



SLCMEA Staff Day 2025

March 21st, 2025
8:00am-3:00pm

Parishville-Hopkinton Central School
12 County Route 47
Parishville, NY 13672



CO-SPONSORED BY THE
ST. LAWRENCE VALLEY
TEACHERS' LEARNING CENTER

Registration & Payment Deadline:
Friday, March 7th, 2025

To register, go to:
<https://slcmea.org/staffday25>

Contact: Matthew Snyder
msnyder@mcs.k12.ny.us

Registration Fee:
\$20 for Non-SLCMEA Members
\$10 for College Students
Free for SLCMEA Members

This is a CTLE Hour approved day. Be sure to register on MyLearningPlan for district approval.

Checks should be payable to "SLCMEA".
All payments should be sent to:

Morristown Central School
408 Gouverneur St.
Morristown, NY 13664
ATTN: Jessica Bogart, Band Teacher



Sessions and Times - Master Schedule -

8:00am-8:15am Registration and Refreshments	
8:15am-9:00am Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward	
9:00am-10:30am ⇒ <i>Trumpet Talk</i>	9:00am-10:30am ⇒ <i>Introduction to Orff Schulwerk</i>
- or -	- or -
⇒ <i>Roundtable for String Teachers</i>	⇒ <i>Imagery to Build Kinesthetic Sense and Awaken Vocal Potential</i>
10:30am-12:00pm ⇒ <i>All Blues – and After That!: Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education</i>	10:30am-12:00pm ⇒ <i>Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools</i>
12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch	
1:00pm-3:00pm ⇒ <i>Revisiting the Conductor’s Tool Kit</i>	1:00pm-3:00pm <i>Kpanlogo: Drumming & Dancing in the Music Classroom</i>



Sessions and Times - Breakdown -

Band Track	
8:00am-8:15am	Registration and Refreshments
8:15am-9:00am	Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward
9:00am-10:30am	<i>Trumpet Talk</i>
10:30am-12:00pm	<i>All Blues – and After That!: Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education</i> - or - <i>Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools</i>
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:00pm	<i>Revisiting the Conductor’s Tool Kit</i>

Orchestra Track	
8:00am-8:15am	Registration and Refreshments
8:15am-9:00am	Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward
9:00am-10:30am	<i>Roundtable for String Teachers</i>
10:30am-12:00pm	<i>All Blues – and After That!: Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education</i> - or - <i>Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools</i>
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:00pm	<i>Revisiting the Conductor’s Tool Kit</i>

Sessions and Times - Breakdown -

Choral Track	
8:00am-8:15am	Registration and Refreshments
8:15am-9:00am	Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward
9:00am-10:30am	<i>Imagery to Build Kinesthetic Sense and Awaken Vocal Potential</i>
10:30am-12:00pm	<i>All Blues – and After That!: Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education</i> - or - <i>Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools</i>
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:00pm	<i>Kpanlogo: Drumming & Dancing in the Music Classroom</i>

General Music Track	
8:00am-8:15am	Registration and Refreshments
8:15am-9:00am	Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward
9:00am-10:30am	<i>Introduction to Orff Schulwerk</i>
10:30am-12:00pm	<i>All Blues – and After That!: Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education</i> - or - <i>Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools</i>
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-3:00pm	<i>Kpanlogo: Drumming & Dancing in the Music Classroom</i>

Session Descriptions

Keynote Speaker: Patrick Ward “Finances: From Year 1 to Retirement”

A guide to help you understand your whole financial picture from the first day to retirement day.

Patrick Ward is a long time Regional Leader with Primerica Financial Services. His expertise includes helping individuals and families prepare for the future by implementing budgeting, debt management, insurance, and investment strategies. He also focuses his business on personal and small business retirement strategies for Middle America.

Patrick, and his wife Liz, are both North Country natives graduating from St. Lawrence Central and Colton-Pierrepoint. They recently relocated with their 6 children to Naples, Florida to build a business in the south, while continuing to be an available resource for families and businesses in the north country.

“Trumpet Talk”

A discussion of various pedagogical topics for school trumpeters, including embouchure, range development, articulation, tuning and intuition issues, equipment selection, methods for advancing trumpet players, maintenance tips.

Glenn Roberts is director of bands at Lisbon Central School and serves as an adjunct instructor of brass at St. Lawrence University. As a trumpet player, Mr. Roberts is an active member of the Northern Symphonic Winds and has also performed with The Orchestra of Northern New York, as well as for area school musicals. Mr. Roberts has been published in both the International Trumpet Guild Youth column and the New York State Band Directors Association publication, The Bandstand. Glenn Roberts maintains active membership in both the ITG and NYSBDA.

