

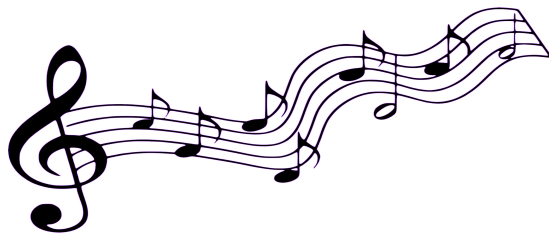
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION

SLCMEA STAFF DAY 2024

REGISTER: <https://slcmea.org/staffday24>

March 15th, 2024

8:00am-3:00pm



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

LOCATION:

**PARISHVILLE-
HOPKINTON
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

12 County Route 47
Parishville, NY 13672

Registration and Payment Deadline:

March 8, 2024

Contact: Laura Gilbert
lgilbert@mcsk12.org

Checks should be made out to SLCMEA
Please send payments to:

Jessica Bogart
408 Gouverneur St.
Morristown, NY 13664

*Also available on My Learning Plan to track CTLE approved hours with
your school districts

\$20 Registration Fee for
non-SLCMEA
Members

\$10 Registration Fee for
College Students

Registration will begin at
8:00am

*Also available on My Learning
Plan to track CTLE approved
hours with your school districts

SESSIONS and TIMES

8:00-8:15 Registration and Refreshments

8:15-9:00 Keynote Speaker: Russ Faunce

9:00-10:30

Mallets - "Who Knew!?"
"DIY - Selection & Repair"

9:00-10:30 (choose one of the following)

- General Music Roundtable

- How School Culture Affects Your Pull Out
Lesson Attendance & How to Keep the Kids
Out of the Middle

10:30-12:00

"Taming The Beast We Call,
The Saxophone"

10:30-12:00 (choose one of the following)

- Play and Sing with Ease: The Alexander
Technique for Musicians with Beth Robinson

- Surviving and Thriving with Classroom Guitar

12:00-1:00 LUNCH

1:00-3:00 (choose one of the following):

- Emerging Diverse Repertoire: Band Music Reading Session with Matthew Snyder
- Choral Music Reading Session with Brianne Sterling: "Doable, Singable and Loveable!"

*****Continue to next page for Alternate View of Schedule, Session Descriptions and Bios*****

	Band
8:00-8:15	Registration
8:15-9:00	Keynote Speaker: Russ Faunce
9:00-10:30	Mallets - "Who Knew!?" "DIY-Selection and Repair" w/Jonathan Hunkins
10:30-12:00	Taming the Beast We Call, The Saxophone w/Michael Draper
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-3:00	Emerging Diverse Repertoire: JW Pepper - Matt Snyder

	Choral/ Orchestra
8:00-8:15	Registration
8:15-9:00	Keynote Speaker: Russ Faunce
9:00-10:30	How School Culture Affects Your Pull Out Lesson Attendance...w/ Kimberly Busch
10:30-11:00	Play and Sing with Ease - Alexander Technique for Musicians with Beth Robinson
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-3:00	Choral Reading Session - "Doable, Singable and Loveable with Brianne Sterling

	General Music/Choral
8:00-8:15	Registration
8:15-9:00	Keynote Speaker: Russ Faunce
9:00-10:30	General Music Roundtable with Kay Caldwell
10:30-11:00	Classroom Guitar with Matt Gayle
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-3:00	Choral or Band Reading Session

*****Continue to next page for Session Descriptions and Bios*****

Keynote Speaker: Russ Faunce
“NYSSMA Update”

DESCRIPTION

Serving now as the immediate past-president of the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA), Russ Faunce will be joining us to give an update on general business of the NYSSMA organization, as well as how they are working to serve rural schools like those in St. Lawrence County. He will also share how NYSSMA's work with their Belonging, Equity, Diversity and Representation initiative has helped to spread the word about inclusivity and accessibility within our local, state and national music education organization.

BIO Russell Faunce recently completed his term as President of NYSSMA, and now is serving in the role as past president. After graduating with both his bachelor's and master's degrees from The Crane School of Music, Russ went on to establish a successful 34-year choral teaching career in the Watertown City Schools. During his tenure, he developed an extensive background in choral music, music theory, class piano and musical theatre. His choirs regularly received “gold with distinction” ratings at NYSSMA festivals, and he traveled with them for honor performances in California, Florida, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York City.

