

Mencio, Santos

From: Mireles, Matthew
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:30 PM
To: Mencio, Santos
Subject: FW: Music Department COVID-19 Planning

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Dr. Matthew Mireles
Chair, Department of Music
Director of Bands

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The Catholic and Marianist University
One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, Texas 78228

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Pronouns: He/Him/His

Executive Board of Directors
Youth Orchestras of San Antonio

 **changes kids' lives through**

From: "Mireles, Matthew" <mmireles1@stmarytx.edu>

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 12:44 PM

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[REDACTED], "Long, Daniel" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

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[REDACTED], "Lyon, Leslie" <[REDACTED]>, "Smith, Maria A." <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED], "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED], Meredith Kiesgen Schilling <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED], Michael Woods <[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, Philip" <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED], "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>, "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

Cc: "Ortega, Edith" <[REDACTED]>, "Mireles, Matthew" <[REDACTED]> Subject: Music Department COVID-19 Planning

Hello St. Mary's University Department of Music,

You are all wonderful passionate teachers, and I know together we can deal with any challenges we encounter. We are now in an unprecedented time in our university community, and society as a whole. However, together we will be able to face these challenges with a strategic and comprehensive plan, that will ensure everyone's safety and still continue their quality education. It is important that we keep in communication, and plan for the future. Thank you for your continued commitment to our students.

Hopefully you all received the email from President Mengler about St. Mary's University's plan for readiness regarding COVID-19. If by chance you haven't, here are the details.

"To help ensure the health and safety of our campus community, St. Mary's University is extending spring break by one week for students. The campus remains open, and faculty and staff will continue campus operations. Classes will resume on Monday, March 23, 2020."

What this means for us in the Department of Music.

- As of this moment as I am writing this email, classes are scheduled to resume on campus on Monday March 23, 2020. That could change in the near future, so please stay in communication.
- During the extended Spring Break, we are tasked to train ourselves to be ready to give online only instruction. Starting on Monday March 16, 2020 I will need to work with each of you to make sure we are ready, in the case we switch to online instruction.
- For us, the main resource we can utilize is ZOOM. St. Mary's University is a subscriber of the service. Go ahead and download the app, and then I will show you how to gain access through St. Mary's. For applied lessons, zoom is more powerful than skype or facetime. Plus, the students will be working with Zoom in other classes as well. It would be good to have everything in one unified place for them.

Where Zoom is.

- Gateway
- SSO Launchpad (in the Launchpad tabs, right under "faculty") Zoom (Video Conferencing)

Zoom App.

- Use the "SSO" sign-in option
- Type stmarytx into the box to access the St. Mary's account It will take you to gateway asking for your St. Mary's login.
- Do any security checks necessary.
- You can look for me in the Contacts under "Company Contacts"

What I would like for us to do.

- Over the next few days please email me directly, or reply all to share ideas.
- I am in the process of writing a few documents to help our readiness. Most notably, some tips on how to engage effective online instruction, but feel free to share creative ideas.
- Login to Zoom and CHARMS.
- Come up with some creative and impactful plans for an online semester. Share online resources.

Ensembles and performances.

- I am currently in contact with other university chairs and ensemble directors around the country sharing ideas about continuing ensembles. We have had plenty of ideas. Obviously nothing is really ideal, but I believe we can still find ways to help our students have impactful learning experiences.

- Examples of ideas: Please send me more as you think of them. I have another document with more comprehensive ideas that I will send soon.
 - o You can assign excerpts for students to video record themselves playing. Uploading to CHARMS is easy. But we will work on all of that next week.
 - o Smartmusic announced they are offering free access through June 30, 2020. I work with them on getting us a subscription next week. o “Jam of the week” or “etude of the week” types of assignments.
 - o Zoom discussions on repertoire.
 - o Spotify or youtube playlists o Listening assignments o Watch Parties
 - o Challenges – “100 day practice challenge”

Thank you again everyone for your dedication and passion for teaching our students. We are a wonderful community, and it is a real honor working with you all. Please let me know what you need from me, or how I can help. I will be sure to get you everything you need to help our students advance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew Mireles
Chair, Department of Music
Director of Bands

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