

Summer 2005

MASTA notes

Tri-Annual Newsletter of Michigan Chapter,
American String Teachers Association with National School Orchestra Association

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President's Message

Hi all! **Happy Summer !!!** This has been a whirlwind of a school year! So many things to do and so little time!

CONFERENCE DETAILS

Great plans have been underway to set the NEW 2006 MMC Conference this January 19-21, in Grand Rapids. Please take time to go to the web site and read. This will be an amazing conference and we are very excited! Please log on to: www.michiganmusicconference.org. At this time all the sessions are set, the performing ensembles have been chosen and all has been scheduled. The exhibitors have been flocking and sponsors are being solicited. Housing brochures are in the development as are the conference brochures. We will also have a MASTA booth in the exhibit hall to display and make available for purchase our ASTA bookstore materials. I am hoping a student chapter is willing to run this. My vision is that the College ASTA student chapters could man the booth, sell these items and make a few bucks on them as well as promote ASTA to all the MSBOA string people who may not know about us....and want to join! At least everybody could see the materials that ASTA has. Start planning now - hundreds of hotel rooms, forty restaurants and tons of parking all under one roof! The conference is also seeking sponsors for the four state organizational luncheon meetings.



Thanks to Kelly Kramer, there has been an expansion of MASTA sessions at the conference to include SSA training and CPS training. There are more options so that all areas of Michigan ASTA's membership are met: public school, private teaching, Suzuki, professional musician and chamber music. This conference is going to be fabulous!

MSBOA SOLO & ENSEMBLE AND ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL ADJUDICATOR CONCERNS: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

We have a serious problem in the State right now. This is a joint MSBOA/MASTA problem that really came to a head this past March. Let me fill you in. I received a phone call from Cindy Swan-Eagen who coordinated the adjudicator list. She was having a devil of a time trying to get string adjudicators for State S/E Festival March 23. The problem was she needed to hire 26 adjudicators for that weekend alone.....there are only 52 on the list. She was running into difficulty because so many of us also free-lance and had quartet or orchestra gigs. She was short six people after calling everyone on the list.

Here's the rest of the story. There are 144 flutes judges, 170 baritone judges, 98 percussion judges, and the rest of the band areas are just as ginormous! **MASTA, I feel we all need to step up!** We need judges (at least eight per weekend) beginning in December and running through the first weekend in May. Many districts have taken to running festivals Thursdays through Saturday so the commitments are even longer. We need judges therefore for 20 weekends-52 people cannot do it - and that 52 includes all violin, viola, cello and bass people.....we don't even come close to matching the numbers in the band instrumentation areas.

(continued on next page)

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MASTA'S Web Page: www.astamichigan.org

President's Message (Continued from cover)

I am working with Bob Ambrose (who is in charge of adjudicator training) and Chris Blackmer (the new chair for the adjudicator list) to streamline adjudicator training. I would like to see sessions held at all the Universities and Colleges next year so that there are MANY weekends of training available. I also would like to see shorter training sessions. Now it's your turn.

Can you help???? Applications for adjudicating can be found online at www.MSBOA.org. **Please take a moment or two of your time and complete the application. YOUR KIDS NEED YOUR HELP!**

NATIONAL REPORT

As President for MASTA, one of my responsibilities is a bi-annual report to the National Office. It was quite a thrill to give a phone report to the National office... We have so many great things to brag about! Michael Palumbo's job is to call all the state presidents and present our achievements and frustrations to the National Board. He says it is always exciting to talk to Michigan because we always have so much to report. The hardest question for me to answer is "what is our most successful event?" We have so many!

Summer Camps are filled! Again! Our camps fill by April for the summers. What a great achievement to report to the National Office and to you. Take a ride sometime either out to Howell or Blue Lake and see your kids in action - as well as your colleagues who are teaching, directing, running sectionals and counseling kids.

ASCAP CONCERNS

HEADS UP MASTA! This is a problem that the National office is trying to work out with ASCAP. ASCAP is once again trying to charge performance fees for public performance of music you purchase. Those of you who have been involved with MSBOA know that ASCAP rears its hungry head and demands money for public performance from student ensembles. MASTA is trying to get a blanket dollar amount that will cover all 50 states for the full year. They are primarily going after state organizations.

