

Ensemble Musician Certification

Rocky Mountain Ukulele Orchestra Updated April 4, 2018

What is the Ensemble Certification Program? All players need to demonstrate an acceptable level of proficiency to remain happy and healthy in the orchestra. This program helps you to assess your strengths and weaknesses, give you a strategy to improve on a yearly basis, and to grow as a musician. Points are awarded each time you acquire a ribbon.

Red: Recruiting

You will find a new member to join our orchestra and once they've determined to stay, practice, rehearse, and join us in concert you'll be eligible for a red ribbon.

Orange: Melody & Rhythm

You will demonstrate your ability to play and to use your resources and to understand how playing a song from **standard musical notation** makes you a more effective musician.

Yellow: Harmony

You will demonstrate various strumming patterns and play the principal chords in the major keys of C, G, F, A, Bb and D along with the minor keys of A, D, E and G. Second year members will be asked to complete the circle of fifths and demonstrate chords in the remaining keys using barre chord forms. Third year members should be able to demonstrate all major, minor, and seventh forms.

Green: Timbre

You will play the most advanced arpeggio from the Jumping Flea Arpeggiator that your ability allows. Finger-picking while carrying excellent tonality are the keys. Your selection of arpeggio must be pre-approved to ensure you're working to a high level of expertise.

Blue: Counterpoint

Blue level certification will require you to play contrapuntal melody against the main melody in a duet. (Doesn't that sound fancy?) Duet partners should prepare two songs so each member takes a turn playing the counterpoint or accompaniment.

Purple: Teaching

You will plan, lead, and review a workshop for the community, and you will be able to articulate the goals and expected behaviors of musicians in community ensemble music. Multiple-day workshops count for one ribbon.

Gold: Soloist

You will play a memorized song of your choice for an audience demonstrating a complete skill set on your instrument. Singing is acceptable, but you still must feature the ukulele. A **Rainbow** ribbon is available for performing a half-hour solo show.

Grey: Social Networker

You will post flyers on community billboards as well as posting on various social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and other sites likely to support community ukulele. Points are awarded for effective reach of your efforts.

White: Composing and Arranging

You will prepare sheet music for an ensemble presentation and follow it through to performance.

Black!: Basement Black Belt

You will submit an honest practice log demonstrating thirty consecutive days of focused thirty-minute practice sessions. Rehearsals do not count as practice.

Ribbon Master: Ribbon of Ribbons

Acquire all ribbons in the course of one year, or be the top point earner for the year.

Points Chart 2018

	First Year	Second Year	Additional Years
Red: Recruiting	200	100	50
Orange: Melody & Rhythm	100	50	50
Yellow: Harmony	100	50	50
Green: Timbre	300	200	100
Blue: Counterpoint	300	200	100
Purple: Teaching	100	100	200
Gold: Soloist	200	200	200
Rainbow	200	200	200
Grey: Social Networker	20	10	10
White: Composing and Arranging	100	200	300
Black: Basement Black Belt	500	500	500
Ribbon Master: Ribbon of Ribbons	10	10	10

All of your successes should be reported to Jeff via Email at jk.kaspar@gmail.com

You can also check in with other members of our certified teaching staff for help.

Certified Teaching Staff:

Gary, Jeff, Kari, Christie, Anita, Bob, Marnie, Debbie.

Teachers Working Toward Certification:

Kay, Susan S., Annie, Kelly K., Cindy W., Dave W., Laurel, Elizabeth.