Session Descriptions

“Introduction to Orff Schulwerk”

This session will introduce elementary teachers to the basics of the Orff Schulwerk process. Have you ever wondered what to do with the different-sized xylophones in your classroom? Or pondered over a bordun? Or has your administration asked you to add more literature to your lessons? The Orff process is one way to incorporate differentiation, improvisation, literacy, and kinesthetic learning easily into lessons you already do. Foster musical independence through body percussion, recorder, speech patterns, and pitched and unpitched percussion as well as dramatic play. Join us and take home new lesson ideas to integrate into your primary music classroom in this beginning Orff session.

Kay Caldwell currently teaches PreK-7th grade general music at Colton-Pierrepont Central School as well as beginning band and chorus where she has taught for the last 15 years. She received her B.M. at Furman University and M.M. at Louisiana State University and taught in Covington Independent Schools in Kentucky after graduation. She received her Orff Schulwerk Level I at University of Louisville. Upon moving to the North Country, she worked in Arts Administration at The Crane School of Music and later in the teacher certification office at SUNY Potsdam. At Colton-Pierrepont she has played active roles on the Mentor, Earth Week, Angel Tree, DEI, and District Team committees. As an oboist, she has performed with various St. Lawrence University ensembles and Northern Symphonic Winds. Mrs. Caldwell resides in Canton, NY with her family.



Session Descriptions

Round Table for String Teachers

Join other orchestra teachers to have a conversation about all things strings in the north country! Let's get together to get to know each other and share our best practices. Our discussion can include (but is not limited to) topics such as recruitment, retention, and curriculum. Bring things you want to talk about that are specific to what WE do. This is our chance to talk shop with our people!

Jill Savage is the Orchestra Director at Potsdam Central Schools and teaches all strings in grades 4-12. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia, and her Master of Music in Violin Performance from the Crane School of Music where she studied with John Lindsey. Jill is currently a member of the Orchestra of Northern New York. Past orchestral credits include the Erie Philharmonic, the Erie Chamber Orchestra, the Erie Civic Ballet Orchestra, and the Fredonia Chamber Players. She began teaching strings in the public schools in 1990.

“Imagery to Build Kinesthetic Sense and Awaken Vocal Potential”

Margaret Chalker, soprano, Visiting Assistant Professor Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam, 2017-

- ◆ Soloist, Zurich Opera House, 1987-2012
- ◆ Soloist, Deutsche Oper am Rhein, March 1985-July 1987
- ◆ American experiences with many orchestras and Opera Companies including 3 seasons at Mostly Mozart Festival, Lincoln Center 1974- 1990's
- ◆ Numerous recitals and concerts at Crane and with ONNY
- ◆ Associate Professor of Voice, SUNY Fredonia 1979-1981
- ◆ Masters in Performance Syracuse University, 1979 with Grad asst.- 24 Music Theater and Music Industry students
- ◆ Intermediate School Music, Seneca Falls, NY. 1976 (Spring semester and Fall Semester)
- ◆ Independent study in Milan, Italy 1975
- ◆ Bachelor of Music Education, Baldwin-Wallace College 1974

Session Descriptions

Ms. Chalker has performed and taught her entire life. Balancing the two has given her a wealth of knowledge about Performance practices and vocal technique.

For our sessions, she plans to discuss both Performance Practices and technical aspects of producing different vocal sounds for the different genres. Participants should be prepared to make some music themselves and should wear comfortable clothing. We will try some games designed to free young singers from their Inhibitions.

“All Blues – and After That! Proven-to-Emerging Pedagogies in Jazz and Modern Band Education”

Jazz in the public schools began to emerge in the years following WWII as returning veterans – who had been musicians in service bands – began pursuing jazz degrees from colleges and universities via the GI Bill. In 1967, Stan Kenton spoke at the Tanglewood Education Symposium on the value of jazz education in school band programs and Jamey Aebersold released his first play-along recording and book set. Since that time, enormous growth has been realized in jazz education at all levels.

Canton Central School already had a Jazz Band (formerly referred to as Stage Band) when I was hired as the Grade 7-12 instrumental music instructor in 1998. In 2000, a trombonist asked if we could form a Jazz Combo – which we did. By 2004, it was evident that more students wanted to experience the expanded opportunities provided by that configuration, so we started the Improv Lab. This ensemble proved to serve students of varying experience and ability levels quite effectively and was added to the list of ensembles offered by St. Lawrence University in 2007. Meanwhile, back at the high school, the Improv Lab evolved into what we called Music Alternatives as the musical interests of the students were leading the character of the material in new and different directions. As we have all witnessed in subsequent years, there has been great growth in the recognition

Session Descriptions

and acceptance in public school music programs of these types of student-centered musical experiences.