SEEKING NAMES OF RECENT MI COLLEGE MUSIC ED GRADS

Please help us locate the names and addresses of Michigan college grads beginning with December of 2005. MASTA would like to present them with their first full year membership as a graduation gift. Please submit their information to me at palmieri@comcast.net or have them contact me. We want to thank them for joining the ranks of educators! We would also like these new grads to be our guests -free of charge - at the MASTA luncheon in Grand Rapids.

NEW LOOK BY THE WEBMASTER

If you have not had a chance, please check out the new look of our MASTA web site. Log on to www.astmaichigan.org to view the new posting and update yourselves on all the tremendous things going on in this state organization. Thanks Dan!

FINAL THOUGHTS...

I want to wish you all a peaceful and restful summer. Invigorate yourself, energize yourself, take long, leisurely walks, talks and snuggle with a great book and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us all. Remember - only a few weeks of summer vacation are left! Then we get to teach again!

Thanks to all my board and committee members for making this organization a GREAT place to serve!

My best to you all!

Valerie M. Palmieri

SOLO COMPETITION MAKES CHANGES!

The National Office has decided that a change should be made to avoid having the National Solo Competition occur on the same year as the National High School Orchestra. In order to make this happen the Solo Competition has been postponed this year and will take place next year. In future years, the Solo Competition will not coincide with the High School Orchestra as each activity will be on alternating years. It is hoped that Western Michigan University will still be able to host our state solo competition in the fall of 2006. Dates for the next Solo Competition will be announced in the MASTA Newsletter in the Spring of 2006.

Questions may be directed to:

E. Daniel Long, Chair

email: edanlong@ic.net

phone: 734.769.1270

Chamber Music Festival 2005 - by Anne Kearney-Looman

The fourteenth annual Chamber Music Festival was an outstanding event. It was held on March 8 at Michigan State University. Twenty-six ensembles attended from Detroit, Zeeland, Traverse City, and many places in between. Each ensemble attended a coaching session, a sight-reading session, an observation session, and a performance by our guest ensemble, the Aurora Quintet.

Members of the Aurora Quintet were: John Lindsey, violin (Crane School of Music) Marla Rathbun, violin (New York area freelancer) David Holland, viola (Interlochen) Harold Levin, viola (West Virginia University) and James Fiste, cello (Central Michigan University).

Nine ensembles participated in this year's competition. The outstanding ensemble selected from the competition was the Jarvi Quartet from the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra performing the Debussy quartet. Their coaches are Paul Wingert and Hai Xin Wu. Members of the Quartet are Katie Richardson, violin, Sarah Paye, violin, Amy Werner-Allen, viola, and Leigh Rudner, cello. This quartet represented MASTA at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

The Chamber Music Festival was honored to receive donations from Psarianos Violins Ltd. and Elaine Osterbur in honor of Nathan Osterbur.

Thank you to all the outstanding coaches who worked with the students: Dorothy McDonald, Pat Smith, Dalia Garcia, Cesar Suarez, and Miguel Rojas. Thank you also to the site chair, Judy Palac.

Congratulations to all the coaches who sent ensembles: Paul Wingert, Valeri Palmieri, Erin Hansen, Ann Schoelles, Karen Viele, Pat Smith, Marla Smith, Ellen Boyer, Hai Xin Wu, Dan Scott, Alan McNair, Paula Elliott, Holly Young Balcer, and Anne Kearney-Looman.

Message from President Elect Steve Reed

Please be thinking of who you might want to nominate for next year's TEACHER OF THE YEAR and ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR Awards. We all get busy in early December when the actual nomination form comes in our Winter Newsletter and the deadline is always right away.

So jot down a few names and rationale now while you're relaxed and can think clearly! We had a really tight battle for Teacher of the Year last January and several of those nominees that weren't chosen then should really be nominated again - they're ALL so deserving. For the Administrator of the Year Award, you all are in a position to reward one of your own administrators who you think is really supportive of you and your program. We can't do it alone as you know, and this award underscores the importance of Administrative support. We normally have very few people nominated so please give it some thought and be ready when the December MASTA Newsletter arrives in your mailbox.

Thanks!



Above: Diane Winder congratulates MASTA's 2005 Teacher of the Year, Jan Burchman, and her husband Tom Burchman. Congrats! (Photo by Bill Tennant.)