NYSSMA has been an integral part of Russ' career. He served as the NYSSMA Zone 5 regional representative for two six-year terms, which enabled him to promote the efforts of North Country music educators and students. He also acted as the NYSSMA All-State choral chair in 2006 and 2007, and he continues to be an All-State adjudicator for voice, piano and choral major organization categories. Russ' long standing tenure with NYSSMA has enabled the organization to use Russ' talents and expertise in the roles of 2ndVP, President-Elect, and President all demonstrating his dedication to the advancement and success of music education across New York State.

After retiring from the traditional classroom in 2015, Russ continues to serve music education by teaching privately, serving as a college facilitator for student teachers at the Crane School of Music and instructing various introductory music classes at Jefferson Community College.

Mallets - "Who Knew!?" "DIY - Selection & Repair"

DESCRIPTION

Choosing the correct performance mallets can often seem an insurmountable task if you are not familiar with the percussionist's plethora of mallet resources. With generic terms such as "Hard Mallets" listed on a piece, this can often complicate the situation. Coupled with the cost of expensive mallets on a tight school budget, this can often leave those important details overlooked on a solo type instrument that greatly affects the sound of a piece.

No worries! This workshop will take you through each percussion instrument and available mallet choices from various vendors to help you in your selection. Lastly, and probably most important, it will teach you how to repair/make your own mallets from inexpensive resources commonly found at home or in your local hardware/box stores.

BIO

Jonathan Hunkins is a retired Music Department Chairman and Director of Bands at the Massena Central High School where his responsibilities included the high school concert band, marching band, jazz ensemble, pep band, percussion ensemble and music theory. A 1992 graduate of Ithaca College, Mr. Hunkins earned a B.M. degree with high honors double majoring in Music Education and Music Performance with a percussion concentration. Mr. Hunkins later completed his M.S. degree with honors in Music Education from the Crane School of Music, SUNY at Potsdam, NY in 1996. Mr. Hunkins was also awarded the National Band Association's "Citation of Excellence" in 2021.

Mr. Hunkins frequently performs throughout the North Country as a percussionist including such groups as the Orchestra of Northern NY, Northern Symphonic Winds, local Rock/Blues/Folk bands, and the Norwood Brass Fireman since 1985. Mr. Hunkins also frequently guest conducts both concert bands and jazz ensembles. He is an active NYSSMA and NYSBDA member and served as the NYSSMA Zone 5 Representative for the Tri-County area in upstate NY from 2016-2021. Mr. Hunkins is also a past Board of Education member for the Norwood-Norfolk Central School District for 12 years as well as sitting on the board for the Norwood Village Green Concert Series. Mr. Hunkins is also an active clinician in the areas of conducting, percussion, and technology throughout the state.

“How School Culture Affects Your Pull Out Lesson Attendance & How to Keep the Kids Out of the Middle”

DESCRIPTION

Pull-out vocal and instrumental lessons at the Middle & High School level play an integral role in an effective and comprehensive music program. Understanding why your students fail to attend these lessons is the first step in solving the problem of low attendance and strengthening your program. We will explore the reasons why you may have low lesson attendance and how you can begin to turn things around. Please bring your experiences, suggestions and stories which could shed light on how to deal with unsupportive colleagues in the general education world and strengthen relationships and support for your program throughout the school community.

A mixture of veteran teachers, beginning teachers and anyone in between will generate the best discussion.

BIO

Kimberly Busch is the Vocal Music director at Canton Central School where she directs choir students in grades 5-12. Kimberly also teaches voice lessons and Technical Theater. She holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from the Crane School of Music in Music Education with a concentration in voice. Mrs. Busch studied with Floyd Callahan. Originally from West Winfield, NY, she has served as guest conductor for the Herkimer County Music Educators' Association and St. Lawrence County Music Educators' Association. In the summer, Kimberly directs musical theater for the Community Performance Series at SUNY Potsdam. Also an avid supporter of the Orchestra of Northern New York, Kimberly is the President of their Board of Directors. She resides in Hannawa Falls with her husband Gary and their two sons.

