



National Association
for Music Education



2026 Biennial NAfME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference

Hilton Long Beach, Long Beach, California
September 30–October 3, 2026

PROGRAM GUIDE

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Welcome Messages



Cecil Adderley
President
National Association for Music Education

Dear Biennial Conference Attendees,

On behalf of the National Association for Music Education, I want to welcome you to Long Beach and the 2026 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference!

We are thrilled to have this event in California. Special greetings and thanks to the California Music Educators Association and all our NAFME Western Division affiliates for the work they do throughout the year supporting music educators at all levels in this vibrant and beautiful part of the country!

This event would not be possible if it were not for the tremendous work and dedication of the leaders of the Society for Research in Music Education (SRME) and Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE). They led a comprehensive anonymized review process of over 600 proposals, working with many reviewers from each society. The hundreds of research presentations and research posters at this conference are the result of all those efforts, representing a very wide range of topics in the field. Make sure to thank the leaders of SRME and SMTE when you see them at the conference.

Research and Music Teacher Education form one of the three cornerstones of NAFME's Strategic Plan. In addition to taking full advantage of everything this conference has to offer, make sure to engage with SRME and SMTE throughout the year and take full advantage of their research communities of practice and other resources NAFME has to offer. Another great research resource for members is having complete access to NAFME's five peer-reviewed journals, including the ability to search the archives to learn about issues and trends in music education.

We are also excited to have three special sessions at this conference led by members of the Music Teacher Profession Advisory Council (MTPAC).

Whether you are here for your professional learning and growth (another cornerstone of NAFME's Strategic Plan) or as a presenter, mentor, and/or mentee, thank you for your active participation in this premier event in the field of music education. I encourage you to learn as much as you can, ask a lot of questions, and make new friends and colleagues. The connections you make here, the ideas you share and reflect on, will benefit you personally and professionally for years and help shape future research topics and priorities.

Have a great conference!

Welcome Messages



Phillip M. Hash
Chair, Society for Research in Music
Education (SRME)

Welcome to the 2026 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference, on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Society for Research in Music Education (SRME). The quality of submissions was exceptionally high this year, and we are pleased to offer a rich program of high-quality research and special-topic presentations, along with sessions organized by our 15 Special Research Interest Groups (SRIGs). This conference provides one of our profession's best opportunities to disseminate new research, engage in professional development, and network with colleagues from across the country. We hope you will learn about cutting-edge original research and research-related topics, engage in thought-provoking discussions, interact with presenters, and enjoy opportunities to establish or renew connections with friends and colleagues in music education.

Organizing a conference such as this requires the hard work and dedication of many people. This event would not be possible without the leadership of NAFME President Cecil Adderley and SRME Executive Committee members and conference program co-chairs Kelly Parks and Jessica Nápoles.

We are grateful to John Donaldson and the other NAFME staff members for the countless hours they have devoted to conference organization, arrangements, correspondence, scheduling, and preparation of conference documents and materials. We also thank the SRME Executive Committee members, SRIG chairs, and editorial committee members of the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*, and *Journal of Music Teacher Education* for reviewing submissions and serving as session presiders. We appreciate the collaboration of the Society for Music Teacher Education leaders Tami Draves, Brian Wiedner, and Ann Marie Stanley, and their many efforts on behalf of this event.

Thank you, as well, to all the conference presenters for your contributions to our NAFME research community. Conferences such as this depend on the willingness of scholars and educators to share their work, engage with one another, and contribute to the advancement of our profession. We hope that everyone who presents and attends will be inspired and motivated to continue their research activities and share their work at the 2028 conference.

Best wishes for an exciting, stimulating, and rewarding conference experience!

Welcome Messages



Tami J. Draves
Chair, Society for Music Teacher
Education (SMTE)

Welcome to Long Beach and the 2026 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference. Your SMTE Executive Committee, SRME Executive Committee, NAFME National Executive Board, and NAFME staff have collaborated over the last year to bring this exciting conference together.

