



VIRTUAL CLINICS & MASTERCLASSES

FALL 2020

Music educators at the high school and university levels can sign up now for musicians of “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band to provide virtual clinics and masterclasses for their students. **Clinics** are instrument-specific and can cover topics requested by the educator. **Masterclasses** have a predetermined focus. These sessions will take place between Oct. 5 and Nov. 13, 2020, and can be used in both virtual or in-person classroom settings. Please note that this free resource is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Sign Up Here: bit.ly/USMBclinic_masterclass

CLINICS

Clinics will provide instrument-specific instruction for winds, strings, percussion and voice, as well as guidance for auxiliary positions. **Selecting a clinic allows educators to request a specific topic to be covered.**

Clinics will be provided for the following instruments/roles:

Winds: Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium and Tuba

Strings: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, Guitar and Harp

Other: Percussion, Voice, Drum Major, Audio Recording, Music Library and Stage Management

MASTERCLASSES

Masterclasses will focus on predetermined topics, as described in the following pages. Refer to this list to see what is offered:

Woodwind:

1. Introduction to Woodwind Doubling
2. Vibrato Exercises for High School Flutists
3. Metronome Strategies for Flutists
4. Reed Making Tips for College Oboists
5. Reed Making Tips for College Clarinetists
6. Clarinet Auditions/Excerpts for College Students
7. Fundamentals for the High School Clarinetist
8. The Versatile E-Flat Clarinetist
9. High and Low Auxiliary Clarinets
10. Fundamentals for Saxophone

Brass:

11. Applying a Vocalist’s Approach to Phrasing and Musicality for College Brass Players
12. Efficiency and Range for Trumpet Players
13. Trumpet Mouthpiece Selection - Bigger is not always better!
14. Putting the Fun Back Into Fundamentals for Trumpet

Strings:

15. Performance Prep for Strings

Percussion:

16. Audition Prep for College Percussionists
17. Drumset for Classical Percussionists
18. Four Mallet Technique 101 for High School Percussionists
19. The Well-Rounded High School Percussionist

Voice:

20. Fundamentals of Bel Canto
21. Star-Spangled 101

Practice Skills:

22. The Connection Between Ear Training and Sight Reading - Developing the Mind’s Ear
23. Every Minute Counts - Sound Strategies for Efficient and Effective Practice
24. Playing Along with Recordings - A Practice Tool
25. Intonation for the Wind Musician
26. Technical Mastery Through Creative Scale Practice
27. Improving your Jazz Improvisation Skills
28. Injury Prevention and Recovery for Musicians

Auxiliary:

29. Wind Band and Orchestral Recording Techniques
30. Mixing and Mastering Classical Recordings
31. Organizing the Music Library
32. How to Find Band Music
33. Copyright Compliance for the Music Educator
34. Career Path of the Music Librarian
35. Applying for Library Jobs/Summer Festivals
36. Live Events Management
37. Behind the Scenes of a Stage Crew

