

EDITOR'S PAGE

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Have You Made Your Plans for the Summer?

"I've made my plans for the summer, I'm dreaming of happy days. When I'll hear the roll of the drummer, the music the big band plays ... "

John Philip Sousa, *I've Made My Plans for the Summer* – 1907

(written for Luna Park at NYC's Coney Island)

The New York State Summer Music Conference is on "pause" this summer, but in the meantime it's still not too late to make plans for a rewarding music-filled summer. I've received e-mails from teachers and music educators in training regarding alternatives to attending the annual conference. As we went to press on this final issue of the *School Music NEWS* for the 2023-24 school year there are numerous summer programs available through colleges/university and music conservatories in New York State (and next door in New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and beyond) that still have openings for music educator workshops and graduate work for those interested.

Below, you'll find a sampling of ideas and ways that you can make the most of your summer.

Summer Music Ideas

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| Teach private lessons. | Take a music technology course. |
| Teach in a summer music program. | Take a course on music arranging/composition /orchestration. |
| Bone up on piano. | Write a beginning instrument lesson book. |
| Bone up on your secondary instruments. | Write new lesson plans. |
| Take conducting lessons. | Travel and attend a summer music festival. |
| Attend a conducting workshop. | Participate in a summer music festival. |
| Participate in a community band, orchestra, chorus. | Apprentice with a musical instrument repair technician. |
| Participate in a reading ensemble. | Begin study on the instrument you've always wanted to play. |
| Take an instrument repair course. | Form a small chamber music group with friends. |
| Take a marching band drill writing course. | Take online course credits in music. |
| Take graduate credits. | Practice, practice, practice! |
| Attend a workshop on classroom discipline. | Do a deep dive into music history. |
| Take administrative course credits. | Do some serious listening. |
| Start learning a new language. | Write an article for a music publication. |
| Take guitar lessons. | Do some composing. |
| Take an Orff/Kodaly workshop. | Do some arranging. |
| Bone up on ukulele, guitar or recorder. | Observe/help a colleague at their summer marching band camp. |
| Take a music theory workshop. | Get involved with a community musical theater group. |
| Attend an AP music theory seminar. | |

And, don't forget that there are many colleges and universities that offer online degree programs.

The summer is a wonderful time to start work on an advanced degree program and, indeed, it's beneficial to pursue your degree without the need to try to balance life at school with your outside-of-school degree pursuit. NAFME maintains a webpage that addresses professional learning and events here: nafme.org/professional-learning-events/

So, make the most out of your summer and stay tuned for information regarding next summer as it becomes available. ||

"In summer, the song sings itself."

– William Carlos Williams, poet/physician.

"Everything good, everything magical happens between June and August."

– Jenny Han, author.