In addition to expressing gratitude to these wonderful partners, I want to especially thank SRME Chair-Elect and conference co-chair Kelly Parkes, SRME Chair Phillip Hash, SMTE Communications Chair Brian Weidner, and SMTE Past Chair Ann Marie Stanley for their exceptional work preparing for this event. We worked together to create a valuable learning and networking experience for everyone, including adding a

few new opportunities such as mentoring sessions. I am also grateful to the presenters for your contributions that will create meaningful opportunities for everyone. My favorite things about this conference are the variety of chances to learn, be challenged, and connect to my roots as a music teacher and researcher. Research posters and presentations and special topics sessions help me deepen my practice, open my mind to new ideas, and, yes, even sit in discomfort because that is where growth happens.

At the NAFME Biennial we honor the leaders and thinkers who have shaped our profession, and we also welcome those new to it. Like many of you, I am excited to reunite with former colleagues and grad school friends and also make new connections. I hope that you will join me in engaging with our newest colleagues to make them feel especially welcome.

At the heart of this conference is a unique blend of tradition and innovation, where rich legacy and groundbreaking ideas meet to move the profession forward together. Let's stay curious as we learn new things, have thought-provoking discussions, and seek progress toward shared professional goals. I look forward to hearing about your experience at the conference, so please stop and let me know your thoughts, questions, and what excited you.

Have a wonderful conference!

Welcome from California Music Educators Association Leaders (CMEA)

Welcome to California!

On behalf of the California Music Educators Association, it is our pleasure to welcome you to Long Beach for the 2026 NAFME Biennial Music Research and Teacher Education Conference.

This gathering brings together future and current music educators, teacher educators, researchers, administrators, and partners committed to strengthening the future of music teaching and learning. Over the coming days, we hope the Keynote and Senior Researcher address, presentations, poster sessions, mentoring opportunities, and conversations with colleagues inspire new questions, foster meaningful collaboration, and strengthen the relationship between research and practice.

California's music education community is proud to host you. We hope you enjoy the conference, the vibrant city of Long Beach, and the opportunity to learn alongside colleagues from across the nation. May your time here renew your sense of purpose and generate ideas that continue well beyond our gathering.

Welcome to California and have a wonderful conference!

California Music Educators Association,



Dr. David Betancourt
CMEA President,
Cerritos College



Dr. Chad Zullinger
Immediate Past President,
California State University, Sacramento



Dr. Jenny Gee
CMEA Vice President
San Diego State University

Thank You to Leaders and Contributors

2026 NAFME Biennial Music Research and Teacher Education Conference Planning Committee Members:

- Cecil Adderley, NAFME President and Conference Chair
- Judy Bush, NAFME President-Elect
- Scott Sheehan, NAFME Immediate Past President
- James Daugherty, Southern Division Immediate Past President and former NEB Executive Committee Member (in these roles through June 2026)
- Society for Research in Music Education (SRME) Conference Co-Chairs
 - o Phillip Hash, SRME Chair
 - o Kelly Parkes, SRME Chair-Elect, Biennial Program Co-Chair
 - o Jessica Nápoles, SRME Conference Coordinator
- Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE) Conference Co-Chairs
 - o Tami Draves, SMTE Chair, Biennial Program Co-Chair
 - o Ann Marie Stanley, SMTE Immediate Past Chair
 - o Brian Weidner, SMTE Conference Chair
- Western Division and California MEA Representatives
 - o Scott Hedgecock, Western Division Immediate Past President and former NEB member (in these roles through June 2026)
 - o Chad Zullinger, California MEA Immediate Past President

The Planning Committee is grateful to our late colleague Carlos Abril for his invaluable work as Music Teacher Profession Advisory Committee Co-Chair on the 2026 Biennial Conference.

