

## Courses:

### *Braille Music*

Students can expect a morning and afternoon session of Braille music, at least one of these being one-on-one with the teacher. The curriculum will be customized to the student's level, from beginner, to those requiring help reading piano or other types of scores.

### *Rhythm and Sight Singing*

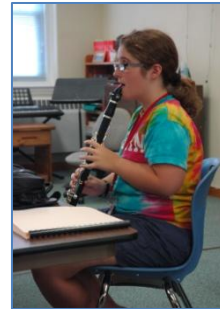
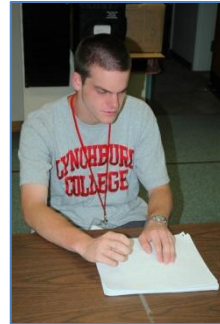
Since one of the major requisites for reading music is a good understanding of rhythmic values and intervals, a group class will combine fun with Braille reading, singing, percussion instruments, and other activities to develop fluency and ear training, as well as discussing strategies for functioning in classes with sighted peers. Other activities will include taking down music from dictation and learning how to use the "Dictionary of Braille Music Signs."

### *Theory Tutoring*

Students work with a sighted theory teacher in areas where help is needed. Objectives are set to make sure students understand the "grammar" of music, to insure they have the vocabulary and ability to share and articulate concepts with others. Topics often include scales and intervals, understanding print music concepts, going over the student's fall class syllabus or textbook, analyzing a chorale from the music in Braille, and pointers for performance.

### *Computer*

The goal of the instruction is for students to be able, upon leaving, to produce music assignments in print for submission to teachers. Intensive training is provided in the use of the LIME Music Editor, made accessible through speech and Braille with scripts developed by Dancing Dots as part of its GOODFEEL® package. Students have demonstrations of, or try out, other music programs, such as Cakewalk Sonar and Sibelius. Time is also set aside to help students with general computer skills they may find challenging.



## Who We Are:

The National Resource Center for Blind Musicians is a division of the Neighborhood Studios of Fairfield County in Bridgeport, Connecticut. It provides information and referral to students, parents, and teachers on Braille music, technology, and strategies for full participation in music activities.

### *Contact us at:*

National Resource Center for Blind Musicians  
Neighborhood Studios of Fairfield County  
510 Barnum Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

*or visit us on the web at:*

[www.blindmusicstudent.org](http://www.blindmusicstudent.org)



Summer Institute  
for Blind College  
Bound Musicians

NEIGHBORHOOD STUDIOS  
OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY



# Summer Braille Music Institute

A Seminar on  
Braille Music & Technology  
for School Music Study

Overbrook School for the Blind  
Philadelphia, PA

July 10-16, 2011

*Presented by*  
The National Resource Center  
for Blind Musicians

*A division of*  
**NEIGHBORHOOD STUDIOS**  
OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

## About the Program:

The Summer Braille Music Institute instructs blind college-bound musicians in Braille music and the skills needed for full participation in music theory classes at the high school and college level. Days will be comprised of individual and group instruction in Braille music, use of the computer to submit written assignments, and tutoring in theory and related skills. Outdoor events on the campus, cookouts, group music activities meant for fun, and outings to concerts and recreation in Philadelphia's cultural centers will make this a full and wholesome week.

In addition to the student group, we make one intern position available to a sighted music or vision teacher, or music education student, to join our team of teachers and interns. The person selected for this position will receive exposure to the techniques we use and gain experience helping in the classrooms and the dorm. Interns, along with volunteers, and staff from both the National Resource Center and Overbrook School for the Blind, assure support for all involved.

### 2011 Dates:

Sunday, July 10 to Saturday, July 16



### Setting:

The Overbrook School for the Blind, on a beautiful campus in Philadelphia, blends its Spanish Renaissance architecture with a design for today's needs. School drivers will meet students at the train or airport and provide transportation for any off-campus activities.

## Student Admission Requirements:

*Students should consider this program only if they:*

- § Are age 16 or older and are taking a high school theory class or lessons emphasizing an academic approach to music, OR
- § Will be starting college and taking music courses in the fall, OR
- § Are already in college and need help with music study.

*Further, students should:*

- § Understand the need for Braille music and have decided for themselves that they want to develop this skill;
- § Have had several years of music lessons and understand the importance of theory
- § Demonstrate, in their audition, ability to present a polished and pleasing performance
- § Require the ability to submit written music assignments;
- § Be fluent readers of contracted English Braille;
- § Have some computer experience using a Windows operating system and a screen reader;
- § Already have or demonstrate that they will soon obtain, the music software taught;
- § Demonstrate good independence skills;
- § And are fully committed to spending several hours a day studying the essentials of their craft while displaying social readiness and maturity to be a contributing part of a close-knit group.



## Application Procedure



Application packets are available upon request. The application comprises forms (print and email) to be completed by the student, recommendation forms to be completed by teachers, and requires a short audition tape. We ask students to look over the material as soon as the package arrives and to e-

mail or call the Resource Center to let us know whether or not they are applying. All application material must be received by May 4, 2011. Students will, in most cases, be interviewed by phone after the application is received. Up to eight students will be accepted. Students and their parents should note that the small capacity means difficult decisions will need to be made about who can attend. Primary considerations will be the student's need for Braille music and other skills taught, motivation and social readiness, and our perception of personalities that will match well in working together in a group as intimate as this one will be.

### Program Cost

\$1600

*A limited number of partial scholarships of up to \$750 are made possible through the contributions of Institute supporters, and awarded based on documentation of income and student need.*

### To Request an Application Packet

To request an application packet or discuss options for consulting with Institute teachers by appointment during the program, contact David Goldstein at:

Phone (203) 366-3300 x229

Email: [info@blindmusicstudent.org](mailto:info@blindmusicstudent.org)

Visit [www.blindmusicstudent.org](http://www.blindmusicstudent.org)