

Best of the West Music Festival 2017

Clinic

Moss Performing Arts Center Colorado Mesa University

Dept./Num. ISED 580: Best of the West Music Clinic, one continuing education credit;

Course Title: Best of the West Music Clinic

Instructor: Calvin Hofer, with guests: Randall Standridge, Sarah McKoin, Dan Bell,
Thomas Chapman

Office: Moss Performing Arts Center 001

Email: chofer@coloradomesa.edu

Class Hrs: December 8, 1:00 – 9:00 p.m.
December 9, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Consult BOTW schedules for room and times of individual sessions

Credit Hrs: 1 continuing education credit.

Location: Colorado Mesa University, Moss Performing Arts Center

Office Hrs: By appointment; (970) 248-1163
chofer@coloradomesa.edu

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 (three 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 have an opportunity to pursue continuing education credit 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, three bands/conductors

5. **Class Schedule**

Friday, Dec. 8th, 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. Observe Rehearsals & Sectionals
 Attend Three Clinics
 Attend Evening Concert

Saturday, Dec. 9th, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Attend Master Classes
 Attend Two Clinics
 Observe Rehearsals

7. **Cost**

ISED Credit - \$45.00

8. **Registration**

Directors register online via the Best of the West website:
<http://www.coloradomesa.edu/music/festivals-camps/best-west.html>

Please ensure that you are registered and have paid for the course before your arrival on December 8th.