. If a student is reenrolled and then the decision is made to not participate in CM before 11/15, then the reenrolled check box on the registration page must be unchecked. **Teachers will be charged for all students that have the reenrolled box checked.**

5) **The second change is that teachers should not delete high school students even if they are no longer their teacher.** Teachers must inform chairs about high school

students that are transferring teachers. CM Chairs will be instructed how to change a student's teacher from within the branch and to tell their CSR to change a student's teacher outside of the branch.

6) Text entered for teacher and student forms will now be changed to **“normal” case**. Normal case is that only the first letter of each first/last name is capitalized. Example: **Amadeus Mozart**.

7) As for High School participation, please note any discrepancy and send it to your branch chair to forward to their CSR. Sometimes the discrepancy is a result of some branches not entering evaluation results online for high school students in past years. We are working to make the participation year data be accurate.

8) Please ask again for all your **teachers to update** their personal information on their teacher edit info page, especially **their email address**. Teachers can also select how they want their personal information to appear in the find a teacher listing.

Notes on Branch Fast Scheduling and Generate Evaluation Report;

1) Filemaker has released a new version of Filemaker Pro. Version 9 is the new version. Please plan on downloading the new version in the next month or so.

Instructions on how to download a copy will be forthcoming in the Yahoo cmchairs group. This version will be available by download only and only for those who have a current license purchased through MTAC.

2) Our group license for Filemaker Pro ends in September. Each branch will be offered one license at the group discount rate. This rate is yet to be determined but it has been around \$100 per copy. This fee covers all upgrades for two years and will last until September of 2009. Please plan on your branch paying about \$100 to the state office for two additional years of Filemaker Pro. More details will be emailed from the Yahoo cmchairs group.

Lowell Webster

[lwebster@redshift.com](mailto:lwebster@redshift.com)

### Teacher's Email Address!

Please ask your teachers to enter/ update their email addresses even if they are not entering students in CM. The email addresses in the online database will be used for organization wide communication. Each teacher should change their own address at their teacher edit info page. Send notification of changes to Jocelyn Jotie at the State Office, [jocelynj@mtac.org](mailto:jocelynj@mtac.org). If you are a branch CM chair, also change your email yourself on the Yahoo cmchairs group and tell Amy Martin (for the CM News), [martin3750@comcast.net](mailto:martin3750@comcast.net).

## News from Voice Chairs

The Certificate of Merit Voice Syllabus has been revised and is ready for purchase from the State Office. The 2008 evaluations will be based on material outlined in this new publication, making the previous syllabus obsolete. Repertoire choices have been increased in all levels, as well as positive changes made to the requirements for the Practical Exams. There is also a new voice theory workbook available which has been published by one of our teachers in the Long Beach branch. Purchasing details can be found in the syllabus.

Connie Venti (South), [cventi746@gmail.com](mailto:cventi746@gmail.com) &  
Sharon Welling (North), [ensowest@pacbell.net](mailto:ensowest@pacbell.net)  
CM Voice Chairs

## Woodwinds News

Attention Wind Teachers; Please check the website for any updates to our 2006 Syllabus and to be advised of any new instruments added to our list of Wind Instruments for CM. All our repertoire requirements remain the same. Evaluation length for levels eight and nine will be increased to 25 minutes to match the piano timings.---Susan Nguyen (North), [susann@aol.com](mailto:susann@aol.com)

## Farewell note from Jane Masur: Outgoing Woodwinds South Chair

It has been such an honor to serve as Wind Chair for the past years and work with the wonderful people on the CM council. It is with much pleasure that I introduce my replacement, **Michelle Rumley** (South), [michellerumley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michellerumley@sbcglobal.net). She comes with a lot of experience, both as a teacher of CM and as a student, participating in CM through Panel level. She and I will be in contact and I will make the transition as smooth as possible. You may still email me for any concerns and I will be happy to help in any way I can. Michelle is very excited to be part of the CM council and many of you met her at the convention.

