

Guidelines for Developing new Instrumental and Vocal OMTA Syllabus Programs

In the past, many OMTA Syllabus manuals have been written for variety of instruments, including but not limited to Strings, Flute, Voice, Clarinet, Guitar, Accordion, Percussion Instruments, Brass Instruments, Woodwind Instruments, and Celeste Harp. None of these programs is currently active. (These Syllabi are accessible to OMTA teachers). With the hope of designing programs that will thrive and expand, the Syllabus Committee met at the 2025 Conference and developed some guidelines for creating non-Classical Piano Syllabus programs. Our hope is that with a committee of dedicated teachers who will work to make a new program, enter their students, and promote it to the rest of the OMTA community, we will have a strong program which will continue to grow into the future. Below are the guidelines:

- Four teachers from a minimum of three districts should form a committee. These teachers should be National Certified (NCTM), or complete the process of getting their NCTM within two years.
- The committee should write a manual with 10 levels, using the Classical Piano Syllabus as a guide. After the manual is finished, they will also need to write the Evaluation Sheets used by the Adjudicators in the Syllabus exams.
- The committee should meet regularly. Minutes of all meetings should be taken and distributed. The Syllabus Chair and the OMTA State President should be invited to all meetings.
- Adjudicators must be OMTA members who are also NCTM.
- Adjudicators should have at least one annual meeting (retreat) and one meeting at the State Conference. These are opportunities to exchange ideas continue to improve the program.

Please contact the Syllabus Chair, Barbara Roberts, if you are interested in developing a program or have any questions.

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