In today’s session, we hope to share what we know to work in delivering jazz and modern band experiences to our students. We will begin with the tried-and-true approaches of jazz education developed over the past 60-70 years (and beyond that, actually) and move into the newer areas of modern band instructional methodologies being explored by some of our colleagues from the county. This session is designed to be participatory in nature. Everyone is invited to bring an instrument of your choice - and will be encouraged to play along with us!

Tim Savage grew up slightly south of Malone, NY skiing, riding horses, and playing the trumpet. He began performing professionally at the age of 16 and started directing jazz groups at the age of 20 while attending the Crane School of Music. The past four decades have provided Tim with opportunities to be part of a beautiful family with wife Jill and daughters Kaitlin and Abigail, perform professionally and teach in a variety of public school and university settings, and serve in arts administration capacities with NYSSMA, NYSBDA, and the Orchestra of Northern New York. He is grateful to SLCMEA for inviting him to today’s event and appreciative of all participants and attendees involved in today’s session.

“Acoustic Pianos in Our Schools”

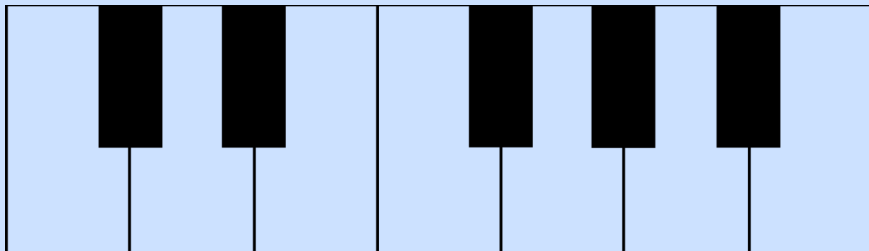
The music teacher is the resident expert resource for all musical needs. In this session, you will learn your responsibilities as a caretaker of your school's pianos. From proactive steps (budgeting and scheduling maintenance, accusation of new pianos, humidity control), to understanding your resources (Piano Technicians Guild, piano retailers, piano rebuilders, literature & websites), to quick-fixes to get you through the day before your technician can arrive (muting a "bad" string, removing a pencil from the action), this class will give you the confidence you need to be the resident expert in piano care your school expects you to be!

Session Descriptions

Ryan Mix presently serves as the Senior Piano Technician for the Crane School of Music and manages the service needs of over 100 Steinway pianos. Ryan draws on experiences from a wide range of education and employment. He has taught beginning band and orchestra, and helped adults needing various degrees of in-home and community living support while working toward their independence.

Ryan first began to develop interest in the field of piano technology while working as a Stage Technician at the Tanglewood Music Center (Lenox, MA). His formal training is rooted in large music schools: The University of Western Ontario (London, ON) where he earned a Certificate in Piano Technology and Florida State University (Tallahassee, FL) where he earned his Master's in Music in Piano Technology and spent one year walking tight wire in the collegiate Flying High Circus. He then served as the Piano Technician at Luther College (Decorah, IA), managing nearly 100 pianos and planned for their piano rebuilding and replacement endeavors. Ryan has studied and worked extensively with the unique challenges of large piano inventory management. He also takes pride in offering exceptional concert service for Music Mountain (Falls Village, CT) and Tanglewood, and has rebuilt actions for Steinways and other fine pianos at Flynn Pianos (Great Barrington, MA).

Ryan maintains an active membership as a Registered Piano Technician with the Piano Technicians Guild. Ryan currently lives in Potsdam, walks to work, and is dedicated to advancing the musical arts in the community.



Session Descriptions

“Revisiting The Conductor’s Tool Kit: A Professional Development Workshop”

As music teachers and conductors, we spend most of our instructional time placing students at the center of the experience. In fostering student growth, we sometimes overlook the fact that if we looked inward to develop our own metaphorical “took kit” of conducting, we might be able to achieve more specific musical results sooner, while also increasing student ownership of musical elements.

This hands-on experiential workshop will focus upon elements of conducting proven to solicit specific musical results. Whether the music teacher is a workshop ensemble performer or workshop conductor, all participants will come away with several strategies for connecting their gesture to music, and for increasing student ownership of music elements.

Brian K. Doyle joined the Crane School of Music faculty as Director of Bands in 2006. He conducts the Crane Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band, and also teaches courses in conducting. A graduate of Michigan State University, his principal teachers included John Whitwell, Joseph Lulloff and James Forger. Doyle later received the AMusD in Wind Conducting under the mentorship of Michael Haithcock at the University of Michigan.

