



Letter to PMEA Officers and Festival Hosts

Do you know of a high school music student who is considering becoming a music educator? Here is some guidance for them!

Serving in the role of an advisory committee for PMEA, the mission of the Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention (Council TTRR) is to discuss strategies and implement programs which support “the life cycle of a music educator.” One of the goals of the Council TTRR is “training of pre-college, pre-service, in-service, and retired members in career development to support professionalism, career exploration, growth and change, and personal goal setting.”

Members of the **Recruitment Subcommittee of the Council TTRR** recently presented the panel discussion session “**So, You Have a Student Who Wants to Follow in Your Footsteps!**” at the PMEA Spring 2018 Conference in Lancaster, PA.

Preparing students for careers in music education begins long before the college audition. This panel discussion will highlight conversations high school music educators should be having with students who show interest in pursuing music teaching as a career. Senior year is often too late for a high school student to become sufficiently well-rounded and to develop the skills that will lead to successful music certification.

As part of our research, we have focused on the following targets and prerequisite areas of practice and training prior to enter college:

- Academics
- Music performance skills
- Attitude, personality, public speaking, goal-setting, and leadership skills
- Teaching experience and observation
- Knowledge and understanding of the profession

The results of our work included the posting of these materials which may be helpful for prospective future music educators. (See the new “focus area” on the PMEA website: <https://www.pmea.net/council-for-ttrr/>.)

- **So, You Want to Be A Music Education Major** (presentation geared for students) <https://www.pmea.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/So-You-Want-to-Be-a-Music-Education-Major-060618s.pdf>
- **So, You Have a Student Who Wants to Follow in Our Footsteps** (geared for HS music teachers) <https://www.pmea.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/So-You-Have-a-Student-Who-Wants-to-Follow-in-Our-Footsteps-small-042018.pdf>
- **Have You Thought of Becoming a Music Educator?** (Society for Music Teacher Education) <https://www.pmea.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Have-You-Thought-of-Becoming-a-Music-Educator.pdf>
- **So, You Want to Become a Music Major** (PMEA) <https://www.pmea.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/So-You-Want-To-Be-a-Music-Major.pdf>

In addition, we recommend the following additional resources:

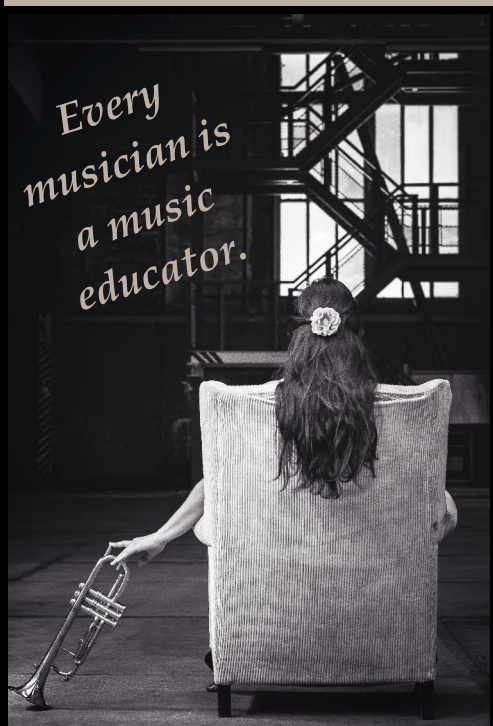
- **Majoring in Music:** <https://majoringinmusic.com/music-education/> and <https://majoringinmusic.com/prepare-to-be-a-college-music-major/>
- **The College Audition Blog:** <https://auditioningforcollege.com/2011/11/07/guest-article-preparing-for-a-career-in-music-education/>

I need to thank my colleagues for their hard work on the Council TTRR, especially:

- Ms. Nora Burridge, Coordinator of PMEA Future Music Educators Honors Symposium
- Mr. O. David Deitz, Fine Arts Education Consultant of the Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Dr. Paul Doerksen, Chair of Duquesne University Music Education and Music Therapy
- Dr. Jonathan Helmick, Associate Professor of Music/Director of Bands, Slippery Rock University
- Dr. Kathleen Melago, Associate Professor of Music, Slippery Rock University and State Advisor of PCMEA
- Ms. Susan Metelsky, Beaver Area School District and State Chair of TRI-M

Hopefully these will be useful tools for all music directors who have talented HS singers or instrumentalists thinking of becoming music teachers! PKF

Have You Considered Becoming a Music Educator?



Follow in the path of the music educator who brought you the joy of music.

When new music teachers were asked what excited them most about teaching, one said, "I am excited to watch the **students enjoy music so much**. I see how important it is for so many of my students and I look forward to watching them develop their musicianship and **love for the art**."

Did you know that when music educators use critical thinking to teach music listening skills, students' writing scores improve? By encouraging creative and focused music listening, **music teachers can unlock students' imagination and inspire them** to connect with music.

Do you love music and want to be **actively involved in music every day**? Do you like musical activities that involve other musicians? Do you want to **share your music** with others? Then being a music teacher may be the **perfect job for you**. (Fredrickson & Williams, 2009; Gillespie & Hammann, 1999; Rickels, et al, 2010; White, 1967)

*Everyone deserves music.
Become the educator who teaches music to everyone.*

Ready to take the next step in choosing a rewarding career of music-making and changing lives? Talk to your music teacher, guidance office, or to faculty at colleges or universities that interest you.

Created by members of the Teacher Recruitment Area for Strategic Planning and Action, Society for Music Teacher Education, NAFME, 2016

