



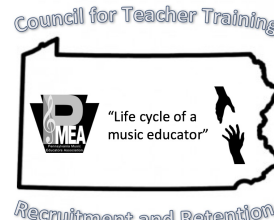
Collegiate Communiqué #24 *Summer Conferences and Collaborations* May/June 2019

Greetings from the PMEA Chair of the Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention.

Collegiate Communiqué is released monthly and serves as a "quick-read" and "starting point" to news, perspectives, and research geared to music education students and higher education teachers. This issue focuses on networking, mentoring, training, and interviewing of future music teachers.

This is *your* forum. You are urged to submit an article for a future issue of *Collegiate Communiqué*! Due: **Second Sunday of the month**. Email:

paulkfox.usc@gmail.com. Archives: <http://www.pmea.net/resources/pcmea/>.



What a pool! Get ready for the PMEA Summer Conference July 16-17, 2019 at the Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg/Hershey

"One Down – One to Go" in 2019!

Conferences and "Life-Long Learning!"

A few musings by Paul K. Fox, Chair of the PMEA Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, & Retention

Another PMEA spring conference has come and gone. As I sit with my friend Dr. John D'Ascenzo at the *conference info desk* giving directions and greeting exhibitors and conferees, I revel at the constant flow and transition of people and news, "soaking up" a little nostalgia and sharing the magical essence that music education and these events surround us. Being involved in PMEA for 40+ years, I have a mature perspective and still enough memory to recall those special "A-HA"

moments of inspiration and innovation that my students and colleagues gather during our annual pilgrimages of music festivals, music industry exhibits, keynote sessions, breakfast meetings, PMEA All-State and NAFME All-East groups, professional development workshops, and panel discussions.

We have the greatest job there is – promoting personal artistry, creative self-expression, and aesthetic awareness in everything we do. Reassessing, retooling, and recharging, we abound from the PMEA conferences and rush home to try out our newly-acquired knowledge, skills, music, and media.

In service to my school students and as PMEA District 1 Secretary-Treasurer (now Council for TTRR), I believe I've been privileged to attend 47 music education conferences. Although I retired in 2013 from full-time employment, I still like to engage our high school/college students (future teachers) and new/veteran colleagues, who are discovering their own success and passing it on. So many of my own former students from Upper St. Clair School District have made the life-long study of music a high priority (a vocation or avocation). The highest point of any educator's career is witnessing first-hand former band, choral and string players evolving/transforming into teachers and continuing this legacy.

We hope to see higher education and collegiate members in Harrisburg on July 16-17, 2019!

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PCMEA 2019-2020 Officers

from PCMEA President (2018-2019) Harlow Alexander

President-Elect: Bridget Haines

Treasurer/Secretary: Marissa Drain

Technology Coordinator: Samantha Kochis

Region I Coordinator: Kayla Karenbauer

Region II Coordinator: Virginia Stattel

Region III Co-Coordinators: Tessa Vendetti and Geneva Maldonado

Region IV Coordinator: Adam Jonkman

Region V Coordinator: Benjamin Fruchtl

Region VI Coordinator: Hannah Solomon

Interview Prep for PCMEA Members – “Blog-Posts for the Road!”

In case you missed it, the last issue of *Collegiate Communique* provided links to handouts from the last five years of the PMEA conference sessions, “**Ready to Hire: Interviewing Strategies to Land the Job**” moderated by NAFME Immediate Past President and PMEA Past President Scott Sheehan. Go to this website: <https://paulfox.blog/2019/04/03/interviews/>. Topics covered:

1. Skills that employers seek
2. Tips on resumes, business cards, portfolios, and professional websites
3. Hints for advance planning and practicing for the interviews
4. What to bring to the interview and sample lesson or live teaching scenario
5. Typical questions that are often asked at job screenings
6. Story-telling at interviews
7. Buzz words, terminology, and important trends in education
8. Methods for branding, social media curation, and professional networking



“Job” by Tumisu from Pixabay.com

In the same issue, we followed up with samples of interview criteria and rubrics with the promise of more to come. To get ready for your upcoming employment screenings, perhaps even to sponsor a series of your own “mock interviews,” check out this link: <https://paulfox.blog/2019/05/14/job-interview-rubrics/>.

Nine Good Questions to Ask at a Job Interview

by Martin Luenendonk at <https://www.cleverism.com/9-good-questions-ask-job-interview/>

After reading the blog “Music Teacher Resumes – Planning, Creating, and Maintaining” from the NAFME *Music in a Minuet* site – <https://nafme.org/music-teacher-resumes-revisited-planning-creating-and-maintaining/>, Martin Luenendonk offered the following advice on inquiries *you* could make at your next interview (go to the link under the title above to read his entire article):

1. Have I answered your questions well, or would you like me to clarify something?
2. Do you have any hesitations about my qualifications?
3. What would you like the person in this position to achieve in six months/a year/five years?
4. What do you think is the biggest challenge in this position?
5. What are the most important qualities to excel in the role?
6. Does the company [school district] offer further training and continued access to education?
7. What do you enjoy most in working for the [school district]?
8. How does the position help the [school] meet its objectives?
9. Is there anything else you’d like me to do at this point?