MASTERCLASS DESCRIPTIONS

WOODWIND

- 1. Introduction to Woodwind Doubling:** In this class we'll look at the benefits of learning more than one woodwind instrument, consider similarities and differences between woodwind instruments, and look at how to go about transferring what you already know from one instrument to another. Read more about [MSgt Greg Ridlington](#).
- 2. Vibrato Exercises for High School Flutists:** Only after developing a strong and flexible tone, can we as flutists begin to add the dimension of vibrato into our sound and ultimately our music. We will discuss the definition of vibrato, its function in various musical cultures and work through a series of fundamental exercises to help develop a rich and balanced vibrato that can be added in an organic manner to solo repertoire or ensemble textures. Read more about [GySgt Ellen Dooley](#).
- 3. Metronome Strategies for Flutists:** Teachers often stress to their students the importance of using a metronome, but too often the metronome is underutilized which results in poor timing. During this session, we will be joined by a classical percussionist and together we will teach you how to use your metronome more effectively. You will learn techniques that will help develop a stronger internal rhythm that can be used in teaching, performing, and auditioning. Read more about [SSgt Courtney Morton](#).
- 4. Reed Making Tips for College Oboists:** This reed-making class will include tips on cane selection, processing (gouging/shaping/tying), and scraping. Oboe or English horn reeds per request. Read more about [GySgt Joe Deluccio](#).
- 5. Reed Making Tips for College Clarinetists:** This class covers the process of taking tube cane and turning it into clarinet reeds using hand tools and jigs (no power tools!). In addition, we can offer suggestions for getting started. Read more about [GySgt Patrick Morgan](#).
- 6. Clarinet Auditions/Excerpts for College Students:** After hearing thousands of clarinets audition for the Marine Band over the past 10 years, Pat has a unique perspective on both orchestra and band excerpts. Students should prepare orchestra or band excerpts to play in this virtual masterclass. We'll also demonstrate a few common excerpts that are band-specific and answer any questions concerning auditioning for professional ensembles and what it's like to be on an audition committee. Read more about [GySgt Patrick Morgan](#).
- 7. Fundamentals for the High School Clarinetist:** This class will include embouchure, tongue position, hand position, air support, tonguing and tone production. There will be a short performance and Q&A. If time allows, students may perform. Read more about [SSgt Meaghan Kawaller](#).

- 8. The Versatile E-Flat Clarinetist:** Topics covered in this class will include intonation and blending, equipment, practice techniques, the role of the E-flat clarinet in concert band, U.S. Marine Band Sousa march performance practice, major E-flat excerpts in the concert band literature, and E-flat clarinet resources. Read more about [MSgt Michelle Urzynecok](#).
- 9. High and Low Auxiliary Clarinets:** Topics covered in this class will include intonation and blending, equipment, practice techniques, the role of auxiliary clarinets in concert band, switching between soprano clarinet and low clarinets, and auxiliary clarinet literature and methods. We look forward to sharing our extensive experience with students, and encourage questions and discussion during our class. Learn more about [Marine Band clarinetists](#).
- 10. Fundamentals for Saxophone:** No matter what type of music you love, mastering your fundamentals empowers you to play in any style and learn new music quickly. We'll break it down into long tones, articulation, and scale studies. Read more about [MSgt Greg Ridlington](#).

BRASS

- 11. Applying a Vocalist's Approach to Phrasing and Musicality for College Brass Players:** Singers have the advantage of text in their music to allow them to craft their phrasing, expression, and communicate with an audience. Instrumentalists, without the use of words, should be using many of the same techniques, mainly stressed and unstressed notes, phrase direction, and vibrato, to achieve much of the same expressiveness on our instruments. This class will cover the techniques and art of phrasing like a vocalist. Read more about [MGySgt Mark Jenkins](#).
- 12. Efficiency and Range for Trumpet Players:** The trumpet is a very physical instrument which is often approached through brute strength. Much of what it really takes to play the instrument relies on leverage and efficiency. A more thorough understanding of the embouchure, breathing, equipment, and how they all relate can profoundly affect how easy the trumpet is to play. Read more about [MGySgt Scott Gearhart](#).
- 13. Trumpet Mouthpiece Selection - Bigger is not always better!:** Trumpeters often spend years and hundreds of dollars looking for mouthpieces that give them the biggest, "darkest" sound, but at what cost? This class will dispel many myths of big mouthpieces, throats, and backbores and how they all work together to affect tone, pitch, flexibility and range. Read more about [MGySgt Christian Ferrari](#).
- 14. Putting the Fun back into Fundamentals for Trumpet:** Learn to make great, easy sounds on the trumpet. Experience a warm-up/technique session focusing on Breath, Buzz, Tone, Flex and Flow. Read more about [GySgt Amy McCabe](#).

MASTERCLASS DESCRIPTIONS

STRINGS

- 15. Performance Prep for Strings:** This class is for all string orchestra instruments. We'll talk about tips for coping with nerves and creating your own system to help put you in the right mindset ahead of a performance, whether it's a recital, jury or audition. Students will have a mock audition opportunity to try out concerto, orchestral, and/or chamber music excerpts for feedback. Read more about [MSgt Erika Sato](#).