## **Ensemble**

As teachers are planning their students' CM repertoire, they may consider using an ensemble piece for one item. The Convention Ensemble recitals are designed to promote the exploration and performance of ensemble repertoire. Students may perform repertoire for duo piano, piano four hands or more, or sonata level repertoire with different instruments. The music need not be memorized. The same evaluator will hear each member of the ensemble at adjacent times. Both students must be registered for CM and the teacher must apply and submit the online application for both students. In the case of different instruments, the appropriate evaluators will hear the ensemble at different times. The ensemble piece will be a part of the students' required repertoire. For further information, contact Lily C. Lee, [lilylovespiano@yahoo.com](mailto:lilylovespiano@yahoo.com), Ensemble Chair.

## **Strings News**

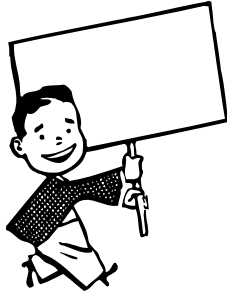
String teachers: The 2007 string theory tests are available from the State Office. Contact the State Office at 800-834-3340 if you'd like to order a set of tests to help your students study.

Questions? Ask Lori Jensen (North), [music-maker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:music-maker@sbcglobal.net)

## **Tammy Tsai : New Strings Chair South**

I am honored to be serving the string teachers and students of southern California this year. I vow do my best to conquer this daunting job. If you are a string teacher who lives in Southern California, please consider sparing a day or two to help our future generation by being an evaluator. If you or anyone you know may be interested in evaluating CM this coming year, or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at: [tammystsai@yahoo.com](mailto:tammystsai@yahoo.com) (Please note the middle initial "s" between my first and last name in the username). A String Evaluator Choices Form (South) will be posted on the MTAC website mid-September for everyone to pick their evaluation choices. Deadline for the form will be mid-October, 2007. There will be three dates for the Regional Panel auditions for string students in the South. The tentative dates and venues are: Sat. 2/23/08 at Cerritos Community College, Sat. 3/1/08 at Valley College, Van Nuys, and Sun. 3/9/08 at AMAC in Arcadia. Enjoy the rest of the summer, and best wishes to everyone for a great Certificate of Merit program this year.

-Tammy Tsai, CM Strings Chair South



## **New CM Evaluators are being recruited.**

We need bright, energetic persons with positive attitudes!

Hear new music, see the sites, and meet new colleagues!

Who would you want to evaluate your own students?

Think about this, and we're sure you know teachers in your Branch or neighboring Branch who would do a great job. And it's a paid job!

Below are some important criteria:

- **EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER IN PATH A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT:** Teachers who have extensive experience with their own students in CM and who have students who do well (Branch Honors, Convention, Panel, etc.) judge with standards that are high but realistic. These teachers also have a thorough understanding of the program, support and enforce CM Policies.
- **EXPERIENCE IN EVALUATING:** Applicants who have experience in evaluating other programs (Guild, Royal Conservatory, MTNA, etc.) are most successful in our program.
- **SUNNY DISPOSITION:** Evaluators must smile throughout the day, even after you've heard the same piece for the fifth time....
- **LEGIBLE HANDWRITING** for as many as eight hours of writing in a day. (There is also computer evaluator training available)
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY:** Evaluators must care and be encouraging to the students. We are striving to create a lifetime love of music. Keep a positive attitude while maintaining the high standards of our program.

For application information, please contact the Evaluator Chair for your discipline. Please note that there is a different person for the North and the South. You can find their contact information by visiting the MTAC website and this publication.

## Farewell Note from Joyce Osborn: outgoing YAG Chair

My term as Chair for Young Artist Guild is over and I want to say just a few words as I leave this job. It has been a lot of fun working with all the Young Artist Guild Branch Chairs and Teachers and my thanks go to all of you. I have prodded you and you rose to the challenge. You have had more recitals this year than before, and you have helped to raise money for the program. Last year I printed a booklet "What Is YAG?" and this year I expanded it for all of you. It was fun researching the alumni, basically through teachers and Google search. I have sent out all the remaining booklets that were not picked up at Convention. Many were left behind, so I think that for the future you prefer to get the information online. Everything that you need is now online. Please go there for information, applications, lists of present members and alumni, etc. It is rather comprehensive and very clear for you to read.

