Come to Resonate, the 2016 OMEA/CMIEC Conference!
November 3rd to 5th, 2016
Marriott Gateway on the Falls and ScotiaBank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, ON

Finding funding and justifying your absence from school can be a challenge! We've put together some resources to help you make your case to attend the most outstanding professional development event of the year.

This toolkit includes:

- General Tips/Talking Points
- Sample justification letter to your administrator
- Resonate promotional poster

Keep watching omea.on.ca, twitter.com/OMEAOntario and on Facebook (OMEA) for more things to add to your toolkit!

Why come to Conference?

General Tips

Here are a few things to consider when having to address time and money:

- You will be bringing back lots of new strategies to share with other teachers, students and parents.
- Offer to present and deliver an after-school Professional Development session to your colleagues in the school to share the information you learned.
- Share all the materials you receive from the conference with your colleagues in your school. (You always receive great handouts and resources from every session you attend)
- Sessions covering important and relevant topics to teachers of all levels.
- By attending the conference, you could speak with many reps from our industry (CMIEC members) that provide new, innovative musical instruments, materials, and equipment that you would be able to test out and introduce to your school and your colleagues.
- Have your lesson plans ready and show who will be covering your classes for you while you are attending the conference.
- Offer to share a room to reduce the hotel expenses by finding a roommate on the OMEA Facebook page.
- Make note of the Registration Start Date (April 1st 2015) and the Early Bird Registration deadline (beginning of October 2015) to get the lowest rate to attend the conference.
- Your OMEA and CMEA membership is included in the conference rate, therefore continuing your professional learning all year long (great to include this in your ALP)

Write to your Principal or Supervisor:

Below is a sample of a letter you can provide to your principal explaining the importance of your attendance at the conference and the benefits you receive by being there. Please feel free to edit the letter to better meet your needs.

Dear (Principal),

I am requesting your permission to attend the Ontario Music Educators' Association provincial conference in Toronto on November 3 -5, 2016. This conference will provide me with numerous professional development opportunities through workshops and discussion with other music educators from around the province. Many of the sessions will help me expand my teaching techniques, offer new ideas and knowledge to better educate the students at our school, and to provide information on how to incorporate the curriculum into the lessons I teach.

I have included a detailed cost breakdown of the conference as well as a copy of the conference brochure for you to review. I have outlined the specific sessions I would like to attend, including a detailed explanation of what I will be learning within each session. I have also included a list of vendors I would like to visit during the conference to evaluate some of the products I would like to consider for the classroom.

I estimate the total cost of the conference will be (AMOUNT).
If I am approved to attend the conference, the benefits to the school are as follows:

- Time for networking with other seasoned educators from across the province.
- Ability to obtain fresh new ideas and techniques to share with the students and teachers at our school and in our area.
- The opportunity to evaluate vendor products before purchasing them.
- Increased understanding the curriculum and how they are incorporated into the classroom.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to consider my request. I look forward to hearing from you and to represent our school at the OMEA conference in Niagara Falls in November.

Sincerely,
(Your Name)

OMEA and CMIEC invite you to join us in Niagara Falls to experience, discover and engage in music and music ideas that will RESONATE with you and your students!

RESONATE 2016

November 3-5, 2016

Marriott Gateway on the Falls Hotel and the Scotiabank Convention Centre, Niagara Falls, ON

Online registration is available at www.omea.on.ca

Accommodations: Marriott Gateway on the Falls Hotel

Special rate of $115-135 per night

Phone 1-800-267-8439 and indicate that you are part of the OMEA/CMIEC conference to receive this special rate.

Or visit the events page on omea.on.ca to get a direct link for online booking.

Keynotes

FRIDAY
Tom Jackson

Canadian-born Métis actor (Star Trek: The Next Generation, North of 60) and singer (Ballads Not Bullets)

SATURDAY
Christine Duncan and the Element Choir

With a five-octave range, she navigates opera, jazz, country, pop or classical styles with ease, but she is most in her element with free improvisation.
The Element Choir is a battalion of voices ranging from 30 to 80 participants

Showcase Concert

Hamilton Children's Choir, Avanti Singers, University of Toronto 12tet, Dave Young Terry Promane Octet

AVANTI SINGERS

DAVE YOUNG and TERRY PROMANE