

College Music Society Southwest Chapter

2026 Regional Conference Program (DRAFT)

March 6–7, 2026

New Mexico State University

Conference Theme: *Musician as Citizen: Careers, Care, and Community*

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

Registration

8:00–9:30 a.m. – Registration & Coffee

Welcome & Keynote

9:30–10:45 a.m. – **Atkinson Recital Hall**

Welcome: Jenny Gee, CMS Southwest Chapter President, San Diego State University

Keynote: Dr. Fred Bugbee, Department Head and Percussion, New Mexico State University

Session Block 1: 11:00–11:55 a.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall – Panel

Session Presider: Yoshiko Arahata, New Mexico State University

- Dasa Silhova, Tristin Swisher, Ryan Pound, and Felipe Celis (Texas Tech University) – *Curricular Change in Practice: Empowering Music Students for 21st-Century Career Success*

Lunch: 12:00–1:00 p.m. – Lunch (on your own)

Session Block 2: 1:10–2:00 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall - Demonstrations

Session Presider: Dawid Myzk, New Mexico State University

- Seth Keeton (University of Utah) – *Gathering Information at a scale with and without AI*
- Jacob Dalager and Yoshiko Arahata (New Mexico State University) - *Climate Activism through Music*

Session Block 3: 2:15–3:05 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall – Paper Session

Session Presider: Christian Bohnenstengel, Southern Utah University

- Aaron Kline (California Polytechnic State University) – *Models for Composing Grade 3 Works for Band*
- Edward McClellan (Loyola University New Orleans) – *Reflecting on the Tanglewood Symposium: Innovative Approaches in Music Teaching and Learning*

Session Block 4: 3:20–4:10 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall - Paper Session

Session Presider: Jenny Gee, San Diego State University

- Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen and Christina Kim (UCLA, Imperial Valley College) – *Reimagining Belonging in School Music: Latinx Students, Cultural Identity, and Teacher Practice*
- Jenny Gee (San Diego State University) – *Exploring Early Childhood and Elementary Teachers' Comfort and Perceptions of Music Integration*

Session Block 5: 4:25–5:15 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall - Workshop

Session Presider: Jacob Dalager, New Mexico State University

- Chiao Rou Liu (University of Arizona) – *Focal Dystonia in Pianists – A Guide to Recovery and Possible Cure through Neuroplastic Retraining*

Evening Events

5:30–7:30 p.m. – Group Dinner

7:30–8:30 p.m. – Composers Showcase Concert

Atkinson Recital Hall

Session Presider: Aaron Kline, California Polytechnic State University

- Daniel Adams – *Coalescence Two*

- Douglas Ovens (Cal State University Monterey Bay) – *Music for Sly (and other imaginary friends)*
- John Kosch and Margot Porter (Concordia University NE, University of Nebraska-Omaha) – *Ode to the West Wind*
- John Kosch (Concordia University NE) – *Birth of a Firefly*

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

Registration

9:00–10:00 a.m. – Registration & Coffee

Session Block 6: 10:05–10:55 a.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall – Paper Session

Session Presider: Jenny Gee, San Diego State University

- Pedro Garcia López de la Osa & Leon Garcia López de la Osa (University of Oklahoma, Universidad Complutense de Madrid) – *The Guitar on the Canvas: A Look Beyond Neoclassicism López Mezquita and his Portraits of Miguel Llobet, Andrés Segovia, and the Popular*
- Aaron Kline (California Polytechnic State University) – *Thematic Elements in James Syler's Symphony No. 2, Movement I*

Session Block 7: 11:10 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall

Session Presider: Brian Wilson, Sonoma State University

- Yoshiko Arahata (New Mexico State University) – *Stylistic Diversity in 20th–21st Century Latin American Piano Music: From Suite and Vals to Tango-Jazz*
- Stephen White (Grand Canyon University) – *Performing with Purpose: Creating Context Within Performance Repertoire*

Green Room - Business Meeting / Lunch: Jimmy John's sandwiches will be provided.

12:00–1:30 p.m. – CMS Southwest Chapter Business Meeting

Session Block 8: 1:35–2:25 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall - Showcase Performances

Session Presider: Yoshiko Arahata, New Mexico State University

- Dawid Mzyk and Marta Plominska (New Mexico State University) – *“Waha’yoo Winds” for Alto Flute and Trombone by Jakub Polaczyk (2022)*
- Christian Bohnenstengel (Southern Utah University) – *Jacob Lee: 2nd Suite for Piano (Six miniatures for piano)*
- Holly Dalager and Yoshiko Arahata (New Mexico State University) – *Ponchielli’s Capriccio for Oboe and Piano*

Session Block 9: 2:40–3:30 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall – Performances

Session Presider: Brian Wilson, Sonoma State University

- Jung-Won Shin, Jiyeon Kim, Madelyn Moore, and Marta Plominska (New Mexico State University, Dongseo University, New Mexico State University) – *Bringing Traditional Korean Heritage and Contemporary Music: A Cultural and Musical Exploration through Cross-Cultural Ensemble*
- Nathaniel Berman and Alexandra Aguirre (East Central University) – *The Land of Enchantment*

Session Block 10: 3:45–4:35 p.m.

Atkinson Recital Hall – Paper Session

Session Presider: Jenny Gee, San Diego State University

- Miriam Webber (Bemidji State University) – *Strengthening Chord Quality Retention: Interleaving and Retrieval in Undergraduate Music Theory*
- Natasa Kaurin-Karaca (Oklahoma State University) – *Yu-Mex: The Mariachi Tradition That Swept the Nation*

6:00–7:30 p.m. – Dinner (on your own)