



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT™ NEWSLETTER

June 2007

Editor: Judy Jenkins @ CMNews@cox.net
August Newsletter deadline – August 1, 2007

CALENDAR

June 1	Convention recitals posted on state website
June 29–July 3	Convention in Santa Clara
Sept. 15	Registration opens
Nov. 15	Registration closes, no early deadline
Dec. 15	Deadline for Branch CM fees to state office
Jan. 2	Evaluation Form available online to be filled in
Jan. 15	Deadline for Panel student to drop back to Advanced
Feb. 23 -Apr. 6	Evaluations North and South
Feb. 23 - 24	Regional Panel Auditions
Mar. 1 - 2	Regional Panel Auditions
Mar. 15	Deadline for Final Panel Application
Mar. 28–30	Panel Finals SOUTH
Apr. 5-6	Panel Finals NORTH
Apr. 15	Deadline for Convention Applications
May 2-4	CM Council meeting
June 27-July	Convention in Riverside

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Policy Changes and Updates	2
More Branch Chair Information	3
Voice	3
Winds	3
New Keyboard Syllabus	4
Training	4
Panel Details	5
Advanced and Advanced/Panel Repertoire	6
Certificate of Merit™ -- Trademarked	6
Database	8
Update Your Email Everywhere	8
What's New In Theory?	9-11

FROM THE CM COUNCIL: POLICY CHANGES AND UPDATES

The May CM Council meeting was even more exciting than usual! Here are several important details:

♪ The Big Deals: New syllabi will be available for both keyboard and voice at convention. Both will be used for the 2007-2008 year!

♪ Keyboard and Voice Evaluators will be required to attend a training session this year in order to evaluate in 2008. Branches are strongly encouraged to hold a New Syllabus meeting for their branch.

♪ Level 8 and 9 evaluations will be increased to 25 minutes for all disciplines. No, this won't ruin your evaluation days or your scheduling. If you use the Branch Fast Scheduling program, the math will be done for you!

♪ Every teacher and branch chair should be aware of the Line of Communication: Parent to Teacher to Branch Chair to CM Council member to CM Coordinator. No jumping ahead of this procedure, please! Policy IV 1-2. This is not new.

♪ Music downloaded from the internet must include the URL (source) to verify that it is not under copyright. If the composer and title of any piece are not in English, the teacher must include an English translation. Policy IV 7-8. Nothing new here either.

♪ Branch chairs may not set early deadlines for registration. The official deadline is November 15, 11:59 p.m. Remember that you still have until December 15 to get all your details finalized and your branch check mailed to the State Office.



Reminder from the assistant coordinator:

A few branches have not sent their complete evaluator schedules to Assistant Coordinator Bobbette Cameron. Please send all discipline schedules to her immediately so that she can put away the boxes for a few short weeks!

MORE INFO FOR BRANCH CHAIRS

The updated CM Encyclopedia and the Chronology are on the website. These are two extremely useful documents prepared by Bobbette Cameron. Please study them and refer to them when you have questions before picking up the telephone! Much other useful information is on the website, including, as you know, the entire CM Mailing #1 and 2.

The work you did in entering all student results this year has paid off very well. We have much more information about student success and failure than we have had in the past. As you know, this is not something you have to do yourselves. Find a couple of reliable, computer-savy volunteers to work on this; it will go quickly.

The Theme Festival for 2007-08 is again "Music of the USA."

CELEBRATION FROM VOICE!

The new voice syllabus is ready! It will be available at convention and at the state office thereafter. We are very excited to have the Annual MTAC Convention in Santa Clara. Teachers are encouraged to bring their students for this is a great learning opportunity. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars for the following events:

Sunday, July 1

2:00 Student Voice Recital

4:30 Vocal Master Class

Monday July 2

10-11 Voice Teachers' Meeting

11-12 Voice Evaluator Training Session

12:30-1:30 Vocal Recital with Guest Artist

3:00 Student Voice Recital

SOMETHING WINDY

Attention all Wind Teachers: Be sure to attend our events. We are thrilled to have Maria Tamburrino (flute) and Michael Corner (clarinet) this year to work with the students. They have an impressive list of credentials and all teachers and students will benefit greatly from their expertise.

