

## THE 2007 NATIONAL SURVEY OF MUSIC TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

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One outcome of *The 2005 Symposium on Music Teacher Education*, sponsored by the Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE), was the formation of 12 *Areas of Strategic Planning and Action*. Among the efforts of one such area—*Program Admission, Assessment, and Alignment*—was a focus on current practices in the preparation of certified PreK–12 music educators.

*The 2007 National Survey of Music Teacher Certification Programs* comprised six parts (with a combined total of 97 questions): *Program Background; Audition Procedures for Entering Freshman Music Majors; Program Assessment, Decision Points, and Admission/Continuation Criteria; Assessment Related to Student Teaching and Program Completion; Predictive Quality of Assessments and Use in Program Improvements; and Professional Dispositions and Teaching Skills*.

Through the assistance of SMTE leaders and members, combined with other higher-education colleagues, over 800 certification programs from across all 50 states and the District of Columbia were identified. Faculty members and administrators with first-hand knowledge of the programs (typically program chairs or coordinators) were then identified and invited to participate in the web-based survey.

Seeking to support future efforts in higher education by informing decision makers, authors of the *National Study* hope that results provide meaningful data about current practices in the certification of music teachers.