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***We'll Save You Time...
We'll Come To YOU!***

The ASTA with NSOA Certificate Program for Strings (CPS) Comes to Michigan! by Rebekah Brown

The Certificate Program for Strings provides a graded framework for the string student's technical and musical development and periodic performance assessment. It has been under development for more than ten years and was officially introduced this past winter at the national conference. Your MASTA Board adopted CPS last January by appointing Dr. Rebekah Brown Chair for Studio Teaching Outreach and CPS for Michigan.

CPS defines expectations and standards of performance on eleven levels from near beginning through the advanced artistic repertoire. There are separate curriculum guides for each of violin, viola, and cello with double bass available soon. Each level defines a set of goals, such as starting vibrato, playing in 3rd position, etc. and provides a list of corresponding study materials. Students may take CPS examinations and receive an ASTA Certificate of Achievement for each completed level. However, teachers will find the curriculum a helpful guide and a resource for repertoire even if they do not have their students take the examinations.

The Curriculum Guide lists numerous scale books, etude/study books and repertoire of appropriate difficulty for each level, but does not require that students perform pieces on the list in their exams. Students may enter at any level, skip levels, repeat levels, and take exams for comments only without a grade. CPS provides a flexible framework to suit most students whether high achieving, typical, or slower in progress. At the same time it provides a standard by which teachers, students, and parents can measure students' progress.

When taking CPS exams, students must play a selection of the required scales with bowings. All students play two repertoire pieces, both usually from memory, and above the Foundation Level they also perform one etude which they need not memorize. To assure reliability and validity for the program, ASTA has clearly defined the circumstances under which examinations take place.

Here is an example of what the Curriculum Guide contains for Level 2, Violin:

Recommended Goals for Violin Level Two:

Good posture and position; clear tone.
Good intonation, correct rhythm.
Use of four fingers and four strings.
Bowings: legato, detache, staccato.
Meters: 4/4, 3/4, 2/2,
Use of bow division. Simple dynamic contrast.
Scale Books: Hrimaly Scale Studies; Susan Brown Two Octave Scales and Bowings; Flor Scales for the Violin.
Etudes: Doflein Method Bk 1 & 2; Herfurth A Tune A Day

Bk 2; Wohlfhart-Aiqouni Foundation Studies
Bk 1; Wohlfhart Studies Op 45 Bk 1.
Pieces: Applebaum First Solos from the Classics; Applebaum Building Technique with Beautiful Music Bk 2; De Keyser Violin Playtime Bk 2 & 3; Duncan Solo Pieces for the Beginning Violinist; Elgar Six Easy Pieces; Silverstein Kidfiddle; Suzuki Violin School Bk 1 Minuet 2 & Gossec Gavotte; Suzuki Violin School Bk 2. Additional Technical Material: Ayola Winning Rhythms; Croft Violin Theory for Beginners Bk 1.



Exam Requirements for Level 2 Violin.

Scales and Arpeggios: Metronome Quarter = 76-88;
One from each group; Slur 2, whole bows.

Group 1: One octave in F, B-flat major (lower 8va)

Group 2: Two octaves in C, G, A major

Group 3: One octave in d melodic minor.

Etudes: one, Memorization not required

Pieces: one or two, Memorized. At least one piece about a page long.

Sight Reading: Two octave range. G, D, A major (high second finger only); Meter 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, Note values of whole, half, quarter, eighths and quarter rests. Separate bows.

The complete Curriculum Guide and exam requirements are available on www.asta.net. The following detailed information describing CPS examinations comes from ASTA.

The CPS provides:

- A graded Curriculum Guide, to assist the teacher in choosing study material and setting standards of performance for his or her students.
- Periodic performance examinations, which give the students new incentives to persevere and excel in their instrumental studies.
- An ASTA Certificate of Achievement, to each student for completion of each level.

Curriculum Guide and Exam Requirements are available for:

Violin levels: Foundation, 1-10

Viola levels: Foundation, 1- 10

Cello levels: Foundation, 1- 10

Bass, Guitar, Harp requirements are not yet completed.