I have expanded the "What Is Young Artist Guild?" booklet since convention and the new, updated version is now online at [mtac.org/Young Artist Guild](http://mtac.org/Young Artist Guild). I hope you will look at it, download it, and possibly put it out for the audience to see at your recitals this coming year. It gives all of us an idea of where the Y.A.G. members have gone. Many are no longer in music, but the professional musician list is quite long and fascinating. Enjoy reading it.

**Nicole Burns**, [burnspianostudio@aol.com](mailto:burnspianostudio@aol.com) will be the new Young Artist Guild State Chair. If you have any questions as the year goes on, please contact her. Again, thanks for all your help.

Joyce Osborn

## 2007 Piano Syllabus Questions and Answers

#1 Q. Why do the Mozart Rondos, Fantasies and Sonatas still have such a broad range of levels?

A. A famous person once said that "Mozart is too easy for children and too difficult for adults".

The notes are easy to read, but to play them with finesse is the problem.

The consensus of the repertoire contributors was that performing any of these Mozart works musically, at a steady tempo - up to speed, with balance, articulation, shaping, dynamics, facile ornaments and a clean, beautiful touch is extremely difficult. (Even many concert artists will not perform Mozart in public.)

Consequently, the decision was made to leave these works as they were in the 2003 Syllabus with very few exclusions.

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#2 Q. One other question concerning Sonata listings for the different levels, i.e. Mozart and Beethoven. If a student is playing a movement from a Beethoven sonata (not Op. 49, of course) and is in advanced level, then is it alright for them to play any movement from a Beethoven sonata (again, except Op. 49) and still fit in with the rule to not play a piece lower than level 9? The reason I ask is because in the Literature Index, p. 115, Beethoven Sonatas are listed as Levels 8-10 and Mozart Sonatas, p. 121, are listed as Levels 6-10.

A. Yes, any movement is fine. Except: P.84 (Level 9) and p.90 (Advanced Level): NOT Mozart Sonata K.545. We realize some movements are easier, yet they require more expressive playing & finesse. Playing a piece at the advanced level is so much more than getting through the notes.

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#3 Q. I have another question from Convention. I am not sure that I heard correctly about choosing repertoire at a lower level than the one the student is enrolled in. Is it mandatory that the student not play anything that is more than one level lower in difficulty than the enrolled level? The Syllabus says that that is the case for the Advanced Level, but I think I remembered hearing that it would also hold true for the upper levels (6-9).

A. The Repertoire Requirements have been updated. p. 5 - Repertoire Requirements: One piece must be selected from the Syllabus for the enrolled level. Add: "Remaining repertoire must be at or above the students enrolled level. (exception: Advanced level – the three remaining pieces must not be lower than level 9-10)." Once again, each enrolled level has selections from both lower and higher levels. If your student is enrolled at level six, they could choose a L. Mozart piece that is eligible for levels 4-6 or they could choose a Schumann piece that is eligible for levels 6 - 8. This doesn't give the level six student the option of choosing level 3 literature listed at level five.

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#4 Q. In the new syllabus, one of the requirements says pieces must be from level 9-10. My student has almost completed one piece from the Encore! Book 3 that used to be for level 8-9 but it has been updated to CM level 8 only. My question is can he continue plays the song by Granados, "May Song" Op. 1 #3?

A. Not unless you can find it in another anthology that is listed at level 9-10. Otherwise, it's a solid level 8 piece.

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#5 Q. I would like to ask if one of the 4 pieces for level 9 could be from level 8 like Two part inventions (Bach) which were included in old syllabus for L 9.

A. Remaining repertoire must be at or above the students enrolled level.

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#6 Q. One of our teachers is asking: according to the new syllabus, Advanced/Panel repertoire must be level 9-Adv--Scarlatti Sonatas are 7-9; will they qualify since levels 7-8 are included in the leveling?