Staff Liaison: John Donaldson

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Annamarie Bollino	Michael Hopkins	Julia Shaw
Vanessa Bond	Dan Isbell	Brian Silvey
Jason Bowers	Jay Juchniewicz	D. Gregory Springer
Ruth Brittin	Sangmi Kang	Laura Stambaugh
Jennifer Bugos	Jamey Kelley	Don Taylor
Nathan Buonviri	Steve Kelly	Matthew Thibeault
Kelly Bylica	Daryl Kinney	Olivia Tucker
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Daniel Hellman	Charlene Ryan	
Benjamin Helton	David Saccardi	

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SRME and SMTE Session Presiders

Kari Adams	Phillip Hash	Lauren Kapalka Richerme
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Please donate to the following Music Education Scholarships honoring the memory of Deanna Kidd-Szymczak, Faith Lueth, and Dr. Jarritt Sheel: college.berklee.edu/giving/active-scholarship-initiatives

berklee.edu/music-education

Plenary Sessions and Other Special Sessions

Keynote Plenary Session

**Keynote Plenary Session: October 1, 2026 – 4:00 PM to 5:15 PM,
International III, IV, and V**



Pedro Antonio Noguera, PhD
2026 Biennial Conference Keynote Speaker

Music for All: The Case for Placing Music at the Center of the School Curriculum

Pedro A. Noguera, Ph.D.

Dean, Rossier School of Education, USC

From the rhythmic beating within the mother's body for the fetus and infant, to the songs a new mother sings to a growing infant, we have known for millennia that the brain is surrounded by and responds to rhythm. However, in too many schools, access to music is treated as an "extra" and even an afterthought. It is often one of the first programs that school districts cut when budgets are running short, and unless a child is fortunate enough to

demonstrate a talent for music, children are often scheduled out of the opportunity to participate in music early on in their education. This occurs even though many students who have trouble reading often have no trouble memorizing the lyrics to hundreds of songs. Drawing on research from neuroscience that explains why music often resonates with so many, and from schools that have used music as a way to increase student motivation and engagement, this presentation will show how music can be incorporated into a holistic strategy for making schools more meaningful, equitable, and joyful places.

Pedro Noguera serves as the Emery Stoops and Joyce King Stoops Dean of the Rossier School of Education and a Distinguished Professor of Education at the University of Southern California. He is one of the nation's leading scholars on issues related to inequality, public policy, and education.

Previously Noguera served as Professor of Education and holder of endowed chairs at UCLA (2015–2020), New York University (2004–2015), Harvard University (2000–2003), and the University of California, Berkeley (1990–2000).

Noguera is a sociologist and his research focuses on the ways in which schools are influenced by social and economic conditions, as well as by demographic trends in local, regional, and global contexts. He is the author, co-author, and editor of 15 books. His most recent books are *A Search for Common Ground: Conversations About the Tough Questions in K–12 Education* (Teachers College Press, 2021) with Rick Hess—which won of the Association of American Publishers 2022 Prose Award—and *City Schools and the American Dream: The Enduring Promise of Public Education* (Teachers College Press, 2021) with Esa Syeed.

Continue on next page

Over his 35-year career, Noguera has published dozens of research articles in leading academic journals, as well as numerous book chapters in edited volumes. He has also published several research reports and editorials in major newspapers. He serves on the boards of numerous national and local organizations, including the Economic Policy Institute, the National Teacher Project, City Year Los Angeles, and Donors Choose.

From 2009 to 2012 Noguera served as a trustee for the State University of New York as an appointee of the governor. He has served as an advisor to the governor of New Mexico on education policy and worked as an advisor to the state departments of education in Washington, Oregon, New York, and Rhode Island, as well as several urban, rural, and suburban school districts. In 2022 he was appointed to the Presidential Commission on Excellence and Equity for Hispanics. In 2014 Noguera was elected to the National Academy of Education and Phi Delta Kappa honor society, and in 2020 he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Noguera has received eight honorary doctorates from American universities and awards from the Center for the Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at NYU for his research and advocacy efforts aimed at fighting poverty. In 2023 he was ranked 1st in the nation for influence and impact in the field of education by *Education Week*.

