

West Coast Summer Music Camp: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. Q:** What time do I need to arrive on Sunday afternoon?
A: The registration desk is open from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. People attending the camp for the first time may wish to check in closer to 2:00 to give themselves time to get acquainted with the campus before dinner. The first musical activity is a "Ice-breaker" session at 4:00 pm. Participants in the Children's and Youth Programs and their parents are asked to attend a meeting at 5:00 pm.
- 2. Q:** If I want to play chamber music, does this have to be arranged before camp?
A: All coached chamber groups are organized before camp, either by the members of the chamber group themselves or by the camp committee if you do not have a prearranged group. You can also get together with others informally outside of the scheduled session times. You can use the whiteboard by the cafeteria to let people know that you'd like to play, so bring your music along. You may also borrow music from the WCAMS Music Library during camp.
- 3. Q:** Is it essential to take part in performances?
A: No one is compelled to perform. For chamber groups, everyone has to feel comfortable with the idea before the coach will recommend performance at the Friday concert. If you have strong feelings for or against performing with your chamber group, please let your coach know after the orientation session on Sunday evening.
- 4. Q:** Do I have to pre-register for classes?
A: No (except for coached chamber groups).
- 5. Q:** Can I sample different classes or do I have to commit to classes on the first day? How soon do I have to commit?
A: In fairness to other players, commitment to organized chamber groups is expected, although these groups can be adjusted early in the week if the assignment is inappropriate. It's OK to sample most of the larger groups, but a decision should be made no later than Wednesday. A few classes are run on a drop-in basis. Please check with the instructor on the first day of class.
- 6. Q:** If I'm going as a singer, do I have to be able to sight-sing?
A: No: some familiarity with musical notation is sufficient for most singing classes.
- 7. Q:** If I'm going as an instrumentalist, how good a sight-reader do I need to be?
A: You do not have to be able to sight-read well, although it helps, since practice time is limited.
- 8. Q:** I am primarily an instrumentalist. Can I take classes meant for singers?
A: Absolutely! Classes are open to everyone. We encourage you to try something new!
- 9. Q:** When and where can I practise?
A: Practice rooms are located in the Music Building (7:00 am to midnight) and in the Thompson Building and Neufeld Science Centre (7:00 am to 11:00 pm). Use the sign-up sheets outside the rooms. You can also practise in your own room between 8:00 am and 9:30 pm, except for quiet hour (2:00 to 3:00 pm). Priority is given to pianists for practise rooms with pianos.
- 10. Q:** Can I invite friends and family to the concerts?
A: Please do. Donations from guests are encouraged.
- 11. Q:** Can my 'significant other' visit for an occasional night (e.g. to stay overnight in order to attend both Friday and Saturday concerts)?
A: This is possible, but campers have to make their own arrangements with the TWU conference office (604-513-2002)
- 12. Q:** Can guests come for occasional meals?
A: Yes, with advance notice.
- 13. Q:** Do I need a car while I'm at camp?
A: It shouldn't be necessary as all activities on campus are within walking distance of each other. There is a bus on Glover Road to Langley and Fort Langley (C62). Both are about a 10 minute drive away.
- 14. Q:** Are there any rooms with private bathrooms?
A: Only the two rooms reserved for the disabled.
- 15. Q:** Are there any rooms with double beds?
A: No, most rooms have two single beds, although a few have three.
- 16. Q:** Can I arrange private music lessons with the faculty?
A: Many of the staff are willing to give a private lesson, time permitting. The student and instructor together determine the time and fee.
- 17. Q:** Are there any additional fees or charges once I get to camp?
A: No other funds are required. Of course you will want to bring some spending money to buy raffle tickets for our fundraiser raffle!
- 18. Q:** Will there be a choice of meals?
A: All meals are served buffet-style and there is always a vegetarian alternative to the main meal. Breakfast includes hot food, cold cereals, toast. Lunch includes salads, hot food, dessert. Dinner includes salads, hot food, dessert. Fresh fruit, tea, coffee, cold drinks, water are available at all meals and breaks.
- 19. Q:** How can I connect my laptop to the internet?
A: You can purchase a wireless connection code online at camp for \$10 payable by Visa or Mastercard (see 'Wireless Internet Information'). Alternatively, you can use a cable to connect to the phone jack in your room to connect to the internet for free if you have a dial-up account (dial '9' before the number).