

Best of the West Music Festival 2016

Clinic – Conference

Moss Performing Arts Center Colorado Mesa University

Dept./Num. ISED 580: Best of the West Music Clinic, one credit
Course Title: Best of the West Music Clinic
Instructor: Calvin Hofer, with guests: Jack Stamp, Kate Margrave, Brian Margrave,
 Andrew Hitz
Office: Moss Performing Arts Center 001
Email: chofer@coloradomesa.edu
Class Hrs: December 9, 1:00 – 9:00 p.m.
 December 10, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 Consult BOTW schedules for room and times of individual sessions

Credit Hrs: 1 Graduate continuing education credit.
Location: Colorado Mesa University, Moss Performing Arts Center
Office Hrs: By appointment; (970) 248-1163

1. Course Description

This course will engage directors in teaching-learning environments such as rehearsals, clinics and concerts. Directors will attend three concerts, four clinics and observe six hours of rehearsals and sectionals (both bands). Directors will interact with nationally and internationally known artists, glean practical teaching strategies that can be used during their next class period. Examples of topics covered are: rehearsal strategies, choosing literature, brass/woodwind/percussion pedagogy & techniques, performance skills, commissioning new music, teaching musical concepts, curriculum alignment.

2. Course Rationale

Best of the West Music has evolved into a unique festival offering learning opportunities for high school and middle school band directors. Directors who bring students to the festival already attend most of the concerts and clinics as well as observe rehearsals. This course formalizes this experience into a course for attending directors to receive credit for their time and work. Further, directors from middle schools have an opportunity to pursue continuing education attending this clinic/conference.

3. Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to give directors a better understanding of how they can have more effective rehearsals, choose excellent literature, efficiently teach the instruments of the band, obtain better conducting technique/ gestural vocabulary, gain insights from composers, listen to world-class guest artists, witness the rehearsal and world premiere of a new piece, and observe excellent conductor-teachers. Because the topics change from year to year, so too will the objectives of this conference. That said, however, there are over-arching themes/topics that are consistently presented.

4. **Grade Distribution - Pass-Fail**

Optional attendance at CMU Dress Rehearsal with guest composer and artist.

Attendance at all Concerts & Clinics

Observe six hours of BOTW rehearsals, both bands/conductors

Three Page Reflective Paper (for those registering for Graduate Credit)

Due December 14th by 9:00 a.m.

Submit PDF by E-mail to Dr. Hofer: chofer@coloradomesa.edu

5. **Class Schedule**

Friday, Dec. 9th, 1:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Observe Rehearsals & Sectionals

Attend Three Clinics

Attend Evening Concert

Saturday, Dec. 10th, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Attend Master Classes

Attend Two Clinics

Observe Rehearsals

6. **Reflection Paper** (for those registered for Graduate Credit – MUSA 596)

A three-page reflection paper is due by December 14, 2016. Your paper should address what you learned during the festival in general, and more specifically how it can be applied to your teaching. Topics discussed should include, but not be limited to: conducting technique, gestural vocabulary, rehearsal techniques, literature selection, instrumental pedagogy and any other topic pertinent to teaching music through performance in band.

Due 12/14/2016 by 9:00 a.m.

7. **Cost**

ISED Credit - \$45.00

8. **Registration**

Directors register online via the Best of the West website:

<http://www.coloradomesa.edu/music/BOTWSB.html>

Please ensure that you are registered and have paid for the course before your arrival on December 9th.