

Educational Clinics and Guest Conducting

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Virginia Allen has conducted professional, civic and student ensembles on stages around the U.S. and in Europe, South America and Asia, including the Washington, Delaware, New York and Louisiana All-State Bands, the PMEA District 12 Orchestra, and the Interlochen High School Symphonic Band. She has presented clinics on the topics listed below at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago; conferences of the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Louisiana, and Nebraska Music Educators Associations; the international conference of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles; the Philadelphia Arts in Education Partnership and the Philadelphia School District; the Professional Institute for Educators at the University of the Arts; the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Western Michigan University.

The Conductor's Part Isn't Always in the Score. The score serves as the conductor's roadmap, yet it provides only a portion of the information a music director needs to successfully lead an ensemble. Explore a range of practical applications on leadership, stage etiquette and conducting technique that you can use to fulfill the multiple roles of a conductor.

Principles of Performance Preparation. School band, chorus and orchestra conductors are professional music *preparers* as well as *performers* who must be sensitive to more than the physical technique of conducting. Learn how to focus on principles that will help you best prepare your performances as if you were going to *listen*, not *conduct*.

A Conductor's Approach to Interpreting Transcriptions for Band. Conductors and instrumentalists face several challenges in selecting appropriate transcriptions and performing them in a way that retains the integrity of the original composition. Learn how to meet these challenges by exploring criteria in selecting transcriptions for performance, as well as strategies for interpreting transcriptions through the demonstration of several excerpts.

Combining Music and Creative Arts in Performance. Combining performing arts, visual arts and literature offers endless creative possibilities, but how can educators most effectively bring these elements together? Examine how the collaborative process works and identify methods to combine sound, visuals, and movement. Learn how to motivate student collaborators, identify available skills and resources, and schedule the activities to result in a collaborative project in the classroom.

Women in the Arts. Although women have been active members of the arts community, their involvement has been often hindered or ignored. Examine how women have overcome a number of social and institutional obstacles in order to enrich our cultural history as composers, performers, patrons, educators and critics.

Reading Sessions of Band, Orchestra or Choral Repertoire. Instrumental and choral music teachers are invited to bring their instruments or voices and read through selected repertoire from a variety of composers and publishers. These sessions provide teachers an opportunity to review and identify new music appropriate for their student ensembles.

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