“General Music Roundtable”

DESCRIPTION

Join other general music educators in sharing favorite lessons, games, songs, activities, or a short unit for PreK to 8th grade general music classes. Participants will leave the session with activity samples and links to an online compilation. Participants can bring hard copies to share or send any links to slide shows, lesson plans, and websites prior to the workshop. If participants wish, part of the session can focus on additional topics such as classroom management strategies and curriculum.

BIO

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 14 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. 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.

“Taming The Beast We Call, The Saxophone”

DESCRIPTION

The saxophone is the most modern instrument in the traditional woodwind family and is still forever changing by further improving mechanics and techniques. During this session professional saxophonists will provide in depth materials, techniques and resources to not only help you teach your saxophonists to successfully shape and develop their sound, but also navigate this ever-changing saxophone landscape, along with tricks and tips they have learned along the way. Skills will be targeted from basic fundamentals that will benefit students of all ages all the way to advanced techniques. There will also be a healthy question and answer portion, so be sure to bring those concerns you have encountered in your saxophone section with you. Participants can expect to leave this session with an extensive list of saxo-centric resources, preferred equipment and repertoire. Bringing a saxophone with you is not mandatory, but encouraged.

BIO

Michael G. Draper graduated summa cum laude from the Crane School of Music in 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in music education, a concentration in jazz studies and a performance certificate having studied under the tutelage of Dr. Christopher Creviston. He also completed the accelerated master of business administration program at Clarkson University with honors in 2012. Since 2013, Mike has been employed by the Massena Central School District first as a K-6 General Music Teacher and Choral Director, then as the 5-6 Band Director and currently as the Director of 7 th and 8 th Grade Bands. As a performer, Mike has played with such groups as Wally Siebel’s All-Star Big Band, the Northern Symphonic Winds, Norwood Brass Fireman, Potsdam Community Band and more. Additionally, Mike frequently performs in local musical productions at the professional, collegiate and high school levels. Mike also serves as the Secretary for the St. Lawrence County Music Educators’ Association, the Chair of the Zone 5 North NYSSMA Festival, a member of the advisory council for the Norwood Brass Fireman, was the founding chair of the SLCMEA All-County Elementary Band and is a past Vice President, Secretary and Board Member for the Orchestra of

Northern New York. Aside from his musical responsibilities, Mike serves as Vice President of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association, President of the Hopkinton Historical Group, Deputy Historian of Hopkinton, Trustee for the Hopkinton Reading Center, Public Announcer for the Massena Varsity Boys' and Girls' Hockey Teams and has also had a number of historical articles published in reputable periodicals both locally and across New England.

Lily Ianaconi is the instrumental music teacher at Franklin Academy High School in the Malone Central School District. She directs two ensembles and woodwind lessons in grades 9-12. Lily is the secretary and immediate past president of the Franklin County Music Educators Association and a NYSSMA woodwind adjudicator. She has served as the Jr. High and Sr. High All-County Concert Band Chairperson as well as the Zone 6 Area All-State Concert Band Chairperson. In Malone, Lily works as the musical producer and pit director for the high school musical productions. Lily has performed in pit orchestras, community bands, and chamber ensembles in the area, as well as with the Northern Symphonic Winds, Adirondack Wind Ensemble, and the Montpelier Chamber Ensemble. Lily has appeared as a clinician at the NYSSMA Winter Conference and the NYSBDA Symposium. Lily has her degrees in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia and studied saxophone with Dr. Wildy Zumwalt and Mr. Michael Reid.

“Play and Sing with Ease - Alexander Technique for Musicians

DESCRIPTION

Musicians perform some of the most complex and demanding physical movements of any profession. What is happening when we “pick up our instrument”, “hold our bow”, “take a breath”, and “focus on the music”? The Alexander Technique helps musicians improve the quality and ease of their actions, and in so doing, helps improve the quality of the music itself. At this introductory workshop we will explore how both our learned habits, and the words we use in regards to singing and playing our instruments, affect the quality of our experience. Through a combination of verbal and hands-on guidance from the teacher, as well as partner and group activities, learn to develop awareness of undue tension. This increased awareness can be applied to both practice and performance. If time permits, we will include a short masterclass component to see these concepts in action.