Born in New York City to Caribbean immigrants, Noguera is the father of five children, and grandfather to five grandchildren.

Senior Researcher Address Plenary Session

**Senior Researcher Address and SRME Business Meeting:
October 2, 2026 – 5:15 PM to 6:30 PM, International III, IV, and V**



Colleen M. Conway
2026 Senior Researcher Address

“Studying Music Teacher Education”

The SRME Senior Researcher Award address will examine how music teacher education has emerged as an increasingly robust field of research over the past 25 years. Through the intertwined histories of qualitative inquiry and music teacher education, I will consider how methodological conventions, theoretical frameworks, editorial practices, and review cultures shape what scholars study and publish. The session challenges the tendency to treat teacher education as a catchall solution for every problem in music education and instead calls for precise, consequential research across the full continuum

of teacher development. Five priorities guide the discussion: program curricula, connections between coursework and fieldwork, induction and early-career support, equity and justice, and the development of music teacher educators. Attendees will be invited to consider how rigorous, flexible research can better connect scholarship, practice, policy, and professional learning. Ultimately, the session argues that caring about students’ musical lives requires studying how teachers are prepared and supported.

Colleen Conway is Professor of Music Education at The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in horn performance and music education from the Eastman School of Music and a doctorate in music education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Her scholarly interests include instrumental music education, preservice music teacher education, qualitative research, professional development for the in-service music teacher, and the mentoring and induction of beginning music teachers. She has presented throughout the United States and in Brazil, Canada, China, Cyprus, Macedonia, Norway, Singapore, and Sweden and has published over 120 articles on these topics in all of the major music education journals. She is currently Editor of the *Journal of Music Teacher Education* and former Editor (2011–2022) of *Arts Education Policy Review*.

Book and edited book publications include *Great Beginning for Music Teachers: A Guide to Mentoring and Induction* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003); *Handbook for the Beginning Music Teacher* (GIA, 2006); *Teaching Music in Higher Education* (Oxford, 2009, 2019); *Handbook for the Music Mentor* (GIA, 2010); *Handbook of Qualitative Research in American Music Education* (Ed.) (Oxford, 2014, 2020); *Musicianship-Focused Curriculum and Assessment* (Ed.) (GIA, 2015, 2024); *The Oxford Handbook on Preservice Music Teacher Education in the United States* (Ed.) (Oxford, 2019); and *Teaching Private Lessons: A Manual for Teachers* (Conway Publications, 2019).

Continue on next page

More about Colleen Conway from NAFME's August 13, 2026 press release:

National Association for Music Education Announces Colleen Conway as the Recipient of the 2026 NAFME Senior Researcher Award

HERNDON, VA (August 12, 2026)—The National Association for Music Education (NAfME) is pleased to recognize Colleen Conway, Professor of Music Education at the University of Michigan, as the twentieth recipient of the NAFME Senior Researcher Award. The award, from the NAFME [Society for Research in Music Education](#) (SRME), recognizes significant, long-term scholarship in music education. Conway will be presented the award on October 2 at the [2026 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education Conference](#), taking place at the Hilton Long Beach in Long Beach, California.

“Colleen Conway’s extensive career as an educator, researcher, and colleague on numerous editorial boards and committees is illustrious in its reach in preparing future music educators and pushing forward the music education profession, bolstered by impactful findings in music research,” stated NAFME President Cecil Adderley. “But also notable, of course, is her impact on people—both the students she has taught and mentored and her colleagues in the field. We at NAFME and the Society for Research in Music Education are honored to present Conway as the 2026 Senior Researcher Award recipient and look forward to her remarks this fall at the 2026 Biennial NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education, which most certainly will be inspiring and encouraging.”