PERCUSSION

- 16. Audition Prep for College Percussionists:** A humorous view into how Darren prepares for an audition. Geared more towards students who have less experience in the audition world, this masterclass aims to make auditions a little less scary. Read more about [SSgt Darren Lin](#).
- 17. Drumset for Classical Percussionists:** With a few simple concepts and exercises, a player who isn't comfortable with drumset can start to sound a lot more experienced. This masterclass will help to develop dynamic independence among the hands and feet to add a three dimensional quality to standard patterns. Read more about [GySgt Steve Owen](#).
- 18. Four Mallet Technique 101 for High School Percussionists:** This class will provide an introduction to four mallet technique, specifically the Burton Grip, with some advanced exercises for students who already have experience with four mallet grips. Read more about [SSgt Darren Lin](#).
- 19. The Well-Rounded High School Percussionist:** In public schools, it can be difficult to get students to develop skills on both pitched and non-pitched percussion. In this class, I'll show how the two skill sets complement each other and why it's so important to be a well-rounded percussionist. Read more about [SSgt Darren Lin](#).

VOICE

- 20. Fundamentals of Bel Canto:** We will explore how to create a consistently "beautiful sound" throughout the entire vocal range. Emphasis includes importance of the breath, correct sound production and healthy vocal placement. Discussion of bel canto art form as a technical foundation for healthy singing and as a modern day approach for any style. Read more about [GySgt Sara Sheffield](#).
- 21. Star-Spangled 101:** The National Anthem is notoriously one of the most difficult songs to sing, in part because of the extensive range and poetic words. And to make things more difficult, it is often performed a cappella. Learn the vocal fundamentals, history behind the poetry, and confidence-building techniques to perform the anthem at your best - either as a soloist or with your ensemble. Read more about [GySgt Sara Sheffield](#).

PRACTICE SKILLS

- 22. The Connection Between Ear Training and Sight Reading - Developing the Mind's Ear:** This class will discuss the connection between how well we can "hear" notes, rhythms, time, style in our minds and how accurately we are able to read and sight-read music. Specific exercises and techniques for improving aural mastery on and off instruments will be covered. Read more about [MGySgt Mark Jenkins](#).
- 23. Every Minute Counts - Sound Strategies for Efficient and Effective Practice:** Few things are as frustrating as feeling unproductive after hours of practice, especially when time is already scarce due to hectic and demanding schedules. In this class, we will address common challenges and discuss a wide range of unique and proven methods to develop smart and lasting habits, to structure and optimize your precious time, and to learn new music faster and more meaningfully. Open to all instruments. Read more about [GySgt Sheng Wang](#).
- 24. Playing Along with Recordings - A Practice Tool:** While staying at home can be an isolating experience for a musician, playing along with a recording is a fun way to feel immersed in an ensemble while practicing. This masterclass will explore how practicing with a recording can be used as an effective and enjoyable way to improve. Open to all instruments. Read more about [SSgt Stephen Rudman](#).
- 25. Intonation for the Wind Musician:** We will explore the ins and outs of intonation, discussing the different tuning systems, and how those apply in differing collaborative situations, whether in an orchestral setting, with other wind players, or with piano. Practice techniques using a tuner will be demonstrated and explored, helping musicians feel confident and secure in all performance environments. Read more about [GySgt Heather Zenobia](#).
- 26. Technical Mastery Through Creative Scale Practice:** Many people think practicing scales is boring, but with the right approach the variations are endless, challenging and, I dare say, fun! A thorough knowledge of scales, paired with being able to execute them in every imaginable way on one's instrument, is the key to being able to play any style of music. This class is for any instrumentalist who wants to further refine their mastery of their instrument through scale studies. Read more about [MSgt Greg Ridlington](#).
- 27. Improving Your Jazz Improv Skills:** This masterclass will focus on how to approach jazz improvisation with an emphasis on pacing, themes, and motif usage. We'll work on content that will be especially useful in individual practice sessions. Read more about [SSgt Tyler Lindsay](#).