Examination Requirements:

CPS does not require that teachers pick solos and etudes for exams from among those listed in the Curriculum Guide. The Guide provides a reference for the difficulty expected at each level and student may

perform any works of comparable difficulty to those on the list. The requirements for each level have been carefully and clearly defined with detail specific enough to set meaningful goals yet broad enough to accommodate any teaching style (traditional, Suzuki, etc.) The requirements are geared for the average student with built-in flexibility for the high achieving student. The requirements for assessment at each level are described in detail.

CPS Evaluation and Grading System:

Each category of the performance (scales, etude, each solo and sight-reading) is evaluated separately based on tone, intonation, stance, technique, rhythm, musicality, memorization and stage presence using the following grading:

- V (very good), S (satisfactory), or N (needs improvement) with "+" and "-" signs as needed. If there are five or more "Ns" in any category, such as scale, etude or each solo, that portion of the performance must be taken again at a future date.
- Honors designation: given to players with an excellent exam performing one or more solo pieces from a higher level than the one applied for. Teachers are asked to mark the advanced pieces on the application form.
- Comments Only: for students in advanced levels who prefer not to be graded, have not memorized all the material or are playing less than the complete required material for their level. These students will benefit from the challenge of preparing the materials and receiving feedback from the examiner but can not receive a Certificate of Achievement. Regular fees apply.
- Optional Level A or B, such as 5A or 5B: for students who are taking a level twice in order to cover the material more broadly. "A" indicates this is the first time the student is taking this level. "B" means, this is the second time. Standards for passing apply equally to "A" or "B". Fees apply each time.
- Use of Accompanist: The use of an accompanist is recommended but it is optional and will not affect the evaluation, or the grade.

CPS Performance Exam Rules:

- Students should take the exam at the level which corresponds to their level of development, this determined by their teacher.
- To assure confidentiality during exams, the students will be assigned a number.
- Students may take their first performance exam at any level, may repeat levels and may skip levels, as recommended by their teacher.
- Memorization is required for all scales arpeggios and solo pieces, except sonatas in levels 7-10 and etudes at any level.
- No etude or piece may be presented for exam more than once, unless one of the exams was for "Comments Only", or the student is taking the same level exam a second time.

- The completed examiners' forms will be sent directly to the teacher. The examiner's decision is final.
- Teachers are asked to distribute the evaluation forms and discuss the comments with the student.
- Publishers are listed in the Curriculum Guide for reference only without requiring specific editions-most works are available from several publishers.
- Photocopies are not allowed unless the music is out of print. If the student uses unauthorized copies, s/he will receive the examiner's comments but no grade and no certificate.

Examiners and Monitors:

There will be one examiner per room, carefully selected by the ASTA with NSOA Certificate Program Committee or CPS Chair of each state. This person will be an experienced and respected teacher of the instrument he/she will be to be judging. The monitors will be the teachers whose students are participating in the Performance Exams as well as older students. They will also assist with registration and running the exams. The examiners and monitors will provide a positive atmosphere to assure that participation will be a pleasant experience for all students.

Benefits and Features of the CPS:

- Flexibility in choice of repertoire
- Ease of use in any studio
- Compatibility with any style of teaching
- A Graded curriculum-a fine resource in planning the students' instrumental education in a systematic, and developmentally logical manner
- Performance Examinations motivate students to shine in a noncompetitive environment
- Advancing through the levels bolsters a sense of accomplishment in students and prepares them for successful youth orchestra auditions
- Written Comments, praise and constructive suggestions from the examiner, can be valuable for further improvement.
- A School without Walls. High standards, accountability and measurable progress formalize studio teaching and lead to overall success.
- The ASTA Certificate of Achievement awarded by a nationally recognized independent source rewards the student's efforts, increases the parents' confidence and validates the work of the studio teacher.

MASTA & CPS:

Your MASTA Board will be setting up forums for teachers to learn more about CPS and to share their experiences with each other. We will be addressing the need for training examiners and providing convenient locations for examinations for Michigan students. We see CPS as a valuable resource for Michigan's string teachers and hope to see you soon at a CPS session!

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You may have noticed...

This edition of the MASTA Notes does not contain the member directory, as *Summer MASTA Notes* have in the past. In order for the it to be more convenient for members to save and use, the directory will be created as a separate publication beginning this year. You can expect your copy of the MASTA directory to arrive in your mailbox later this summer!