Prior to completing his undergraduate degree in Music Education, Doyle served for two years in the United States Air Force as a saxophonist in the 745th Air Force Band at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. Returning to Michigan State University, Doyle was a member of the award-winning Borealis Saxophone Quartet, taking top honors at the Coleman, Carmel, and Fischhoff Chamber Music competitions in the early 1990s. At that time, he also performed in ensembles backing touring musicians such as Bob Hope, Bernadette Peters, Mel Torme, Jeffrey Osborne, Roberta Flack, and Tommy Tune. Additionally, as an active member of the mid-Michigan music scene, Doyle performed in several big bands as well as the salsa band, Orquesta Tradiçion Latina.

Session Descriptions

Dr. Doyle's former teaching posts include faculty positions at Indiana University, UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke University, and as a grade 5-12 public school music educator in Imlay City, MI. While in North Carolina, Dr. Doyle served as the resident conductor of the Triangle British Brass Band and performed regularly as saxophonist with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. For ten summers, Dr. Doyle conducted ensembles at the renowned Interlochen Arts Camp. Dr. Doyle now spends his summers as the conductor of the Crane Youth Music Wind Ensemble. During the year, he is in regular demand as a clinician and conductor.

In March 2016, Dr. Doyle was honored by his peers in the profession by being elected into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Since 2020 he has been a member of that institution's IDEA Committee (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Action). He also is an active member of the College Band Directors National Association, serving on the organization's Music Education Committee from 2013-2021.

Students in the Crane Bands consistently receive opportunities to engage with leaders in the profession and with the music and composers of our time. Recent guests include Julie Giroux, Jacob Collier, Mallory Thompson, H. Robert Reynolds, Joe Alessi, John Whitwell, Michael Haithcock, Frank Battisti, and Gunther Schuller. The CWE performs at least two consortium or world premieres annually, including works by Joni Greene, Carlos Simon, Erika Svanoë, David Maslanka, Paolo Ugoletti, Stacy Garrop, Steven Bryant, Roshanne Etezady, David Heinick, Kristin Kuster, Andre Previn, Joel Puckett, D.J Sparr, and Gregory Wanamaker. Composers-in-Residence have included Stacy Garrop, Gunther Schuller, Dan Welcher, Joel Puckett, Roshanne Etezady, and Kristen Kuster.

The CWE regularly performs at the New York State Band Directors Association Symposium (NYSBDA) and at the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Winter Conference. They also received invitations to perform at the Eastern Division Conference of CBDNA in 2015 and 2020. Recent recording projects include *Adirondack Songs (2014)*.

Session Descriptions

“Kpanlogo: Drumming & Dancing In the Music Classroom”

In this interactive session, we'll learn Kpanlogo from the Ga people of Ghana, West Africa -- that means drumming, dancing, and singing Kpanlogo, as taught by Sulley Imoro and Alhassan Iddrisu. We'll honor, celebrate, and connect you with Ghanaian master teachers, so you can mindfully teach about Ghanaian culture in your classroom. If you want to build community and embrace vulnerability through a drumming and dancing unit, this is for you! While this session is designed for any music teacher leading 3rd through 12th grade students, all are welcome. Drums will be provided, and feel free to bring your own drum!

Katherine Gould is a music, theatre, and dance educator based in Ithaca, NY. Now the vocal and general music teacher at Caroline Elementary in Ithaca, Katherine was previously the middle school chorus director at Owego Apalachin Middle School. Katherine received her B.M. in Music Education from Ithaca College, and her M.A. in Music Education from Teachers College at Columbia University. After originally learning about Ghanaian music and dance through Dr. Baruch Whitehead at Ithaca College, she studied Ghanaian music with Sulley Imoro and Alhassan Iddrisu in Medie, Ghana, and continues to study with other master teachers in the U.S. She has presented at local and state conferences, including the NYSSMA Winter Conference, on choral techniques for middle school and Ghanaian drumming and dance in the general music classroom. Her goal in learning environments is to foster a brave and supportive space, where music is a vehicle to explore identity and creativity, to cultivate self-confidence, community, and social consciousness. Thank you to the members of SLCMEA for the invitation, and for the preparation that went into today!

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you goes out the St. Lawrence Valley Teachers' Learning Center who has, and continues to, support the music programs and the teachers of not only St. Lawrence County but of the North Country of Northern New York. Your continued support for the arts is essential, well-received and appreciated by all.

Special Thank You To:

Our friends and colleagues, Andrea Ellison and Don Cannamela, and Parishville-Hopkinton Central School for hosting our event year after year. Your hospitality is comforting and appreciated!

School Administrators for supporting your music teachers in attending one of the very few content-specific professional development days in the state.

Massena Central School and the MCS Print Shop

