

# MENC Northwest Division Conference 2009



## *Spokane, Washington* Session Descriptions Sunday, February 15



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The MENC Northwest Division and WMEA (Washington) present more than 160 sessions, concerts and other events at the 2009 MENC Northwest Division/WMEA Conference in Spokane. Participants from 30 states and Canada will share their expertise with our delegates and students.

The Northwest Division portion of the conference concludes on Sunday with some very special events. New this year, there will be limited sessions during the All-Northwest Concerts to allow teachers from other subject areas as well as those who may be staying for the Washington All-State Concert on Monday to have workshops available.

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

### **MENC NW Event**

#### ***Gospel Breakfast***

Come join your colleagues for food, music and worship. Gospel vocalist Elisha Mitchell and pianist Brent Edstrom provide the uplifting music to help start your day off right. Admission by ticket only.

1:00 PM-3:00 PM

### **MENC NW Event**

#### ***MENC All-Northwest Gala Choral Concert***

Admission by ticket only.

Performing Groups: MENC All-Northwest Mixed Choir, Randall Stroope, Conductor  
MENC All-Northwest Women's Choir, Sarah Graham, Conductor

1:15 PM-2:15 PM

### **General Interest**

#### ***But I Don't Have 10,000 Hours! Small Group Practice Techniques that Share Improvement***

Presenter: Scott Backus, Tyee Middle School, Bellevue WA

Practical applications for high school and later-middle school shared improvement via sectionals or mini-ensembles breaking out to practice repertoire excerpts: both instrumental and vocal techniques. Ideas for use 3-4 times over a term to display assessment and clear, significant improvement. Handouts for vocal and instrumental include descriptions, technique applications/sectional feedback forms/assessment grids.

### **General Interest**

#### ***Upgrade Your Band, Orchestra or Choir: Cutting-Edge Composition for the 21st Century***

Presenter: Jack Halm, Bellevue School District, Bellevue WA  
Aaron Faletto, Bellevue School District, Bellevue WA

This session will introduce you to composition software for use with your band, orchestra or choir. We will give you the tools to get started, including How-Tos, worksheets, lessons and approaches to composing. You'll hear student samples from grades 6-12, and walk-through the actual composing procedure. Take your students' basic knowledge of music elements and expand their horizons!

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1:15 PM-2:15 PM (Continued)

### **Teacher Education, CMENC**

#### ***Getting to the Interview: Resumes and Cover Letters***

Presenter: Catherine Pollard, University of Washington, Seattle WA

Handbooks and career centers can be helpful in creating resumes but sometimes do not know how to tailor them to music educators. Participants will learn strategies for crafting concise, but useful cover letters as well as creating effective K-12 resumes. This session will be helpful for preservice music teachers and university supervisors who guide the job process.

2:30 PM-3:30 PM

### **Band**

#### ***Playing the Repertoire Game: Choosing the Best Literature for Your Groups***

Presenter: Devin Otto, Eastern Washington University, Cheney WA

One of the fundamental errors made by music educators (especially younger ones!) is choosing literature that is too difficult or does not fit their groups well. This session will discuss how to choose repertoire for middle- and high-school groups that challenges students while remaining attainable. Examples will be given, possibly along with demonstrations.

### **Orchestra**

#### ***Classroom-Based Performance Assessment for Strings***

Presenter: Lanette Shepherd, Monticello Middle School, Longview WA

Connie Noakes, Monticello Middle School, Longview WA

Classroom Based Performance Assessments tailored for instrumental students with an emphasis on bowed stringed instruments. Rubrics for various string techniques, such as vibrato, shifting, bow hand posture, left hand posture, styles of bowing, tone quality and intonation as well as rubrics for rehearsal readiness and etiquette.

4:00 PM-6:00 PM

### **MENC NW Event**

#### ***MENC All-Northwest Gala Instrumental Concert***

Admission by ticket only.

Performing Group: MENC All-Northwest Band, Gary Green, Conductor  
MENC All-Northwest Orchestra, Gerard Schwarz, Conductor

4:15 PM-5:15 PM

### **Administration**

#### ***Washington State Arts Grade Level Expectations- All Students Learning Music in Our Schools***

Presenter: AnnRene Joseph, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Olympia WA

Arts Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) will be "on view" for one year of feedback from the field, beginning in January 2009. This session will share the website where the field can view the documents for use and provide feedback as to what we want students to know and be able to do in Washington state in music education.

### **Choir**

#### ***Ruining Voices? How to Audition and Place Singers in Your Choir***

Presenter: Randel Wagner, Eastern Washington University, Cheney WA

Avoid damaging voices through proper classification and placement. Learn ways of determining voice types and abilities of singers (changed voices and older) for the choral ensemble.

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4:15 PM-5:15 PM

### **Elementary**

#### ***Technology in the Music Classroom... Re-enforcing Music Concepts***

Presenter: **Tamie King, Spokane Public Schools, Spokane WA**

Students learn their EALRS, e.g. rhythm, pitch, form, timbre, through music software. Students are given assignments, re-enforcing music concepts, to create and download their compositions. These are evaluated by their peers and teacher. Each student works on a laptop, and the teacher models the assignment. The participant then works at his/her own pace to complete each assignment. Also...how to incorporate technology in your 1-3 music classroom.

### **Elementary**

#### ***Active Listening Gets Kids Hooked on Great Music***

Presenter: **Kirk Kassner, Surprise Lake Middle School, Fife WA**

Students need guidance to know the historical and cultural contexts of music pieces, specific events to listen for and how to make musical sense of what composers intended. Active listening involves movement, and it also enhances students' musical sensitivities, which transfer when they perform other music.

6:30 PM-9:30 PM

### **MENC NW Event**

#### ***MENC Northwest Conference Celebration***

All delegates are encouraged to attend this social finale to the 2009 MENC Northwest Division Conference. Admission by ticket only.

Performing Groups: **Central Washington University Vocal Jazz I, Ellensburg WA, Vijay Singh, Conductor**  
**University of Idaho Jazz Band I, Moscow ID, Vern Sielert, Conductor**