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Don't forget about the first annual Michigan Music Conference, coming soon to Grand Rapids! This inservice for music educators is being held at the DeVos Place and Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in downtown Grand Rapids. Put it in your calendars now!

If you need more information, you can go online at www.MichiganMusicConference.org

January 19 - 21, 2006



News Briefs...



The MASTA Notes has a new column to be used by you, the members! Please let your newsletter editors know if there are any items or issues that the rest of Michigan's ASTA members should know! This may include new hires, competition winners, births, marriages, or anything at all! Please visit page 19 of this MASTA Notes for the current News Brief!

Send future News Briefs to Becky Bush at violabush@yahoo.com

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS:

A WAY TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN OUR DIRECTORY HAS ARRIVED!!

From Kathleen Scafuri, MASTA Membership Chair

In case you have been frustrated by incorrect personal information in our MASTA directory, there is now a way for you to edit the information yourself! Several easy steps are involved:

Step 1 - Log on to astaweb.com

Step 2 - Click on Bookstore

Step 3 - Enter your name and password (instructions are on this screen) in the Log On section at the top

Step 4 - Click on your name, which is in the blue box on the left side

Step 5 - Your complete info is there, and click on EDIT to change anything that's wrong

Step 6 - To continue on with more info, click on "More Info" tag in the top right of the header. More boxes to leave or edit.

Step 7 - When finished, click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page

Special thanks to Diane Winder, Professor of Cello at Eastern Michigan University, for these helpful directions!



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www.astamichigan.org

Special thanks to our webmaster, Dan Scott!

Formatting Articles for the Newsletter:

Send articles from an IBM in Microsoft Word, or highlight the article, copy it, and then paste it into an e-mail attachment. From a MAC, attachments in Appleworks work best. For full-page ads or applications, send as a pdf file, and send a camera-ready hard copy for backup.

Deadlines for submissions are Oct. 1, Feb. 1, June 1

Send to: csmith2@remc7.k12.mi.us
Carol Johnson, 4447 Bremer St. SW. Grandville. MI 49418



MASTA w/ NSOA AD RATES

Does your business want to advertise in MASTA Notes in the future? Here are the current rates:

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Quarter Page: 3.75 inches wide x 4.75 inches deep

One issue: \$60 Two Issues: \$90 Year: \$160



NEW AND IMPROVED NATIONAL ASTA WEBSITE IS LIVE!!!

Things are changing at www.astaweb.com!

In mid-June, a totally redesigned version of the National ASTA website was launched to better serve and inform our members. In addition to a more pleasing overall graphic design, the new site is easier to navigate and offers several new features, including an entire section dedicated to state chapter matters, a wealth of new advocacy materials for string programs in trouble, and much more!

Check it out at <http://www.astaweb.com>!



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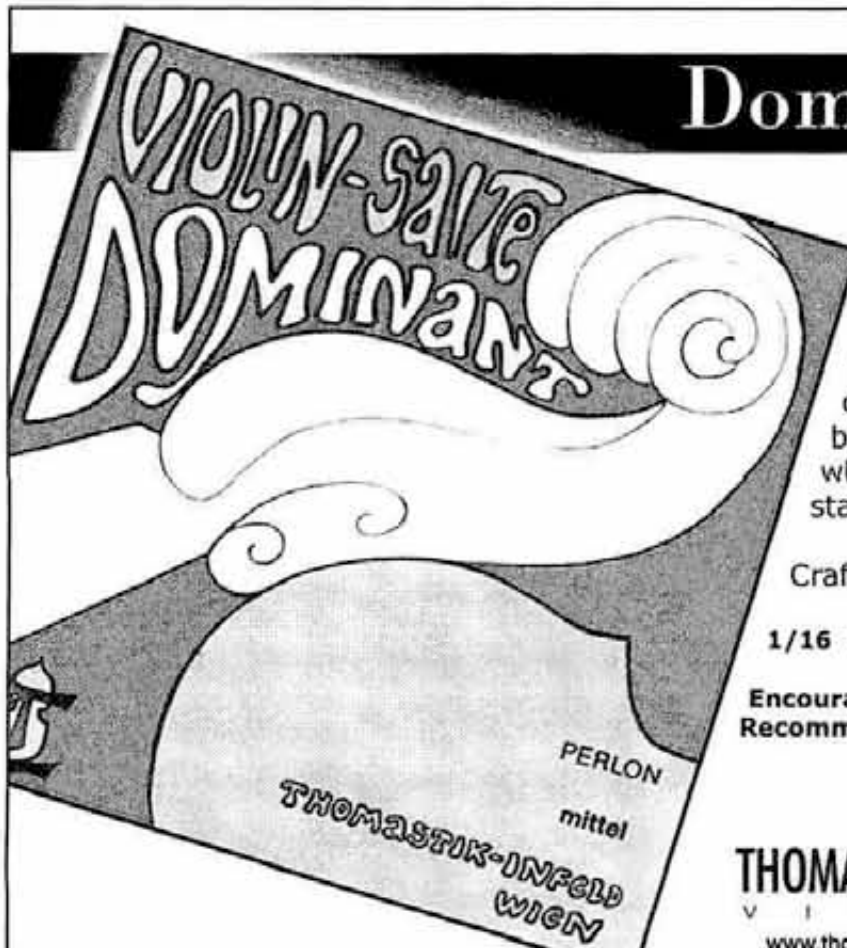
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JARVI QUARTET WOWS MYAF!

