

Spring 2010  
Volume LVIII

*The*  
**New Mexico  
Musician**



Official Publication of The New Mexico Music  
Educator's Association

# Guitar Section

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Even after the passage of several months there is still a glow that comes when I think about seeing and hearing the very first performance of an All-State Guitar Ensemble! The CD recording arrived in the mail this week, and hearing it brought a rush of emotion and pride that this milestone took place in New Mexico! Congratulations came from all over, especially from those states who have their own all-state initiatives. Nevada, Texas and Virginia are moving closer, and educators in Maryland and California are beginning the process of incorporating guitar at the state level. Good wishes even came from as far away as Oslo, Norway! Truly we have been fortunate to have a corps of teachers who embraced the vision of guitar at All-State, and a state organization forward looking enough to make this bold step. Our gratitude goes to all who helped the teachers, the students, the parents and all the music educators who supported our Guitar Initiative. Much gratitude is owed to the amazing clinician who directed our inaugural group. Carlos Rafael Rivera brought incredible inspiration and artistry to our guitarists, and they responded with a terrific performance. We have arrived and we will grow...that's a promise!

Our section meeting this year at All-State was very productive, with decisions made about upcoming clinicians, and much discussion about how we can best foster the growth of new guitar programs, and help the teachers who may not have extensive guitar experience. Most of all, we acknowledged that now we have begun our presence as an All-State Division, our efforts must be focused at sustaining and deepening our presence in the state. Our group this year consisted of students from 13 different programs, and our hope is to have at least 20 programs represented in next year's ensemble. We resolved to once again have our audition etudes posted in the form of a YouTube tutorial, and to also institute a buddy program to help those teachers who are not primarily guitarists.

We have our clinicians in place for the next two years, and we are very excited about them! Both of them are prominent guitar educators. Our clinician for 2011 will be **Dr. Matthew Hinsley** of Austin Texas, director of the Classical Guitar Society of Austin, director of the Youth Festival of this year's Guitar Foundation of America Convention, co-director of [Guitarcurriculum.com](http://Guitarcurriculum.com) and author of the wonderful new text, *Classical Guitar for Young People* as well as many other works. Dr. Hinsley is an active promoter of the guitar in schools, and brings great enthusiasm and excitement to next year's New Mexico All-State Guitar Ensemble.

In 2012, our centennial year, we will have as clinician the most respected guitar educator at the secondary level in the country: **Mr. Bill Swick**, director of the guitar program

of the prestigious Las Vegas Academy of International Studies, Visual and Performing Arts. In addition to heading his burgeoning program at Las Vegas Academy, Mr. Swick is also supervisor of guitar for the school district of Clark County Nevada, a district with more than 60 programs and more than 2500 guitar students! He is the author of many didactic works, and has done numerous clinics and workshops around the country, including the popular GAMA summer workshops for guitar teachers.

**Next year's audition material will be:**

1. **Etude #1 in C major by Matteo Carcassi** (25 Melodious and Progressive Studies, Op. 60, FJH publishers) quarter note = 92
2. **Etude # 10 from Estudios Sencillos by Leo Brouwer** (2nd series, Max Eschig pub.) quarter note = 88
3. **Three octave a melodic minor scale, and two octave Db major scale,** quarter note = 100 as presented in *Diatonic Major and Minor Scales*, Andres Segovia. (Theodore Presser)
4. **One sight reading example**

The repertoire for next year's All-State ensemble will be:

**Water over Glass** by Tim Brace Austin Composer, score available through the composer  
<http://magnoliaarts.com/guitarens.html>  
**Palladio** Theme Music From Diamonds) by Karl Jenkins  
**Study No. 1 in C Major** by Mateo Carcassi