



**Conference**  
STRENGTHENING OUR ROOTS

**APRIL 9-12, 2025**

**KALAHARI | THE POCONOS**

# 2025 PMEA Annual In-Service Conference

APRIL 9-12 | KALAHARI THE POCONOS

## WHY SHOULD MUSIC EDUCATORS ATTEND?

The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association is pleased to offer all music educators an outstanding professional development opportunity at our annual spring in-service conference. Regardless of your area of specialization or stage of your teaching career, by attending the conference you will have the opportunity to gain new pedagogical knowledge, acquire new ideas for reaching and teaching all students in your school, further understand the importance of assessment and advocacy for your program, learn about new products which could enhance your program, and build professional relationships with your PMEA colleagues.

Over eighty sessions will be offered, many given by well-known clinicians in the field of music education. More than thirty-five outstanding performing groups from elementary to university level as well as the All-State Band, Chorus, Contemporary A Cappella, Jazz, Orchestra and Wind Ensemble will perform during the conference. This year's event will also feature the 2nd annual Modern Band Showcase on Thursday, April 10. Make plans to join us as we let the music of the water surround us and bring us together in *Strengthening Our Roots* in music education. Be sure to bring your interest and enthusiasm to the 2025 PMEA Annual In-Service Conference at the Kalahari Convention Center in the Poconos, April 10-12.

### SESSION TOPICS FOR THE 2025 PMEA ANNUAL IN-SERVICE CONFERENCE (AS OF NOV. 25, 2024)

#### ACCESS/BELONGING/DIVERSITY/ EQUITY/INCLUSION

- Accurate Data = More Support For Your Program
- Creating a Positive Place for ALL Learners in General Music
- Decoding the IEP for the Music Classroom
- Development FUNDamentals!: Building Community, Funding All Programs
- Divisive Concept or Student Lifeline?
- More Greatest Hits in Early Childhood Music
- Promoting Purpose through Pedagogy and Programming in your Concert Band
- Singing for Social Justice
- Student Voice + Student Choice = Student Success!
- Supporting Music Learners with Trauma Histories
- Uniting Voices: Full Inclusion of Students with Autism in Ensembles
- Viva el Mariachi: Embrace the Joy of Music Learning, Diversity and Inclusion in the Classroom
- Women in Wind Band: Best Practices for a More Inclusive Future for All

#### CAREER DEVELOPMENT/ TEACHER RESOURCES

- Better Together: A Team-Centered Approach to Teaching Beginning Band and Strings
- Confessions of an AP Reader - Demystifying AP Sight-Singing
- Practical Wisdom for a Great Instrumental Program
- Rhythms of Innovation: Exploring AI in the Music Classroom
- Setting Up Students for Success: Self-regulation Strategies for General Music
- Strategies to Thrive, Not Just Survive: Finding Balance and Satisfaction in Our Profession
- Student Teaching and Beyond: Supporting New Music Teachers Through Mentoring
- Title IX for Music Educators
- To Compete or Not to Compete: That is the Philosophical Question
- The Tongue and Embouchure are the Strongest form of Magic!
- Undivided Attention: Musical Independence in Beginning Instrumental Band and Orchestra from Day One

#### CHORAL

- A Cappella Choir 101: No Experience Necessary
- A Cappella Choir 201: Arranging for Your Singers
- All Mixed Up: Musical Theatre Voice Pedagogy for Choir Directors
- Concert Programming for Gen Z and Beyond
- The Harmony of Voices: Nurturing Vocal Wellness & Registers
- Middle School Choral Students: How Do You Motivate Them?
- Singing for Social Justice
- We Wear Many Hats

#### COLLEGIATE/PCMEA

- Bassoon Pedagogy from Day One
- Bring Your Professor! Strategies for Embedding Social Emotional Learning into Your Music Teacher Education Program
- Concert Programming for Gen Z and Beyond
- Hindsight is 20/20: Advice for Music Education Majors from Student Teachers and New Teachers
- Interviewing Strategies
- Look Both Ways Before You Walk: Navigating the Intersections of Changes in Style, Meter and Tempo
- Practice for the Praxis Music Exams: Ways to Prepare and Be Successful in Passing the Music Tests for Teacher Certification
- Preparing High School Students as Future Music Educators
- We Wear Many Hats

#### COMPOSITION

- Outstanding Compositions
- Two Sides to Every Story: Songwriting Tips and Tricks From an Educator and an Expert

#### CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION/ DEVELOPMENT/ASSESSMENT

- A.I. is Coming, But Not for Your Job!
- Building Confident Improvisers in Elementary General Music
- Integration of Music Industry Courses and Pathways into High School Music Education
- Introduction to Music Performance Assessments
- Modern Band: What, Where, Why and How?
- Music Teachers Teaching Dance
- Rhythms of Innovation: Exploring AI in the Music Classroom
- Striking the Right Notes: Empowering Students for Success in the Sight-Reading Room
- Strings Attached: A Non-Guitarist's Guide to Teaching Modern Music Classes
- Student Voice + Student Choice = Student Success!
- The Tongue and Embouchure are the Strongest form of Magic!
- Undivided Attention: Musical Independence in Beginning Instrumental Band and Orchestra from Day One
- What Do the "R's" in Repertoire Mean to You?
- What's Happening Up There? Understanding the Adolescent Brain

#### EDUCATION IN RURAL/ URBAN SETTINGS

- Different Ways to Play Boomwhackers
- Rurally Rebuilding
- They're Engaged! They're Learning! They're Behaving! Procedures and Manipulatives to Help Your General Music Class Run Smoothly