Sunday, July 1

1:00 Wind Recitals

2:00 Wind Panel Honors Recital

Monday July 2

12:00 Winds Evaluator Training

10:00 Flute Master Class (not at 4:30 as listed in the *California Music Teacher*)

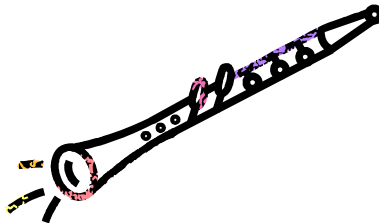
1:00 Clarinet Master Class

2:30 Guest Artist Recital (Maria Tamburrino)

4:00 Wind Recitals

5:00 Wind Meeting

Susan Nguyen, Wind Chair, Northern CA



NEW KEYBOARD SYLLABUS

A new edition of the keyboard syllabus has been created by members of the CM Council under the leadership of Karen Becker. Every aspect of the syllabus has been examined, with the goals of having it within the CM Policy and conforming to the stated goals of Certificate of Merit™. Here are some of the highlights:

- + Evaluation times for Levels 8 and 9 have been increased to 25 minutes! Naturally, there will be a slight increase in fees to cover the extra time. No, it won't ruin your CM scheduling, especially if you use the Branch Fast Scheduling program; it will do all the math for you!
- + Theory: A few additions to vocabulary, history, composers. The "it's about time" award goes to the introduction of modes from Level 7 through Advanced. See the theory changes on pages 9-11.
- + Technique: Revision of keys but many elements remain the same. However, modes appear here also, Level 7 – 9. A new technique guide by Dr. Alan Oettinger should be available at convention.
- + Sight Reading: no changes, although clearer guidelines for 'what to expect' are given at each level ; the same CDs will continue to be used.
- + Repertoire: Most out of print material has been eliminated and much new material has been added. A new Advanced repertoire list has been devised, with one piece from that list required besides the etude. Some collections and anthologies have been divided so that they are more "level-appropriate". There are also individual works listed and some collections have ONLY or NOT some works. Teachers should check every piece! For Advanced/ Advanced Panel requirements, see page 7.
- + Categories: There will be 5: Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist/Early 20th Century, Contemporary ("alive in 1950"); please note that these five categories are not the same as the Historical Periods of Music. A revised composers list has been carefully crafted.

There will be informative sessions at convention, introducing the new syllabus. Here is some urging by our Coordinator to inspire you to come!

TRAINING SESSIONS FOR ALL!

Teachers are encouraged to attend the Convention and pick up a copy of the new Syllabus hot off the press. The Syllabi, piano and voice, will be available at a discount, so this is definitely the time to make your purchase. Both syllabi will be used for the 2008 evaluations.

Plan to attend the New Keyboard Syllabus Presentation on Saturday at 10:00. There will two other sessions on Monday which will cover CM topics for all disciplines.

One will be a teacher information session called "Understanding the CM Evaluation."

The second one will look at the co-mingling of theory and repertoire. These two sessions will be held back to back and will naturally transition from one to the next, so plan to attend both

If you are an evaluator, plan to attend one of the evaluator training sessions and maintain your eligibility to work as CM evaluator. All keyboard evaluators will need to attend a training session this year in order to evaluate in 2008.

See you at convention!

Karen Becker



Make Sure The Teachers In Your Branch Know Everything There Is To Know About The New CM Syllabus

The CM Council would like to strongly encourage your branch to schedule a Fall meeting called, "Understanding the CM Program" which will feature information about the new keyboard and voice syllabi. It would benefit your branch to know about the changes in detail. The Council will cover mileage expenses for this two-hour seminar; all you need to do is schedule this meeting with your branch board.

Please contact the CM Training Chairs, Judi Sands-Pertel (North) and Nicole Burns (South) to put in your request for a session. They will schedule a Council member in your area to come to your branch for this informative and helpful meeting. Maybe I'll see you then!

