



About the Afternoon Participant Musicales

Information for Participants and Faculty

On Wednesday and Saturday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:00 we offer an opportunity for participant coached groups to share some of what they have been working on with their fellow participants and faculty in an informal and supportive setting. This is completely optional, and our long-standing CMC policy is that all members of a group must agree that they would like to play on a musicale in order to do so. No participant should ever feel pressured to play in front of others when they would rather not, regardless of the reason.

The emphasis of the Conference is on study and musical growth, rather than gearing up for performance. There is no stigma whatsoever attached to not playing in a musicale or not wanting to play in one. However, our participants are a very supportive bunch and love to hear each other's takes on well-known masterworks as well as less-well-known nooks and crannies of the repertoire, so if your group would enjoy playing a movement in a musicale, please consider doing so.

Every group, every piece being coached at the Conference is by definition a “work-in-progress,” especially considering the condensed schedule. These musicales are not meant to display perfection, nor are they in any way “honors recitals” reserved only for the most experienced and advanced players. On the contrary, *they are open to any group who would like to play*, and they are just for our community. A few clams or even a “reboot” in the middle is absolutely no big deal in this context. It’s just us, after all!

During the second coaching, your coach will raise the topic of whether your group would like to play in the musicale. If the coach does not mention it, please feel free to bring it up. Of course, we ask that you never pressure your fellow participants in either direction, yes or no.

Your group and coach are jointly responsible for completing the musicale participation form correctly and submitting it on time (the coach will know the deadline). In order to allow more groups a chance to play, the movement – as played by the group – must be less than 8 minutes in duration. Note that an accurate timing for your group is an essential component of the submission.

Occasionally more groups desire to play than we can accommodate in our tight schedule; on those occasions the Music Director selects groups with the objective of giving as many different participants as possible the opportunity to play over the course of the week. Playing level and group accomplishment are not considered.

We look forward to another summer of delightful afternoon participant musicales!