

Montana Bandmasters Association

Seeley Lake Rendezvous

June 21-24, 2021 at Camp Paxson

“Improved Instruction Through Technology In The Covid Era”

As always, sessions are chosen according to what the MBA membership expresses they want. We ask participants to share quality band music that they have found to be useful in their teaching. Music of varying levels of difficulty will be reviewed and a list of that music will be posted on the MBA website. Dr. Nathan Stark will moderate these sessions and he will also be responsible for your OPI Units or hours of graduate credit earned through Montana State University. Band reading sessions as well as some “TECH” sessions will take place at Seeley-Swan High School. Also, we ask participants to bring some ensemble music to share with us and to perform as we explore material with festival potential. Many of our participants find the opportunity to play different ensemble music quite enjoyable too.

Significant focus this year will be on technology as we continue to adjust to the unpredictability of Covid-19. Several panel sessions are scheduled with moderators including David Barr, Bridget Stepan and other MBA members who will cover “Google Classroom” and “Improved Instruction Through Technology” and other “Tech Talk.” Also, Josh Prewett from the Yamaha Corporation will present “An Overview of Yamaha Software and Apps” and a session on Yamaha’s notation software “DORICO.”

Traditional sessions are scheduled as well. “Music Medics” Matt Wilson will return to present “Instrument Repair Techniques.” Dave Barr will lead “Fun with Yarn & Mallets” as we re-yarn mallets, so remember to bring your old mallets to renew. As many of our participants teach in small districts and are responsible for vocal and general music too, we have asked Dean Peterson to do a session “Help for Band Directors Conducting Choirs” that will include warmups, quality sound production and other helpful tips.

As stated earlier, we face a completely unpredictable situation with the virus. There is a little space left unscheduled if the need arises to address other things that we have not anticipated as well as flexibility in the tech sessions to adapt our Rendezvous schedule to needs that arise.

We hope to see you at Rendezvous 2021!