Luenendonk comments: “At the end of the interview, the interviewer will often throw the ball in your court and ask you if you have any questions. It’s important that you don’t say ‘No’ but ask a few insightful questions that not only help you learn more but also tell the interviewer more about the reasons you’re right for the job.”

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Only a Few Days Left to Register for NafME 2019 Collegiate Advocacy Summit

<https://nafme.org/advocacy/nafme-collegiate-advocacy-summit/>

PCMEA members have the opportunity to participate in a NafME mentoring and professional development project that will "empower you to be the advocate you need to be – for yourself and for your students."

NafME invites you to "explore the nation's capital with your peer collegiate leaders from across the country while you learn about the latest federal policies impacting music education." On **June 17-19, 2019**, you will receive advocacy and leadership training that "you can take back to share with your chapter and use in your career and go behind the scenes as we meet face-to-face with legislators and their staffs in the United States Capitol."



Do you see yourself here?
2019 NafME Collegiate Advocacy Summit
June 17-19, 2019 in Washington D.C.
#NafMEHD19

Alert: Friday, May 31, is the deadline to sign-up. More information can be found at the above link or download this flier: <https://nafme.org/wp-content/files/2019/02/2019-Collegiate-Advocacy-Summit-Full-page.pdf>.

Collegiates – You Snooze, You Lose!

<https://paulfox.blog/2018/07/05/summertime-prep-for-music-ed-majors/>

Did you see this article last year – "**Summertime Prep for Music Ed Majors?**" If not, answer another question: "Are you ever completely 'on vacation' from music education?"

Click on the link above. During the recess (after a suitable break from all those academic pressures and solo/ensemble rehearsals), take time to rejuvenate and renew your pedagogical knowledge and skills. Try to "keep your eyes on the target" and squeeze in a few of these self-improvement plans around your vacation trips (read the details of these seven lessons in the blog-post):

1. Summer practicum
2. Conferences
3. Online research
4. Skill gap-filling
5. Ethics training
6. Digital archiving
7. Interview prep

Many have said that aspiring to be a music educator is a lot like a "calling." Using your summer "free time" is all about "professional engagement." One of my superintendents said he expected prospective new music teacher recruits to show high energy, enthusiasm, sense of purpose, and dedication during the interview... even a supposed willingness to "lay down in front of a school bus" or "do whatever it takes" to make the students (and the educational program) successful. Regardless of the hyperbole, that's **engagement!**

So, what are you waiting for? Pass the sunscreen and the iced tea. Then, after a quick swim, jog, round of golf, or game of tennis, get started on your **summer assignments!** — Paul K. Fox

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"M" is for Mentorship

"Mentoring New Music Teachers for Lifelong Success in the Profession"

by Michael D. Stone in NAFME *Music in a Minuet*: <https://nafme.org/mentoring-new-music-teachers-lifelong-success-profession/>

Do you have a *dial-a-mentor*? From role models to professional learning communities, Michael Stone (Past President of California Music Educators Association and California Band Directors Association) "dives into" several points for establishing support systems for rookie music teachers:

1. Professional relationships are key.
2. Professional learning communities provide structure for support of new music teachers.
3. Provide young teachers with the opportunity to share their expertise.
4. Professional organizations must help to facilitate mentorship relationships.

"Embracing and Mentoring the New Music Educator"

by Mary Correia in NAFME *Music in a Minuet*: <https://nafme.org/embracing-and-mentoring-the-new-music-educator/>

Approaching the topic from a different direction, Mary Correia provides tips on starting a mentoring program, including sample documentation:

- Ascertaining mentors
- Mentor cover letter
- Mentor questionnaire
- Ascertaining facilitator
- Ascertaining mentees
- Meeting invitation
- Membership questionnaire
- Other: meeting dates, discussion topics, agendas, guest speakers, and advertising



Did you know that since 2005, **PMEA offers its own mentor program**? Peruse this link:

<https://www.pmea.net/focus-areas/mentor-program/>.

Several additional articles on mentoring pre-service and recently hired music teachers:

- "Friendship as Mentorship – Colleagues Can Be Your Best Resource Professionally and Personally" by Lori Schwartz Reichl <https://nafme.org/friendship-as-mentorship/>
- "How My Mentor Saved My Professional Life" by Chris Gleason <https://nafme.org/mentor-saved-professional-life/>
- "Mentoring Tips" from *Edutopia* (Teacher Development) <https://www.edutopia.org/mentoring-tips>
- "Mentorship: Teaching the Teachers" by Shira Loewenstein from *Edutopia* (New Teachers) <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/teach-the-teachers-shira-loewenstein>

It's time...

...to "Re-Up" Your PMEA/PCMEA Membership

<https://www.pmea.net/membership-information/>

...to Register for the PMEA Summer Conference

July 16-17, 2019 at the Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg/Hershey

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