



SSU NAFME CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020

WELCOME!

Welcome to our first SSU NAFME Newsletter! We are very excited to have this new outlet for our chapter and hope that you will enjoy reading up on what we have been doing.

We hope with this newsletter we can develop a space where we can update our alumni about activities our chapter has been doing, have a concise record of our meetings that prospective members can read, and allow music faculty and other department members to learn more about us!

Every month, our newsletter will be posted on our new SSU NAFME website, or you can subscribe to our updates and have it sent directly to your email.

We are excited to begin this semester and look forward to everything we are going to achieve! We hope that you are too.

NORCAL NAFME

Over the past month, SSU's NAFME chapter has teamed up with chapters from San Jose State, Chico State, University of the Pacific, and Sacramento State in a series of online Zoom meetings geared to create a platform where students could get to know each other and learn how each others' chapters function in relation to their music departments as a whole.

Every two weeks, a school presented on a topic that is especially important to their chapter. The topics ranged from diversity in the classroom to how to keep [\(cont.\)](#)

FALL 2020?

This coming semester of Fall 2020, we are planning to continue our meetings online.

In this era of online meetings, it is important that students have a space to learn, and frankly hang out, with our peers. While we have a variety of educational meetings lined up for the semester, we want to make sure we have fun.

We are also planning on incorporating a couple new routines into our meetings as well as some new events!

KEY DATES

September Meeting

Welcome Back!: September 3, 2020

October Meeting:

(Content TBD): October 1, 2020

November Meeting:

(Content TBD): November 5, 2020

December Meeting:

(Content TBD): December 3, 2020



Nick Hodson's fall 2019 elementary school music lesson plan demonstration



Jose Soto's fall 2019 mariachi education demonstration and activity

music department alumni in the loop.

Our SSU chapter designed a presentation on how we strive to give our students hands-on teaching experiences through our monthly meetings and how we go about the outreach work we do for our surrounding community.

We discussed examples such as our fall 2019 presentation by Nick Hodson, a local elementary school music teacher, who brought in lesson plans that he does with his kids so we could learn from watching him teach us.

We also talked about our workshop by Jose Soto, who founded a Mariachi education program / student ensemble through the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts and is an SSU alumni. He provided instruments for us to play Mariachi standards and gave tips on how to go about building new programs and teaching student Mariachi ensembles.

Communicating with music education students from different NorCal schools has multiple benefits. By learning about what other students have done with their chapters, our students have been given new ideas for fundraising, meeting topics, events to host throughout the year, and how to structure meetings. This newsletter, as well as our new SSU NAFME website, are products of those meetings!

Another benefit from this series is that it creates relationships between students that can last further into our careers. Networking with a wide variety of musicians is never a bad idea and we tend to forget that we should be building connections not only with established teachers, but with other students like ourselves. With the shift to an online lifestyle, we've never had a better (and easier) opportunity to network with other music programs.



SSU CASMEC 2020 booth



CASMEC 2020 alumni dinner



SSU's NorCal NAFME meeting presentation