

American Orff-Schulwerk Association
Music and Movement Education
Affiliate of the National Association for Music Education: MENC
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Dear Course Director and Teacher Education Instructors,

In an effort to improve the application process for AOSA Teacher Education courses, the Professional Development Committee would like to clarify some points regarding the process and request your assistance in updating information.

Completing the Course Approval Form

- Your application must contain the following to ensure the course will be approved:
 - Library subscription to the Orff *Echo* for the institution sponsoring the course
 - List of AOSA-approved instructors for your course, with their AOSA membership number.
 - As you meet with the instructors for your course this summer, please make sure they have an updated vita form on file with the *Education Director*. If not, they must download and complete the form, which is found on the AOSA Web site (www.aosa.org), under the Professional Development tab.
 - Site location and address for where the course will be held
 - Contact information for the Orff Course Director
 - Contact information for the Institution Contact Person
 - A daily schedule, including required minimum hours for Basic, Movement, Recorder and Special Topics instruction
 - Application fee of \$50 has been submitted to AOSA Headquarters

IT IS THE COURSE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE ALL THE COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATION ARE COMPLETE IN ORDER TO BE APPROVED.

The Long Form and Short Form formats have now been combined into one document. The [Application for Course Approval](#) form is available on the AOSA Web site, www.aosa.org/professional.html. All forms must be submitted in electronic format.

Class size

AOSA has required numbers for levels courses (Level I: 14; Level II: 8; Level III: 8), as outlined in the “Guidelines for Orff Teacher Education Courses.” These numbers are important for a variety of reasons: the required class size provides participants an experience more closely resembling typical classroom numbers; it allows participants to hear and perform balanced choral and instrumental ensemble work and to create movement in small and large group settings.

AOSA does not determine whether a course will run. *However, we strongly urge that course directors voluntarily cancel if they will not have the recommended number of participants. If a level runs under numbers, the course will be placed on probation the following year.*

Approved teacher educators should not teach in a course that runs below numbers. We rely on course directors and instructors to make this determination and to notify participants whether a class will run or be cancelled. If a course runs below numbers it will be on probation the following year. If it meets numbers in the following year then the course is taken off probation. If it runs below numbers a second time, it will not be approved the following year. If the course director chooses to cancel, then the course is taken off probationary status and can be offered the following year.

Class Schedule

The scheduling of a class is directly related to the success students feel at the end of a course. Giving students enough time to process and practice information is paramount to an exceptional experience as AOSA hopes all teacher education courses to be. Therefore, there shall be a minimum of 60 contact hours per level, not including lunch periods or break times of more than 5 minutes. Additionally, the course must meet over a minimum of 10 days (9 days if the course encompasses the July 4th holiday).

Related Courses

The new application form contains a place to list dates and locations for Orff-related courses. These include Introduction to Schulwerk courses, Post Level III, and Supplemental Courses with an Orff Emphasis. These will be listed in a special section on the AOSA Web site.

Meeting of the Minds and Master classes

PD would like to invite all course directors and instructors to several special sessions at the 2011 Professional Development Conference in Pittsburgh.

- ***Meeting of the Minds***
Join veteran AOSA mentor teachers for a critical look at AOSA apprenticeship. Come to celebrate, agree, disagree and brainstorm the future. Jo Ella Hug, coordinator
Dena Byers, Steve Calantropio, Robert de Frece, and Judith Thompson-Barthwell, panelists
- ***Master Class: Teaching Level I Basic Pedagogy in Orff Schulwerk Teacher Certification Courses***
Teacher Educators of Level I Basic Pedagogy explore and discuss activities in skill development, pedagogy, ensemble, and improvisation, following AOSA Guidelines. This is a two session Master Class led by Julie Scott and Karen Medley.
- ***Master Class in Pedagogy***
This master class approaches songs, games and dances through the pedagogical principles of Orff Schulwerk integrated with visual art experiences. Sofia shares some of her didactic experiences combining music, poetry, dance, painting and listening in an interdisciplinary manner. This is a two session Master Class led by Sofia Ibor-Lopez.
- ***Master Class in Recorder***
Renowned recorder player Nina Stern gives pointers about advanced recorder technique. Participants are invited to bring a prepared piece. The session will end with some four-

part Renaissance songs and dances. Bring all voices of recorders. This is a two session Master Class led by Nina Stern. *Sponsored by Amherst Early Music*

- *Master Class in Movement*

Just as we strum the guitar, hit the drum or bow the violin to produce a sound, we work with different qualities of touching and the reactions to it. Discover new and unexpected movements for improvisation and choreography. This session is led by Susanne Rebholz.

These are wonderful opportunities to discuss and learn some of the ways in which AOSA can strengthen and improve teacher education courses around the country.

The Professional Development Committee greatly appreciates the hard work and dedication our course directors and instructors provide in preparing for and teaching Levels courses. Thank you for providing this invaluable service to AOSA.

Sincerely,

AOSA Professional Development Committee

Tiffany English, Chair

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Jane Hoch, Sarah Fairfield, Rhonda Greeson, Jan Baker, Sandy LeZotte