“Dr. Conway’s record of accomplishments is both broad and diverse,” shared Dr. John Eros, Professor and Coordinator of Music Education at California State University, East Bay. “Her record of publication, editorship, and mentorship places her in a category of her own. Colleen’s influence can be felt not only within journals and conference presentations, but within university classrooms and schools of music led by her doctoral alumni. Finally, Dr. Conway has made a lasting impact on the field of research in music education itself, through her tireless work in establishing qualitative research as an essential mode of inquiry within the profession.”

“Dr. Conway’s degree of productivity as a scholar is second to none, as evidenced by her extremely extensive record of peer-reviewed journal articles and books,” added Peter Miksza, Professor and Chair of Music Education at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. “Her publications address a range of topics relevant to many throughout the profession, including preservice music teacher preparation, mentoring and induction, in-service teacher professional development, curriculum and assessment, classroom management, and music teacher identity and agency development. In addition, Dr. Conway has played a pivotal role in legitimizing, refining, and advancing qualitative research as a rigorous and essential mode of knowledge production in the field. Through her scholarship, she has demonstrated how qualitative approaches can illuminate aspects of music teaching and learning that other methods could not, thereby reshaping both research practice and doctoral preparation.”

Conway received her Bachelor of Music in Applied Horn, Bachelor of Music in Music Education, and Master of Arts in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. She received her Doctor of Education in Music Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. Conway’s teaching career spans 1988 to the present day as an instrumental and general music teacher in public New York schools and at the university level from 1995 to the present day.

Continue on next page

“Dr. Conway has published 110+ articles,” and “her research on music teacher mentoring, development, and identity has provided important frameworks for understanding how teachers learn, evolve, and sustain their professional lives,” noted Phillip M. Hash, Professor of Music Education and Director of Undergraduate Music Education at the Illinois State University School of Music. “Although the sheer quantity is impressive, the impact of her work is what is most important. According to the “Updated Science-Wide Author Databases of Standardized Citation Indicators” published in the Elsevier Data Repository in 2025, Colleen was the eighth most cited researcher internationally in music education in 2024, and the fourth most cited researcher overall to date.”

“As a graduate of the University of Michigan (PhD, 2009),” added Dr. Eros, “I can further attest to Dr. Conway’s contributions to the profession through her extensive work in the area of doctoral education, specifically her pivotal role in the revitalization of the PhD program at the University of Michigan. I began the fall of 2005 as one of the first three students in the newly re-established PhD program led by then Director of Graduate Studies Colleen Conway. Since then, Michigan’s program has grown to a robust size, producing graduates who have gone on to faculty and administrative positions, as well as positions of leadership within professional organizations, throughout the United States and abroad.”

“I have personally known Colleen for many years from my work as a professor in the state of Michigan from 2004–2017 and an active member of the research community,” shared Hash. “I can think of no one more deserving of this award based on her highly prolific output of peer-reviewed research, mentoring of emerging scholars, and service as an editor and reviewer for numerous music education journals.”

“She has contributed to shaping research conversations in music education and supporting the dissemination of scholarship,” added Miksza. “Her editorial service reflects sustained engagement with the field’s research community. [She] has also demonstrated a long-standing commitment to nurturing the next generation of scholars through her mentoring of graduate students. She has supervised and advised numerous master’s and doctoral students and has regularly collaborated with former students on scholarly publications. These coauthored works illustrate an approach to mentorship that emphasizes continued scholarly engagement beyond degree completion.”

“Professor Conway has been a tireless, reliable, and always available mentor to me and to many others,” noted Ann Marie Stanley, Director of the School of Music and Professor of Music Education at The Pennsylvania State University. “If you have attended one of her clinics, workshops, guest lectures, or courses, you will remember how interactive, personal, and lively her teaching is. Unfailingly, she remembers everyone she has taught, and their students, and their students’ students. It is remarkable to witness the breadth of her professional network, but even more striking to realize that these connections are always genuine. They are rooted in a sincere desire to move music education forward.”

Student Ensemble Group

Don't miss this special performance! The **LA County High School for the Arts (LACHSA) Jazz Ensemble** will perform prior to the Keynote Plenary Session, in International III, IV, and V, as attendees are arriving to the session, October 1, 3:30 – 4:00 pm.

