

2013-14 Program Review
Best Practices Form

Instructions: *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called **Best Practices** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: “Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices.” For examples of Best Practices visit the [Program Review Committee’s website](#).

Program/Department: Music/Performing Arts Department Name of Chair/Director/Manager: John Gerhold

Email Address: igerhold@bakersfieldcollege.edu Phone: 4533

Best Practice(s):

The Music program employs several best practices that may be of benefit to other programs/disciplines, particularly in a “completion agenda” environment.

For the last two years, we have sent a letter to each declared major welcoming them to the program and providing a sample two-year course schedule that students can use to plan for attaining the requirements of the AA degree. This year we will use the same process to announce the new AA-T in music and to explain the new requirements. The letter also gives contact information for faculty in the program to students to help them with future questions.

Since music is a unit-intensive program, students often end up taking many of their classes with the same group, building a sense of camaraderie and developing a support network.

One best practice that will be implemented in fall, 2014 is individual instruction on an instrument or voice for music majors. Students will have to audition into this course, which will have as co-requisites all the other major requirements. This means that students will only be able to participate in the major if they have some demonstrable skill and previous experience as musicians. We expect our success rates to be much higher in this environment.