Karen S. Becker
CM Coordinator

PANEL DETAILS

Regional Panel (Piano) 02/23, 02/24, 03/01, 03/02 (North and South)
Regional Panel (Strings) 02/24, 03/01, 03/02 (South)

State Panel Auditions - Cal. Poly Pomona

Piano - 03/28, 03/29, 03/30 (South)

Voice - 03/29 (AM) (North and South)

Winds - 03/29 (PM) (North and South)

Strings - 03/30 (North and South)

State Panel Auditions (NORTH) - Venue TBA

Piano - 04/05, 04/06

All other disciplines may either do a live audition at Cal.Poly Pomona or send in their videotapes or DVDs to the SOUTH Chair, Rosemary Yang.



NEW SYLLABUS REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS
FOR ADVANCED AND ADVANCED-PANEL

Advanced REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS:

- Four pieces (plus the Etude) are required for evaluation.
- One piece must come from the Advanced Repertoire List.
 - * The three remaining pieces must not be lower than Level 9-10.
- All four pieces must be chosen from different categories.
 - * Baroque and Contemporary must be included.
- The fifth piece is the Etude, which must come from the Etude List and may be from any category.
 - The Etude must be a different composer (Example: not a Chopin Etude and a Chopin piece).
 - Two pieces plus the Etude must be memorized.
 - If the student is applying for any Convention program, all five works must be played from memory.

Advanced-Panel REPERTOIRE REQUIREMENTS:

- Four pieces (plus the Etude) are required for evaluation.
- One piece must come from the Advanced Repertoire List.
- Three of the four required pieces must be chosen from the Baroque, Classical and Contemporary categories; the fourth piece may be from either of the two remaining categories (any of these four may be from the Advanced Repertoire List).
- The fifth piece is the Etude, which must come from the Etude List and may be from any category.
 - The Etude must be a different composer (Example: not a Chopin Etude and a Chopin piece).
 - All pieces must be memorized.
 - No ensemble is eligible.

For additional requirements, see the current Panel Information at mtac.org.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT™—TRADEMARKED!

The Certificate of Merit™ Council and MTAC appreciate those companies or individuals who merchandise product that follows the Certificate of Merit™ Syllabus. The term Certificate of Merit™ is now being trademarked by MTAC. Therefore, to continue to use the term Certificate of Merit™ on your product, we ask that you always use the following disclaimer (being sure that the ™ appears as it does below):

"Certificate of Merit™ is an evaluation program of the Music Teachers' Association of California. Reference to 'Certificate of Merit™' (CM) does not imply endorsement by MTAC of this product."

Thank you,
Karen S. Becker
CM Coordinator

NEWS FROM OUR WEBMASTER/DATABASE WIZARD

CM registration will open on September 15, 2007 and close on November 15, 2007 at 11:59 pm. (Branches may no longer set early registrations) The registration procedure is the same as it has been for the last few years.

A few reminders – Please register students’ names with normal case, not in all caps. Normal case is that only the first letter of each first/last name is capitalized. Also, teachers continue to check senior award when the student is not a senior. Please stop this!! One of the requirements for the senior award is that the student be a senior!!

Have you discovered the Grove Dictionary online? Log on to your teacher page and it is there for your use!

There is a new link from the home page that goes directly to the MTAC Member login page. Look for “MTAC Login” just below the MTAC logo in the upper left of the home page.

The database that was only for Certificate of Merit™ is now used for the branch contacts page, the branch locator page and the find a teacher page. There is also a major addition to the Edit Teacher info from the teacher home page that works with these three new pages.

These three pages all list teacher information. The teacher information is controlled by the display choice set by each teacher. To set your display choice, go to the MTAC login page, login as teacher, go to edit teacher info and at the bottom of the page, select your display choice. All teachers (unless already listed in the branch contacts page) will NOT be displayed unless a display choice is made. All teachers can change their choice at any time. Teachers in the branch contact page have their choice preset to the same type as previously displayed. To test your choice, go to the find a teacher page, enter your zip code, select your instrument and click find a teacher. Each teacher must have an instrument selected to complete the edit teacher information page.

Special note: Non-CM teachers will probably not have any instrument selected and must have one to complete the submission. Teachers cannot set their instruments, only branch chairs can. So some branch chairs may be getting questions. If a non-CM teacher requests that you set their instrument, please ask them to wait until after June 1st. I will be adding these instruments automatically beginning the week of May 21.

