



Collegiate Communiqué #8 *Holiday Recess “Catch-up!”* December 2017

Greetings and Happy Holidays from the PMEA Chair of the Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention. Here is the latest *Collegiate Communiqué* geared for higher education students and teachers. Past issues are posted at the PMEA website: <http://www.pmea.net/resources/pcmea/>.

Vacation time, semester breaks, and holidays are opportunities to plan ahead and get prepared!

Abstracts of sessions and other resources from the **2017 Symposium of the NAFME Society for Music Teacher Education** are available online at <http://smtc.us/conferences-symposia/2017-symposium-detailed-schedule/>. Many of the presenters have chosen to share their slides or handouts, and these materials are now available by clicking the links that appear below the presentation titles. In addition, the referenced research on each proposal may provide a valuable bibliography and tools for further study.

NAfME recently released “Happy Thanksgiving, Newbies - Things for Which Prospective Music Teachers and Students Majoring in Music Education Should Be Thankful... and on Which to Reflect Over This Holiday Season!” at <https://nafme.org/happy-thanksgiving-newbies/>. I had all but forgotten my 2016 blog which offers a classic “top ten list” – “the fruits and cornerstones of our profession” and a recipe of things-to-do over the break. “After you finish your fall semester finals, juries, concerts, writing assignments, and other projects, you may have several weeks before you have to return to full-time classes at the university. Besides catching up on your sleep and visiting your family and friends, how many of these enrichment activities can you accomplish?”

1. Share your musical gifts.
2. Sit in with a church or community choir, orchestra, or band.
3. Learn something new about music... even outside your specialty.
4. Spend a lot of time sight-reading.
5. Improve your score reading.
6. Volunteer to coach/conduct music rehearsals at the local public school.
7. Attend as many concerts as you can.
8. Compose a short holiday, folk, or classical song.
9. Record video/audio excerpts of your major instrument/voice in preparation for placement in your e-portfolio.
10. For upcoming employment prep and practice of mock interviews, review the marketing professionalism articles at <https://paulkfoxusc.wordpress.com/becoming-a-music-educator/>.

Have you seen this? *Transitioning from Collegiate to Educator*
<https://paulkfoxusc.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/westminster-college-110617.pdf>

A short checklist for college juniors and seniors may include starting, refining, updating, or finishing their professional website, e-portfolio, business cards, and résumé. Be sure to proofread thoroughly!

Reminder: **The 2018 PMEA Annual In-Service Conference** will be held April 19-21, 2018 at the Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center. There are two annual **PCMEA business meetings** taking place on Thursday and Friday. (Please attend!) More information: <https://www.pmea.net/pmea-annual-in-service-conference/>.

Did you know that teachers are members of an exclusive group of professionals that are considered “fiduciaries” – like doctors, lawyers, mental health providers, and the clergy – “individuals legally and ethically bound to act in the best interests of others?” However, teachers are the only “fiduciaries” who do not receive complete pre- and in-service ethics training and their “clients” are a captive audience! A PMEA two-part webinar series “**Ethics for Music Educators**” is coming soon: January 16 and 23, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Best wishes for a wonderful winter break! Try to stay “connected” to and involved in your professional associations (NAfME, PCMEA, and PMEA) and pass on any “good news!” PKF

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