A. No. The new syllabus does not say that Advanced Panel must not be lower than 9 - advanced; that is stated for the regular advanced level. Panel students should choose literature of the highest level. If an Advanced Panel piano student would like to play Scarlatti, he/she must choose Five Fugues, Level 10, (p.91), NOT any of his Sonatas (Levels 7-9) for the panel audition.

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#7 Q. On p. 83, Mendelssohn's Song without Words, Opus 19, # 3 is listed as one of the ONLY pieces on this syllabus, but on p. 85 Snell's Romantic Repertoire the same Opus 19, # 3 is listed as an excluded piece. What is the status of this piece?

A. Mendelssohn's Song without Words, Opus 19, #3 is O.K. for Level 9.

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#8 Q. There is some confusion in the new syllabus listing for repertoire at Level 9 that is currently affecting a student of mine. Under Chopin, on p. 82, all the Waltzes are OK except Op. 69, #2, Eb Maj. (post.), and a minor. On p. 85, under Anthologies, it says the K. Snell Romantic and 20th Century Level 9 book is included, but NOT the Chopin Waltz Op. 64 #1. My Level 9 student had selected the Op. 64 #1 Waltz to learn over the summer. The Waltz would be included as Level 9 repertoire on p. 82, but not included on p. 85. Should we just proceed as if it will be on the syllabus?

A. Chopin Waltz Op.64 No.1 is NOT included for Level 9. This correction is included in the Errata sheet found online at your teacher home page. Your student may still learn this waltz, but it will not be eligible for the Festival Recital. Knowing you are an excellent and a versatile teacher, I am sure you will find another suitable Festival piece for your student. The Theme recital for next year is still Music of the USA. Betty Woo gave us many helpful literatures ideas at convention.

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#9 Q. The question has also come up about allowable transcriptions. When the composer himself (or herself) writes the transcription from orchestra to solo piano, would it be allowed? For example, Prokofiev wrote a transcription of Peter and the

Wolf for solo piano. Apparently, he wanted it played as a solo! Though originally written for orchestra, wouldn't the composer's own transcription of a work be allowable in CM?

A. You are correct that a composer's own transcription of his/her work is allowed in CM. The examples listed on P.6 are examples of the types of transcription acceptable for CM evaluation.

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#10 Q. Do the MTAC approved listed transcriptions and the commissioned pieces count as syllabus pieces?

A. There are 7 Transcriptions listed on p.91. Each qualifies as a Syllabus piece. However, if you are applying for the Festival Convention recital, you must choose a Syllabus piece that fits in the 5-minute time limit. Friends of Today's Music commissioned works may be used as the Contemporary selection to fulfill CM repertoire requirements, but not as a syllabus piece, since they are not listed at the enrolled level. Remember Panel students must choose music of the highest level.

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#11 Q. Can my student play a Fugue only by Bach, or he has to play both Prelude and Fugue?

A. Yes. Only the Fugue is fine.

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#12 Q. P. 91, listed that Robert Starer had a set of Etudes, Opus 7. I looked into all of my sources (I have performed and studied Starer's music) but could not find such pieces. However, I have performed Etudes, Opus 7 by Igor Stravinsky. Is this the correct information?

A. P.91 Four Etudes, Op.7 should be listed under Stravinsky, I. NOT Starer, R. Thank you for your sharp eyes.

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#13 Q. A comment on the Advanced Level list - many of the repertoire will not fit into the Festival Recital Time limit of under 5 minutes, should pieces like Chopin Ballades and Sonatas be excluded in future editions?

Other pieces that are advanced level such as Ravel Jeux d'eau and Poulenc Trois Pieces, which would fit under the Festival Recital time limit, could be included in future editions. (No I am not suggesting that you re-do the repertoire list right away, but I felt many important Adv. teaching repertoire can be included).

Comment: I must congratulate the entire CM Council on doing a fine job improving the 2007 syllabus. Not only does it provide a set of guidelines for those participating in CM, much of it will be a very useful pedagogical tool for most piano teachers.