The use of the branch locator page and find a teacher page should be pretty obvious. The branch locator link is on the Membership/Join Us page or directly from here <http://www.mtac.org/membership/branchlocator.php>. The link to the find a teacher page is on the home page, top right and on the left hand list of links or directly from here <http://www.mtac.org/info/findteacher.php>.

--Lowell Webster

UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS! EVERYWHERE!

Obviously, a ton of CM communicating is accomplished by email. If your email address changes and you don’t tell the world, you will be lost! Here are some of the people/places you should inform: Jocelyn Jotie at the State Office, jocelynj@mtac.org; Lowell Webster (for the Yahoo group), Lwebster@redshift.com; Judy Jenkins (for the CM News), CMNews@cox.net, and [your teacher information on the CM database](#) (very important). None of this updating happens automatically. You must do it!

Out with the Old, In with the New

2007 Syllabi Debut

Required for 2008 Evaluations

“It’s out of the hat!”

Be the 1st “in the know” - receive Convention \$ discount



New for Keyboard

- 5 Musical categories
- Expanded Repertoire list for all categories
- New Advanced Repertoire list and Requirements
- New Technique and Theory
- Win Prizes at Convention Training Sessions!

New for Voice

- Changed Practical and Written Theory Requirements
- Increased Repertoire Choices in All Levels
- Increased Study Time for Sight Singing at the Higher Levels!
- Addition of a Voice Written Theory Test at the Adv. Level
- New Recommended Theory Text
- Increased Resource Materials

What's New in CM™ Theory

New material is in standard type and **boldface**

Clarifications are in italics

Preparatory Level

- *Distinguish whole steps and half steps on keyboard only*
- *Distinguish intervals by number only*
- *Clarification of types of rhythm questions on test*
- *Examples of acceptable counting are given*
- **Terms: added “Dynamics” and “Brace” (from the Grand Staff)**

Level 1

- *Staff note naming – added “and sharps, flats, and naturals*
- **Half steps and whole steps on the keyboard and on the staff**
- *Intervals – changed 8ves to 8ths (octaves), added “by number only”*
- **Five finger patterns – added B flat** (to match chords/triads requirements)
- *Primary triads – added “by Roman numeral,” and “Lines should be placed above and below Roman numerals, such as V (the V has lines)*
- *Clarified types of rhythm questions and counting examples are given*
- **Terms: added “Primary triads” and “accidental”**

Level 2

- **Added E flat to Scales and key signatures** (to match chords/triads)
- *Intervals – added “by number only”*
- *Moved cadence names, Roman numerals, and names Tonic, Subdominant and Dominant from SIGNS AND TERMS to TONALITY; are listed under Roman numeral and cadence instructions*
- *Added “Lines should be placed above and below Roman numerals, such as V (the V has lines)*
- *Clarified types of rhythm questions that will be asked*
- *Added fz to sforzando symbols*

Level 3

- *Intervals – listed notes on which intervals will be built, lowest notes of intervals will now match the keys that students have learned*
- **Chords/triads – deleted keys of B F# and C#, listed F B flat and E flat** (introduced in Level 2)
- *Added “Lines should be placed above and below Roman numerals, such as V (the V has lines)*
- **Cadences – added plagal** (Introduced in Level 2)
- *Clarified types of rhythm questions that will be asked*
- **Terms: added “legato (syncopated, overlapping) pedal”**

Level 4

- **Roman numerals – added ii supertonic, and vii^o leading tone**
- *Added “Lines should be placed above and below Roman numerals, such as V (the V has lines), and lower case Roman numerals should be used for minor and diminished chords, such as vi or vii^o.*
- *Intervals on same notes as keys students learned at this level*
- *Chords/triads: added to root position and inversions, “labeled R, 1st, 2nd”*
- *Diminished triads in root position: clarified these roots: C G D A E B F B flat*

- **Primary triads – added keys of D A E**
- **Secondary triads – keys of C G F**
- *Dominant sevenths added “(identify by name – Dominant 7, Dominant Seventh, and Roman numeral, V7)”*
- **Dominant Sevenths on these roots: C G D A E F Bb** (Kept “in these keys;” the roots that are listed are the same as the lowest note of each root when writing “in the key.” For example, on the note C is in the key of F)
- **Cadences: added keys of D A E. clarified root position and common tone, “single staff”**
- *Clarified types of rhythm questions*
- **Terms: added “articulation”**
- **Deleted “arpeggio”** (moved to Level 5)