LA County High School for the Arts is a specialized, tuition-free public school open to aspiring young artists throughout Los Angeles County. LACHSA was founded in 1985 under the direction of the LA County Office of Education, and is located on the campus of California State University, Los Angeles.

Combining college-preparatory academic instruction with conservatory-style training in the visual and performing arts, LACHSA provides a unique high school experience for those who know they were born to create. Learn more: www.lachsa.net

Special thanks to the student musicians and chaperones!

Chaperones

- o Joshua Gronlund, Chair, LACHSA Music Department
- o Anthony Fung, Jazz and Combo Instructor

Students: **The Court Six Combo**

- o Aminah Rubinstein (Bass)
- o Mateo Bautista (Sax)
- o Mateo Rodriguez (Guitar)
- o Gaby Espinosa (Vocals)
- o Ishaan Natarajan (Drums)
- o Vivian Murphy (Percussion)

NAfME would also like to thank Lisa Crawford, Chair of NAfME's Composition Council for being the liaison with LACHSA to make this possible. Crawford is a music educator at LACHSA in the areas of composition and arranging, composition for media, music technology, and AP Music Theory. She is also a part-time professor at California State, Northridge.



Mentoring Sessions for Emerging Faculty and Researchers

SRME and SMTE leaders will provide career mentoring opportunities for attendees on Wednesday evening and Friday morning at the conference. Music education professors at various career stages and representing different types of institutions will be available for small-group or one-on-one mentoring on a variety of career topics that include applying for first jobs in academia, the tenure and promotion process, middle and late career stages, and publishing in research journals. Mentees will be encouraged to move to one or more topics throughout the sessions and come and go as their time permits. Please join us for one or both of these sessions:

- September 30, 2026 - 5:30 PM–7:00 PM – Mentoring Session for Emerging Faculty and Researchers
- October 2, 2026 - 7:15 AM–8:15 AM – Mentoring Session for Emerging Faculty and Researchers

Music Teacher Profession Advisory Committee (MTPAC) Sessions

Make sure to bookmark these special sessions. NAFME's Music Teacher Profession Advisory Committee (MTPAC) will be leading three interactive sessions at the 2026 Biennial Conference:

October 1, 2026 - 9:40 AM–10:40 AM, Catalina

Leading from the Middle: Administrative Advocacy for Curricular Evolution

This interactive session presents music education researchers and teacher preparation leaders with potential strategies to effectively lead from the middle when engaging with deans and directors. Participants will explore critical pathways for institutional change through topics including auditions and curricular evolution, offering practical guidance on navigating faculty resistance and institutional inertia to achieve meaningful, program-wide revision.

Presenters: Latasha Casterlow-Lalla, Shawn Chastain, Ramon Jackson, Sarah Nietupski, Kelly Parkes, Jared Rawlings, Martina Vasil

October 2, 2026 – 2:30 PM–3:30 PM, Catalina

Models of Change in Music Teacher Education: New Directions and Approaches

Panelists will describe successful programmatic shifts in pre-service music teacher education designed to expand access and relevance. They will share specific changes, including removing audition requirements and developing new concentrations in popular music, mariachi, and bilingual music education to better serve diverse and non-traditional students. The session will examine both the opportunities and challenges involved in revising auditions, studio lessons, ensemble expectations, and coursework to prepare future music teachers for the realities of current and future music classrooms.

Presenters: Bryan Powell, Virginia Davis, Cassandra Eisenreich, Jennifer Walter

October 2, 2026 - 9:40 AM–10:40 AM, Catalina

The Music Teacher, 2050: Skills, Knowledge, and Dispositions Teachers Will Need in the Future

What are the skills, knowledge, dispositions, and competencies a music teacher will need in the future? Join us for a highly interactive brainstorming session designed to inform MTPAC's development of forward-looking recommendations.