A. Remember that Panel students must choose a piece from this list, hence the inclusion of longer works. You will find *Jeux d'eau* in "At the Piano with Ravel". We thought that the Advanced Repertoire List was already very extensive. We can keep a running list of suggestions for future consideration, such as, the Poulenc Trois Pieces. Thank you for your congratulations!

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#14 Q. I want to get a new collections book for a student that I want to be usable for several levels of CM. Is there a place that lists the books so I don't have to go to each level to look for it?

A. Check the Anthologies List in the 2007 Syllabus, p.125-127. Remember that this is a cross reference to the repertoire lists contained in each level.

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#15 Q. I congratulate you and your Council members on upgrading our entire organization with your latest C/M Syllabus. The Advanced repertoire is now truly Advanced.

I have an advanced student a who would like to play Un Sospiro of Liszt and Op. 10, # 5 of Chopin; both are etudes. Can Un Sospiro be considered one of her pieces?

A. Although it is rare, occasionally a student does play 2 Etudes in his/her repertoire. Liszt Un Sospiro as one of her four pieces and Chopin Etude Op.10 #5 as her Etude are fine, provided all the rest of the repertoire requirements are met.

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#16 Q. Repertoire list under Bartok: Level 9 (p.82) and index under "Bartok" (p.114) - There is an entry of "6 dances in Bulgarian Rhythm: ONLY from the diary of a Fly" on p. 82, listed as level 9. However, searching for 2 sources of piano repertoire, I did not find a separate title of that. However, I do find this title in the last group of pieces under "Mikrokosmos vol.6". But there is no specific title for each of the Dances. My questions are:

- a. Is there a separate set of "6 dances in Bulgarian Rhythm" besides those under "Mikrokosmos"? If yes, what edition/publisher can I find this music?
- b. If not, what edition can I find to have the specific title of each dance? Since only one dance is eligible for level 9, I would like to find out which one is eligible because my edition did not have any title.

A. p. 82 - Bartok - Please Delete: 6 Dances in Bulgarian Rhythms: ONLY From the Diary of a Fly. (You are correct. The 6 Dances in Bulgarian Rhythms are already included in Mikrokosmos Vol. 6. The Mikrokosmos was a last minute addition to the syllabus and we did not realize that the 6 Dances in Bulgarian Rhythms were part of that vol., thus creating a conflict.) So, Mikrokosmos, Vol 6 will remain listed in level 9 and all pieces in that collection will be acceptable. Any Edition is fine.

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#17 Q. Level 5 (p. 60)- The scales are listed as E, Ab, and Eb Major. The arpeggios as listed as A and Eb Major. Should they be Ab and Eb Major?

A. No, it is correct as listed. As the first year with arpeggios, we wanted to include the "A" arpeggio. A is related here as the tonic of E; connects the students brain to the V7 in the key of A for the chords.

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#18 Q. Literature Index (p. 126)- Under Magrath, J., Masterwork Classics, Level 5 is listed under Levels 4-5 and 6. Should Masterwork Classics, Level 6 be listed under Level 6?

A. The answer is yes. Be sure and change it on page 69 under Anthologies: Magrath, Masterwork Classics, Level 6. Thanks for catching this.

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#19 Q. Where can I find information about modes?

A. There are examples in the syllabus (pgs. 17-20). The technique book is being finished and will be available from the state office in early September. This will have the mode scales written out.

I also think the Hal Leonard Pocket Music Dictionary has a great chart in the back for modes (called Scale Chart: Modes)

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#20 Q. On the errata p. 75 "Phrygian on E and B; Lydian on F and C" does that go under technique or theory, or both?

A. The errata sheet says "p. 75 -Theory requirements, #1" This means to add this to theory.

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#21 Q. How is a student chosen for a master class at convention?

A. the Artist master classes are selected from the students at Panel Finals, along with the Panel Honors Recitals and Young Artists Guild. These, of course, are chosen by the panel judges. The intermediate master class students are selected from

students who received 5+ and Excellent on all aspects of their evaluations, and whose pieces fit the program or the requests of the master teachers. The recital chairs (Festival, Theme, New Materials) generally make the selection and contact the teachers. As far as I know, there has never been an application procedure for these.

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