#### FUNDRAISING

- Development FUNDamentals!: Building Community, Funding All Programs

#### GENERAL MUSIC CLASSROOMS

- All Mixed Up: Musical Theatre Voice Pedagogy for Choir Directors
- Be Musical: How Two Words Revolutionized Engagement and Brought Joy to My Classroom
- Books, Beats and Brilliance
- Building Confident Improvisers in Elementary General Music
- Classroom Ukulele: Sequencing That Leads To Early Success
- Confessions of an AP Reader - Demystifying AP Sight-Singing
- Creating a Positive Place for ALL Learners in General Music
- Different Ways to Play Boomwhackers
- Engaging and Retaining Students in Beginning Band and String Programs
- Folk Dancing with a Twist: Adding Modern Music to the Mix
- Little Ears, Big Impact
- More Greatest Hits in Early Childhood Music
- Music Teachers Teaching Dance
- Our Dance: Gestural Creativity and Connection
- Prepared for Pre-K! Strategies for Teaching the Youngest Learners
- Puppets in General Music: From Classroom Friends to Global Connections
- Setting Up Students for Success: Self regulation strategies for General Music
- Teach Me About Hip Hop
- They're Engaged! They're Learning! They're Behaving! Procedures and Manipulatives to Help Your General Music Class Run Smoothly

#### HEALTH/WELLNESS/ RETIREMENT

- The Harmony of Voices: Nurturing Vocal Wellness & Registers
- Retirement 101: Retiree stories and strategies
- Strategies to Thrive, Not Just Survive: Finding Balance and Satisfaction in Our Profession
- Supporting Music Learners with Trauma Histories

#### HIGHER ED/SMTE/RESEARCH

- Bring Your Professor! Strategies for Embedding Social Emotional Learning into Your Music Teacher Education Program
- Invited Researcher
- Research Forum I (Paper Presentations)
- Research Forum II (Paper Presentations)
- Research Posters
- Research Workshop I
- Research Workshop II
- What's Happening Up There? Understanding the Adolescent Brain

#### INSTRUMENTAL (BAND, JAZZ, STRINGS, ALL AREAS)

- Ableton Basics - How to Make Tracks
- Bassoon Pedagogy from Day One
- Best of Both Worlds: Incorporating Popular Music into Ensembles
- Better Together: A Team-Centered Approach to Teaching Beginning Band and Strings
- Computational Thinking: and the Music Classroom: Concept, Application, Advocacy
- Demystifying Cello Extensions
- Engaging and Retaining Students in Beginning Band and String Programs
- Expressive Conducting: Practical Tips for Expressive Gesture and Performance
- Improving the Ensemble Playing Habits of Your String Players
- Leveling Up Your Clarinetists at Every Level
- Look Both Ways Before You Walk: Navigating the Intersections of Changes in Style, Meter, and Tempo
- Make it, Code It, Play It! Creating Unique Music Teaching Tools
- MORE Innovative Uses of Technology in Your Orchestra Rehearsal
- Practical Wisdom for a Great Instrumental Program
- Promoting Purpose through Pedagogy and Programming in your Concert Band
- Quick Fixes for Developing Cellist
- Rurally Rebuilding
- Score Preparation for Successful Rehearsals: Study and Audiation
- Skill-Building with Games & Challenges in Band & Orchestra
- Start Them Young - Jazz Ensemble for First and Second Year Instrumentalists
- Striking the Right Notes: Empowering Students for Success in the Sight-Reading Room
- Success with School-Community Ensembles: Temple University Night Owls
- Teaching Improvisation Using Jazz Standards
- The Creative Toolbox: Empowering Elementary and Middle Level Band Students to Develop Ensemble Musicianship
- The Habit Loop and Applications to Rehearsal Strategy
- The Show Must Go On: Tips and Techniques for the High School Pitt Orchestra Conductor
- To Compete or Not to Compete: That is the Philosophical Question
- Undivided Attention: Musical Independence in Beginning Instrumental Band and Orchestra from Day One
- Unlocking the Ensemble: Keys to Developing Concert Band Musicianship
- What do the "R's" in Repertoire mean to you?
- Women in Wind Band: Best Practices for a More Inclusive Future for All

#### JAZZ

- Start Them Young - Jazz Ensemble for First and Second Year Instrumentalists
- Teaching Improvisation Using Jazz Standards

#### LEADERSHIP/MENTORING

- Preparing High School Students as Future Music Educators
- Student Teaching and Beyond: Supporting New Music Teachers Through Mentoring

#### MODERN BAND/GUITAR

- Integration of Music Industry Courses and Pathways into High School Music Education
- Modern Band: What, Where, Why and How?
- Strings Attached: A Non-Guitarist's Guide to Teaching Modern Music Classes
- Two Sides to Every Story: Songwriting Tips and Tricks from an Educator and an Expert

#### MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

- A.I. is Coming, But Not for Your Job!
- Ableton Basics - How to Make Tracks
- Make It, Code It, Play It! Creating Unique Music Teaching Tools
- Spreadsheet Tips to Efficiently Run Your Ensembles and Classes

#### MUSICAL THEATRE

- All Mixed Up: Musical Theatre Voice Pedagogy for Choir Directors
- The Show Must Go On: Tips and Techniques for the High School Pit Orchestra Conductor

#### STRINGS

- Computational Thinking and the Music Classroom: Concept, Application, Advocacy
- Demystifying Cello Extensions
- MORE Innovative Uses of Technology in Your Orchestra Rehearsal
- Quick Fixes for the Developing Cellist
- The Habit Loop and Applications to Rehearsal Strategy