Presenters: Wendy Sims, Erin Bailey

Important Conference Information

Detailed Conference Program, Program Overview, and Conference App

Links for conference registration and hotel information, the detailed conference program for all sessions, and this overview guide for the conference can be found on the conference web page on NAFME's web site: bit.ly/2026MRTE.

We recommend bookmarking this page for regular updates.

In addition, all speakers and attendees will receive access to the conference app, Whova. Download and use the app to find sessions, network with your colleagues, and learn more about the poster presentations. Updates to the program will be announced through the app.

A few hard copies of the conference program for reference if needed will be available at the NAFME registration desk during the conference.

Key dates:

- August 14 – Early conference registration rate deadline
- September 7 – Make sure to book your room at the Hilton Long Beach by September 7.
- September 25 – Last day to register for the conference online. After that, there will only be on-site registration.

Conference Hotel Address, Airport, Local Transportation, Parking

The 2026 Biennial Conference will take place at the [Hilton Long Beach](#) located at 701 W. Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, California 90831.

There are several airports near Long Beach:

- Long Beach Airport/Daugherty Field (LGB) is 7 miles from hotel, or about 15 minutes.
- John Wayne Airport/Orange County (SNA) is 20 miles from hotel, or about 35 minutes.
- Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is 21 miles from hotel, or about 35 minutes.

There are no shuttles from any of the airports to the hotels. All ride-share apps work within Long Beach.

Guests staying overnight will have notes in the reservation regarding the discounted self-parking rate of \$27 per night. The hotel does also offer valet parking at \$40 per night.

There is no discount for event self-parking. Any guests that will be attending the conference each day will pay the max rate of \$17.50 for day-use only event self-parking at the exit.

For more information about the local area see the [Visit Long Beach visitor's website](#).

Conference Registration

Conference registration at the Hilton Long Beach will be located on the Promenade Second Floor. See the overview schedule below for registration hours.

Conference Overview Schedule

For a complete, detailed listing of all meetings and presentation and poster sessions, including session titles, abstracts, speakers, dates, times, and rooms, see the separate detailed program schedule (PDF) on the [2026 Biennial Conference web page on NAFME's website](#). Also, the conference app (Whova) will be available for all attendees 1–2 weeks prior to the conference.

Wednesday, September 30			
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Promenade Second Floor	Registration Open
9:00 AM	5:00 PM		Society and Editorial Committee Meetings
5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Catalina	Mentoring Session for Emerging Faculty and Researchers
Thursday, October 1			
7:00 AM	5:00 PM	Promenade Second Floor	Registration Open
8:30 AM	10:40 AM		Presentation Sessions
10:50 AM	12:05 PM	International I, II, and III	Poster Session 1
12:05 PM	1:20 PM		Lunch
1:20 PM	3:30 PM		Presentation Sessions
3:35 PM	4:00 PM	International III, IV, and V	LA County High School for the Arts (LACHSA) Jazz Ensemble
4:00 PM	5:15 PM	International III, IV, and V	Plenary Session: Keynote Speaker Pedro Antonio Noguera
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	Promenade and Foyer	Welcome Reception
Friday, October 2			
7:15 AM	8:15 AM	Catalina	Mentoring Session for Emerging Faculty and Researchers
7:30 AM	5:00 PM	Promenade Second Floor	Registration Open
8:30 AM	10:40 AM		Presentation Sessions
10:50 AM	12:05 PM	International I, II, and III	Poster Session 2
12:05 PM	1:20 PM		Lunch
1:20 PM	3:30 PM		Presentation Sessions
3:40 PM	4:55 PM	International I, II, and III	Poster Session 3
5:15 PM	6:30 PM	International III, IV, and V	Plenary Session: Senior Researcher Address – Colleen Conway; and SRME Business Meeting
Saturday, October 3			
7:30 AM	11:00 AM	Promenade Second Floor	Registration Open
8:00 AM	11:55 AM		Presentation Sessions
12:05 PM	1:20 PM	International I, II, and III	Poster Session 4

Hotel Floor Plan