Level 5

- **Add melodic minor scale on a**
- *Instructions for Roman numerals(same as previous levels)*
- **Chords/triads – label using figured bass. Know both full and abbreviated forms of figured bass (for example, 6 or 6/3 for first inversion)**
- **Primary and secondary triads – add keys of E, B flat and E flat**
- **Dominant sevenths – added “on these roots: D G D A E B F# F Bb**
- **Added “Arpeggio: Identify in music, beginning on any white key**
- *Clarified types of rhythm questions*
- *Listed “arpeggio” in the definitions section*
- **History – changed wording for composers from “such as” to “the following composer may appear on the test.”**

Level 6

- **Added melodic minor scales on a, e, b, f#, d, and instructions “descending melodic minor scales must include all accidentals, even if they appeared in the ascending scale)**
- *Roman numeral instructions, students must place lines...*
- *Intervals on any note*
- **Triads and inversions using figured bass**
- *Diminished and Augmented triads “all roots” (not “all keys”)*
- **Primary and Secondary triads using figured bass; added “All Major keys”**
- **Dominant sevenths – added “on these roots: C G D A E B F# F Bb**
- **Cadences – listed (had been omitted from last syllabus). Added deceptive cadence, and instructions “root position and common tone, one and two staves”**
- **Chord progression – added “one and two staves”**
- **History – students only need to know two composers, not three. Changed wording for composers from “such as” to “the following composer may appear on the test.”**

Level 7

- *Changed “Circle of Keys” to “Circle of Fifths”*
- **Added whole tone scale on any white key**
- *Clarified chromatic scale “on any note”*
- **Added mode: Ionian on C, Dorian on D, Mixolydian on G, Aeolian on A**
- **Chords/triads using figured bass, all roots**
- *Primary and secondary triads – listed again (omitted from last syllabus), with instructions on labeling*
- **Primary and secondary triads using figured bass**

- **Dominant seventh chords using figured bass**
- *Cadences – listed again (omitted from last syllabus) authentic, half, plagal, and deceptive, root and common tone, one and two staves*
- *Chord progressions, clarified “All Major and minor keys”*
- **Terms: added “or Sonata form” to Sonata Allegro form, also added whole tone scale, Ionian mode, Dorian mode, Mixolydian mode, Aeolian mode**
- **History - Changed wording for composers from “such as” to “the following composer may appear on the test.” Deleted Frescobaldi, Soler, Czerny, Dvorak, Della Joio, and Cage. All Level 6 composers are listed along with new composers.**

Level 8

- *Added instructions for descending melodic minor scales*
- *Carried over all repeated material in detail*
- **Added modes: Ionian on C and G, Dorian on D and A, Mixolydian on G and D, Aeolian on A and E, Locrian on B and F#**
- **Whole tone scale on any note**
- **Secondary Dominants – moved from definitions section to TONALITY section, clarified labeling (V of V or V/V both acceptable)**
- **Chord progression (modulation): be able to identify the pivot chord**
- **Terms: added Phrygian mode, Lydian mode, Locrian mode, Pivot chord**
- *Rhythm – clarified syncopation – “be able to define and recognize”*
- **History – The following composers may appear on the test: deleted Kirnberger, Field, Heller, Stravinsky. Listed all composers from Levels 5 through 7.**

Level 9 – Same changes as Level 8, plus:

- **Modes – Ionian on C, F, G; Dorian on D, G, A; Phrygian on E, A, B; Lydian on F, Bb, C; Mixolydian on G, C, D; Aeolian on A, D, E; Locrian on B, E, F#**
- **Triads built on whole tone scale**
- **Terms: add “counterpoint/contrapuntal”**
- **History – delete Purcell, Ives, Gershwin; relist all other composers**

Level 10

- **Add nonharmonic tones: passing tones, upper and lower neighbors (auxiliary tones), suspensions, anticipations, appoggiaturas (in context of a chord, not the small grace-note style they learned in Level 5)**
- **Vocabulary is listed (this is the same vocabulary as from the previous syllabus, which used to be listed only in the vocabulary section)**
- **Clarified “sonata structure (multiple movements)”**