BIO

Beth Robinson, Certified Alexander Technique Teacher is also a cellist, cello

teacher, and contra dance caller who first discovered the Alexander Technique in 1997 when researching ways to deal with performance anxiety. The Alexander Technique became an invaluable tool to her own love of music and performance, and in 2004 she completed her 1600 hour training at the Montreal Alexander Technique Teacher Training School. Beth teaches lessons, classes and workshops on the Alexander Technique to people of all ages and interests in a variety of venues including: SUNY Potsdam Theatre and Dance and Department, the Crane School of Music, Columbia County Music Teachers Association, CPH Neurology Support Group, Clarkson Physical Therapy and Sports Trainer Programs, Kinney Drugs employee wellness program, Vermont Music Teachers Association, SOAR, The Dance Flurry Festival in Saratoga Springs, Groove Camp in Honesdale, PA., and Maine Fiddle Camp.

“Surviving And Thriving With Classroom Guitar”

DESCRIPTION

Classroom guitar can be an intimidating prospect for a lot of folks (it's like beginning band, but with teenagers that don't get lessons...), but with the right approach it can be a very rewarding experience for both students and teachers alike. In this session I'll share some of the strategies that have worked well in my classroom with some specific focal points on large-group instruction, assessment, and alignment to the state arts standards. Participants should plan to bring a guitar and Chromebook or other mobile device for some hands-on participation. **(If you don't have access to an instrument, please email mgayle@potsdam.k12.ny.us by March 1 and we will provide you with one for the session).**

BIO

Matt Gayle is a graduate of the Crane School of Music, receiving a Bachelor's of Music in Music Education and Musical Studies in 2007. He went on to receive an MA in Musicology from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa where he specialized in film music studies. Matt returned to northern New York in 2009 where he currently teaches Chorus, General Music, and Modern Band at A.A.Kingston Middle School in Potsdam. He also serves as a member of NYSSMA's Curriculum Committee and is a passionate advocate for developing Standards-based music instruction that is relevant and meaningful to all students.

“Emerging Diverse Repertoire” - Reading Session

DESCRIPTION

It is no secret that relevance and equity need to share prioritization in music education; especially in today's classroom. We as educators have a responsibility for diversity regardless of our ethnicity or identity. In case you haven't heard, there is a long history

of wind band repertoire that is written primarily by white men. You may find yourself sometimes focusing on selecting music based on what your students can do or could handle, perhaps revisiting some of the great music you've done in the past, or like myself, know of great works by diverse composers but find yourself not having the knowledge of what's out there that's within the ability of your students which then leads to me falling back into the long history within wind band repertoire. In collaboration with JW Pepper, the goal of this reading session is to provide you a brief list of music works (Gr. 0.5-4.5), written by contemporary emerging diverse composers, highlighting the programmatic notes of each piece through performance. Participants will receive handouts of detailed materials. Note: All music that is provided must be returned to JW Pepper in "sellable condition," meaning no pencil markings, no folds, etc. Here is the link that will be sent out to participants to sign up for their instrument preferences to play: <https://forms.gle/YWeKyBKLWFHy5fEXA>

BIO

Matthew Snyder is a native to Lisbon, NY. He has so far served 7 years teaching all levels of band, holding positions at Belfast Central School, Brasher Falls Central School and is currently the Massena Central School High School Band Teacher. Matt often plays in local pit orchestras, the Potsdam Community Band and the Northern Symphonic Winds. Additionally, he also plays with a country/rock/pop group, *The Dad Bods*, residing primarily in Massena, NY. As a primarily classical saxophonist/educator, he holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Ithaca College ('17) and a Master of Music in Music Education from The Crane School of Music|SUNY Potsdam ('20) in which he has studied with Steven Mauk, Casey Grev and Robert Young. Matt currently resides in Massena with his wife, Melissa, and dog, Cascade.

“Choral Reading Session: Doable, Singable and Loveable!”

DESCRIPTION

Attendees will have the opportunity to read through 15 choral arrangements ranging from simple 2-part appropriate for elementary choirs up through SATB+ appropriate for advanced high school ensembles. Repertoire includes a variety of fresh original music and quality arrangements of popular songs. Each has been carefully selected as a tried and true favorite! Emphasis has been placed on high-success opportunities for pieces that will challenge your students appropriately, but can be successfully done by almost any group.

BIO

Brianne (Wicks) Sterling received her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. She teaches vocal and choral music at Madrid-Waddington High School and serves as the field experience coordinator for the music education program at the Crane School of Music. She lives in Madrid, NY with her husband, daughter, and creatures.