

Hillharmonic in the Rockies Chamber Music Weekend

Hello my name is Michael Schaefer and I am a retired instrumental teacher, violinist and conductor from Fort Collins, Colorado.

I have been attending Chamberre of the Rockies since 1980 and conducted the orchestra for the last 10 years. I eventually became President of the Board and ran the camp for many years. I have resigned from my positions at RRMC and am excited about my new endeavor.

I am starting a new chamber music camp for adults 18 and older. It is not a coached camp. The emphasis is on sight-reading and experiencing great literature old and new. I've designed this in the spirit of "Chamberre in the Rockies" founded by Eugene Hilligoss and Beth Miller Harrod 61 years ago at Rocky Ridge Music Center.

The name of this new camp is "Hillharmonic of the Rockies" and the dates are Friday June 12 to Sunday afternoon June 14. Our host is Golden Bell Conference Center and I think you will find their facility comfortable and at a reasonable cost. Golden Bell is located in Divide west of Colorado Springs. If there is a lot of interest this year, we will be expanding to a four or five day camp with 2, 3 and 4 night options for attendance.

There is an application form attached to this letter of introduction and a draft of the daily schedule for this year.

There is also a form you can fill out if you want to perform on our concert Sunday afternoon. This is optional and if you just want to listen we do appreciate an audience.

Hope to see you this coming summer,



Michael J. Schaefer

**Hillharmonic in the Rockies
Chamber Music Weekend
Golden Bell Conference Center
(Smoke and Alcohol Free Facility)
June 12 - 14, 2020**

Golden Bell is located west of Colorado Springs, 380 CR 512 Divide CO 80814. We will be staying in the main lodge. All rooms have a queen bed, two twin beds and a private bath.

Single occupancy: 3 days, 2 nights, 6 meals \$317. Deposit \$150
Double occupancy: 3 days, 2 nights, 12 meals \$396. Deposit \$150
Three guests: 3 days, 2 nights 18 meals \$510. Deposit \$200
Four guests: 3 days, 2 nights 24 meals \$640. Deposit \$250

Please supply your own bedding and toiletries. (Children under 3 years of age are free)

Make check payable to Hillharmonic in the Rockies and mail with the registration form to; Michael Schaefer, 2831 Teal Eye Ct. Fort Collins, CO 80526 (970.481.3666)
Send payment or deposit by April 15 to reserve housing. Balance is due at check in. No refunds after May 1 unless space is filled by another participant.

This is not a coached camp. It is a sight-reading camp and participants must sight read at a high level. There is a "Self-Rating Guide" on page 2.

Name: _____ Roommate request, each person must fill out an application and list their roommates below so we can place you in the correct room.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

May we share this information with other participants? Y _____ N _____

Food allergies and diet restrictions _____

Main Instrtument _____ Self Rate circle one; 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
There are only 2 piano rooms available. Pianists will be accepted first come first served.

2nd Instrument/s _____ Self Rate circle one; 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

My deposit of \$ _____ enclosed for: (circle one)

Single occupancy \$150 1 guest \$150 2 guests \$200 3 guests \$250

I plan to arrive on Friday (time) _____ Depart _____

Signature _____

Self-Rating Guide

Page 2

These general grading categories enable players of similar skill levels to find each other. Use the following descriptions to determine your playing level. Plus or minus may be useful for greater precision.

Ask yourself which rating best applies to fellow musicians who enjoy playing with you. Keep in mind that you can always revise your grade as you improve and acquire more chamber music experience, or change it if lack of practice time affects your playing.

Most of our participants are "A", "B" a few "C" players and some "Pros" thrown in here and there. "C" players might have some challenges in some settings. We do want you to enjoy Hillharmonic and not leave with a sour taste for chamber music or our camp. If you are a "D" player perhaps you might try some other camps or gain more experience before attending Hillharmonic.

The Ratings

"D" Novice/Beginner

You play a repertoire chosen to be within your technical limitations. On a first reading, you usually aim to get through the music and end together without too many stops and starts in between.

"C" Fair

You are in the process of exploring the standard repertoire, perhaps avoiding those works that are currently too technically challenging. You concentrate on not making major mistakes while reading an unfamiliar part, though you are aware of what the others are doing. You often slow down a fast movement for technical reasons.

"B" Good

You are quite familiar with portions of the standard repertoire (perhaps pieces from certain periods or for certain instrumental/vocal combinations). You generally sound good and sight-reading is not a problem. You usually pay attention to blend, balance, dynamics, and basic phrasing on a first reading.

"A" Excellent

You have extensive experience with and a strong command of the standard repertoire, from many time periods and for a variety of ensembles that include your instrument or voice. If your partners make a mistake, you can often bring them back in without stopping. You are a superior sight-reader and you consistently sound good (both in tune and at tempo). You already aim for cohesive musical expressiveness with attention to fine nuance on a first reading.

"Pro" Professional Musician

You perform professionally.

Sincerely,



Michael Schaefer
Hillharmonic Board President

If you have questions about the Self-Rating Guide or have any questions at all please call or email me. **970.481.3666** or **mschaefe@psdschools.org**

1 - Avoid Sight Reading

2 to 3 - "D" Novice/Beginner

4 - 5 "C" Fair

6 to 7 - "B" Good

8 to 9 - "A" Excellent

10 "Pro" Professional Musician

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At the close of the Hillharmonic camp we present a free concert at 3:00 PM Sunday afternoon. The first half is comprised of small chamber groups, solos, duets, piano trios, and quartets etcetera. The second half is a chamber orchestra and this year we are performing the "Winter" movement of Vivaldi's Four Seasons. The second piece is to be announced. I will send the parts to you before camp so you can review and practice before our rehearsals.

If you wish to bring a prepared small ensemble to perform on the concert, please fill out the following and send in with your application.

Composer_____

Title of piece_____

The movement you will perform_____

Group members and instrument_____

Yes! I would like to perform with the chamber orchestra.

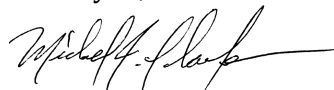
Name_____

Instrument_____

If violin do you have a preference? Circle one- 1st or 2nd

I will have to balance the instrumentation so I may have to make some hard choices. However in the past 25 years of doing this I have never turned down anyone that wanted to play.

Thank you,



Michael Schaefer

Hillharmonic Daily Schedule

Friday

- 4:00 pm Check In. If you arrive early you can leave your luggage in your car or in the meeting room. There are a few places you can have your first impromptu session.
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 – 8:30 Assigned Session
- 8:30 – 9:00 Social time and Chocolate
- 9:00 – 10:30 Free Session locations TBA

Saturday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 – 10:30 Assigned Session
- 10:45 – 12:00 Free Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 - 3:15 Assigned Session (orchestra rehearsal)
- 3:30 – 5:00 Free Session
- 5:30 – 6:45 Dinner
- 7:00 – 8:30 Assigned Session
- 8:30 – 9:00 Social time and Chocolate
- 9:00 – 10:30 Free Session locations TBA

Sunday

- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 – 10:30 Assigned Session
- 10:40 – 12:00 Free Session (orchestra rehearsal if needed)
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:15 – 2:30 Free Session
- 3:00 Concert (No admission, we play for fun! Bring Friends and family).
- 5:00 Check Out