by Diane Winder, your MASTA Youth Arts Festival Chair

The Jarvi Quartet, the 2005 MASTA/NSOA chamber competition first place winner, was featured in four performances during the forty-third Michigan Youth Arts Festival this past May 12-14, 2005 hosted by Western Michigan University. This is the third year in a row the winning MASTA quartet has come from the Detroit Civic Symphony! Coached by Paul Wingert and Hai-Xin Wu, quartet members include Kaitlin Richardson, violin (grade 12, home schooled), Sarah Paye, violin (grade 12, Bethany Christian HS), Amy Werner-Allen, viola (grade 10, Cranbrook Kingswood School), and Leigh Rudner, cello (grade 12, Clonlara HS). Amy is the lone returning performer to MYAF, having performed last year with the Civic Quartet. Next year Kaitlin plans to attend Lenn University in Florida to major in music performance, Sarah will be at Hillsdale College as an English major, and Leigh plans to attend Case Western, also in music performance.

Their stimulating programs included the first, second and last movements of the Quartet in C Major, K. 465 by Mozart and the opening movement of the Quartet in G Minor by Debussy. To form an ensemble, students first auditioned for the Civic Orchestra, then auditioned again for a chamber music slot. Formed in September 2004, the Jarvi has participated in a master class with David Holland of the Aurora Quintet. They have performed at various functions in the metro-Detroit community such as the Detroit Civic Ensembles Chamber Music Festival at the Troy Public Library, the ACES Thanksgiving Day Parade and in the lobby of the Max Fisher Music Center before a DSO concert!

At MYAF the students performed during the opening celebration on Thursday night, and on Friday as a prelude to the Teacher of the Year dinner hosted by all the member associations, as well as before the Gala evening performance. Saturday forenoon the Jarvi appeared with their most substantial program as a part of the MSBOA Instrumental Collage/MASTA Honors String Quartet performance. Friday morning the students received an in-depth coaching, sponsored by MASTA, by Renata Knific, Professor of Violin at WMU.

Music definitely abounded at this MYAF. During the weekend, All-Michigan Ensembles-Jazz Band, Band, Choir, and Orchestra-rehearsed with fabulous guest directors to present stellar final performances Saturday afternoon. David Ellis (Orchestra Director at Grand Rapids City high School), the MSBOA Orchestra Teacher of the Year, conducted the All-Michigan Honors Orchestra in *Nabucco* by Verdi. Jeffrey Groggin, Director of Orchestras at the Ithaca College School of Music in New York, inspired students in *Short Ride Home I* by Dana Wilson and a rousing rendition of *Pines of Rome* by Respighi. In addition to MSBOA and MASTA, music associations represented on the MYAF Board with students at MYAF include VSA Arts of Michigan, MSVA, MMTA, MMEA, Michigan Federation of Music Clubs, and Interlochen. Truly a Michigan Youth ARTS Festival, the only one of its kind in the United States!!

This year on the Saturday MSBOA collage concert, strings were also represented by the Cranbrook String ensemble from



The Jarvi Quartet performs at MYAF. Members (from left) are Kaitlin Richardson, Sarah Paye, Leigh Rudner, and Amy Werner-Allen. (Photo by Bill Tennant.)

