

Note: This is a listing of workshops only. Please refer to the program schedule for times of rehearsals and other scheduled events. If available, handouts (**H**) are **digital only** (for registered participants only, on the convention website).

When	Who, Where	Title, Who for (see key below)	Description
Wednesday p.m. 1:30 – 2:45	Fiona Horbach Mt. Adams	It's the little things: mandolin techniques and tips H, P, L/D, M, AL	During this workshop we will be working on techniques and tips to improve your tone, whether picking or playing tremolo (our mandolin super power!). The musical excerpts we are going to explore will include excerpts of compositions by this year's Composer in Residence, Werner Ruecker. Bring your mandolin and join in!
	Jim Bates St. Helens D	Practice as meditation 2.0: six journeys L/D, AI, AL	This workshop will use some mindfulness techniques to help alleviate stress and improve your practice experience. Some alternative practice techniques may unlock new creative channels. The 2.0 version of this workshop will include more communal musical experiences. Bring a special item that can be used as a percussion instrument.
	Jim Imhoff Garden A&B	New music for CGDA mandocello and mandola in bass and alto clef H, P, L/D, MC, LC, MDL, AL	For those of you looking for music outside the bowed cello and viola repertoire, I have a bundle of music in our special clefs—not treble, not transposed—for plucked CGDA instruments. These include new compositions, new publications, and duets in the 'cello and 'dola ranges. We will read through some examples and work on at least one for the open mic.
Thursday a.m. 10 – 11:15	Vincent Beer-Demander Mt. Adams	Crazy duos from <i>Livre d'enfants</i> H, P, L/D, MF, AL	Learn to play duets based on Vincent Beer-Demander's "Children's Book." Simple but fun music.
	Jeff Brumley St. Helens D	Creating an engaging concert program L/D, AI, AL	Interested in improving your orchestra's concert programs? Jeff will share from his experience as the Artistic Director of Seattle Mandolin Orchestra, in how to balance creating cohesive concerts while maintaining an engaging level of musical variety. Come prepared with questions!
	Joe Binder Garden A&B	Movable chords P, L/D, AI, AL	If you're new to chords or feel comfortable with some open-string chords but panic when you see Eb or C#m7, then this session is for you! We'll build a compact, movable chord vocabulary that lives anywhere on the neck. We'll run through a few songs to demonstrate in context.
Thursday p.m. 1:15 – 2:30	Werner Ruecker St. Helens D	Which comes first...the notes or the music? H, P, L/D, AI, AL	I've had literally thousands of conversations over many years with musicians of all levels discussing this very question..... is there an answer? This session will look at defining which is which and the techniques for learning a new piece of music, how to engage with it and broaden your musical horizons.
	Fabio Gallucci Mt. Adams	Masters of the Italian classical mandolin technique H, P, L/D, M, OM, AL	We will work on a few studies by Calace, Munier, Marucelli and Graziani, as well as an easy warmup for left and right hands.
	Robert Margo Garden A&B	Oblivion, for one H, P, M, OM, LC, Adv	A workshop on arranging for solo performance, based on the presenter's arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's <i>Oblivion</i> . Music in treble clef ONLY. This workshop is for advanced players; if you have any doubts, please watch my YouTube video . Limited to 15 participants.

Key to codes:**P:** Includes playing**H:** Handouts**L/D:** Lecture/Discussion**AL:** All Levels**Int/Adv:** Intermediate/Advanced Level**AI:** All Instruments**MF:** Mandolin-Family Instruments**M:** Mandolin only**G:** Guitar**MDL:** Mandola in C (CGDA)**OM:** Octave mandolin/Mandola in G**MC:** Mandocello**LC:** Liuto cantabile

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CMSA Portland 2025

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Friday a.m. 10 – 11:15	Fabio Gallucci Garden A&B	South Italian traditional music H, P, L/D, MF, AL	We will work on rhythm, chords, techniques, melodies and arrangements of South Italian music.
	Jim Bates St. Helens A	Gesture for musical communication L/D, AI, Int/Adv	This masterclass targets the conductor with some experience. Participants should bring their own score and audio of the excerpt they wish to conduct. Conductors should consider performing passages that are problematic, such as those containing tempo changes, fermatas, articulation variety or expressive requirements.
	Sheri Mignano Crawford St. Helens D	The music of Rudy Cipolla H, P, L/D, AI, AL	Come join us as we celebrate and play the repertoire of Rudy Cipolla (in his hometown!) Pieces that we will work through include: Babbling Brook, Onde, La Civetta, Iona waltz, La Biondina polka.
Friday p.m. 1:45 – 3:00	Fiona Horbach Garden A&B	Second position – often overlooked, but not today! H, P, L/D, M, AL	The position between the more commonly used first and third positions is sometimes passed over in our playing. When is it useful? Today we will be working on improving your skills in this position so that when you have an opportunity to use it in the future you will feel more confident. A new etude composed especially for this workshop by the up-and-coming Australian composer, Brent Keogh, will be the basis for this workshop.
	Kristen Stiteler St. Helens A	Strengthening your practice H, P, L/D, AI, AL	Tips, tricks and secrets to improve your playing and overcoming plateaus.
	Matthew Lewis St. Helens D	The physics and acoustics of the mandolin family H, L/D, MF, AL	Come learn the ins and outs of why your instrument sounds the way it does.
Saturday a.m. 10 – 11:15	Vincent Beer-Demander Mt. Adams	Compositions and arrangements for plucked strings H, P, L/D, MF, AL	Learn how to arrange a simple piece of music for yourself, based on a score. Learn how to compose.
	Werner Ruecker St. Helens D	The mandolin Down Under H, L/D, AI, AL	In this workshop, Werner will chronicle the history of the modern mandolin orchestra in Australia and the development of its repertoire and composers.
	Joel Hobbs Garden A&B	Beyond reading: unlock creative expression H, P, L/D, AI, AL	Are you fixated on the GPS to get to your musical destination and missing the scenic journey? The score is a map, not a cage. Supercharge your toolkit by learning to internalize the music, make interpretive choices, embellish freely, improvise confidently, and become an evocative painter of wonderful musical worlds.

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