MASTERCLASS DESCRIPTIONS

28. Injury Prevention and Recovery for Musicians: Although Cecilia is more familiar with brass injuries and recovery, this class is open to all instruments. This session will address creating healthy practice and performance habits, understanding both the mental and physical factors that lead to injury, and how to recover from your injury so you may continue to meet your musical goals in the long-term. Common injuries to be discussed include tendinitis, injuries of the embouchure, general and localized tension, and overuse of specific muscle groups. Read more about [SSgt Cecilia Buettgen](#).

AUXILIARY

29. Wind Band and Orchestral Recording techniques: Explore the basics of stereo recording techniques to fully understand the best way to capture the classical ensembles that you are working with. From inside the practice room or in the concert hall, these techniques can assist your ensemble in creating wonderful rehearsal recordings for practice and capturing your concerts at the highest level, all with the gear you currently have. You will also learn how classical recordings have similar principles as, but differ greatly from, studio sessions in other genres. Basic gear setups will also be discussed. A Q&A session at the end of the workshop will allow you to go over your current gear setup and learn how to maximize your recordings with the gear you are already working on. Read more about [SSgt Mike Ducassoux](#).

30. Mixing and Mastering Classical Recordings: From creating CDs to streaming online, the world of mixing and mastering music has evolved quite a bit in recent years. In this class, we will begin by discussing the differences between mixing and mastering. Then we will learn the basics of mixing and mastering classical music and what techniques will help take your recording to the next level. This knowledge will help you decide if you want to take on the challenge of these processes or send them out to a professional to work on - we will also discuss how to prepare your files for such a task. Common pitfalls that new engineers fall into and how to avoid them will also be discussed. A Q&A session at the end of the workshop will allow us to go over your current mixing/mastering setup and how to get the most out of it. Read more about [SSgt Mike Ducassoux](#).

31. Organizing the Music Library: This class will discuss ways to evaluate your music library space and help find the best storage and acquisition solutions for your music, now and into the future. We will also discuss useful supplies and equipment for the school music library. Read more about [GySgt Jennifer Jensen](#).

32. How to Find Band Music: Band music can be difficult to find, especially when dealing with older or out-of-print publications. We will provide resources for renting, borrowing and purchasing beyond your local music retailer. Read more about [GySgt Jennifer Jensen](#).

33. Copyright Compliance for the Music Educator: “I am not a lawyer, but...” There are many kinds of licenses and permissions required for different aspects of music performance. This class will discuss how to stay compliant with U.S. copyright laws with a special focus on the copyright challenges facing music educators. Read more about [GySgt Jennifer Jensen](#).

34. Career Path of the Music Librarian: There is so much more to getting music from shelves, into folders, and onstage for a performance than most people know. Find out what a music librarian is, typical responsibilities and duties of a music librarian, and how to get into the career field. Additionally, get a firsthand look at how music librarians get sheet music ready for performance, and see common repairs and preparation work that needs to be done before the ensemble can make the music on the page come to life. Read more about [SSgt Nishana Dobbbeck](#).

35. Applying for Library Jobs/Summer Festivals: The masterclass will discuss techniques to prepare for a library audition and/or library position at a summer music festival. Formatting/streamlining your resume, practicing for the interview, and studying for the audition will be explored. Feel free to submit your resume ahead of time for hands-on review. Read more about [SSgt Anya Brodrick](#).

36. Live Events Management: In this class, we'll learn about the role of the stage manager, staging, venues and theatrical lighting. We'll also talk about cues and the logistics of running a show and discuss how and where to get a job in the field of event management. Read more about [MSgt Rich Dickerson](#).

37. Behind the Scenes of a Stage Crew: This class focuses on theater terminology, history and traditions. Learn more about the behind-the-scenes role of the stage crew and how productions are put together. Read more about [MSgt Rich Dickerson](#).