Cranbrook Kingswood, Katherine Lorts, director. Jordan Broder, student leader on violin, Russell Kim, violin, Cameron Riopelle, viola, and Lina Yi, cello presented a passionate rendition of the little known *Voces Intimae* by Sibelius.

Seventeen associations send members to form the Board overseeing MYAF. High school talent competitively selected present forensics, dance, creative writing, arts, film, music, and more at each MYAF. One could wander the student art gallery, catch master classes, or watch the Guy Sarville, Artist-in Residence, interact and inspire drama students. Mr. Sarville just celebrated his tenth year as Artistic Director of the Purple Rose Theatre Company in Chelsea, Michigan.

Friday evening the Detroit Civic Philharmonia, under the director of Charles Burke, accompanied 4 stunning high school instrumental soloists selected as a culmination of the MSBOA State Solo and Ensemble Festivals. Marta Bagratuni, cellist, represented strings with Allegro from Dvorak's Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104. She studies with Natalia Khoma and Suren Bagratuni and is a junior at Okemos HS, with Marilyn Kesler. The Philharmonia opened this concert with the *Russian Easter Overture* by Rimsky-Korsakov.

At the gala banquet Friday evening, we met each association's Teacher of the Year. MASTA applauded Jan Burchman, Orchestra director at both Kinawa and Chippewa Middle Schools in Okemos. She holds a BME from the University of Michigan and a ME in Curriculum and Instruction with emphasis in the Suzuki method from Michigan State. She has served as secretary and treasurer of MASTA and was recognized in 2004 with the Commitment of Excellence award by the Okemos Education Foundation.

Many organizations assist with funding for this event, such as the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, and Pfizer. In fact, this year's Honorary Chair was Bob McDonough, who is responsible for community relations and government affairs for Pfizer's operations in Kalamazoo. Special thanks goes to the Burdick-Thorne Foundation, which supported the Welcoming Celebration. Note that donations of any amount to support MYAF may be sent to MYAF, Epic Ctr., Suite 203, 359 S. Burdick St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Finally, note that we bid good-bye to former Executive Director Gayle Hoogstraten and welcome on board in that position Jennifer Reinstein, who appeared on English horn with an All-Michigan Honors Band at a previous MYAF!



Troy Suzuki Workshop 2005

This year's Troy Suzuki Workshop took place on Saturday, April 9, 2005. Nearly 200 students participated on the violin, viola, cello and string bass. Students and parents raved about the clinicians and the quality of the classes. Each participant of the violin, viola and cello had a fiddling class, either orchestra or orff, along with two instrument specific group classes. Everybody had the opportunity to perform at the conclusion of the day, demonstrating some of the things they learned in their earlier classes.

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MaryBeth Minnis, assistant director
Daniel Steele, graduate coordinator

Instrumental

Seunghee Lee, violin and viola
James Fitte, cello
Edward Fedewa, bass
Joanna Cowan White, flute
Lisa Kozenko, oboe
Kennen White, clarinet
MaryBeth Minnis, bassoon
John Nichol, saxophone
Dennis Harton, trumpet
Bruce Bonnell, horn
Robert Lindahl, trombone
Mark Cox, tuba and euphonium
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Conducting/Ensemble Directors

James Batcheller,
associate director of bands
John E. Williamson, director of bands
Carlton R. Woods,
director of orchestral studies

Theory/Composition/History/Literature

Keith Clifton, musicology
David Gillingham, composition
Scott Harding, music theory
George Hess, music technology
Susan Lindahl, music literature
Richard Littlefield, theory and literature
José-Luis Maurtua, music theory
Eric Culver, jazz studies

Keyboard

Mary Jo Cox, piano
Steven Eglar, organ
Alexandra Mascolo-David, piano
Rúbia Santos, collaborative piano
Adrienne Wiley, piano pedagogy

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(231) 876-5667
JLKoll1@aol.com

Dearborn Youth Symphony
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bherm@ci.dearborn.mi.us
www.DearbornFordCenter.com

Detroit Civic Orchestras
(313) 576-5164
www.detroitssymphony.com/education/ensembles

Flint Youth Symphony
(810) 238-1350 ext. 1
www.thefim.com/schedule-music.asp

Grand Rapids Youth Symphony
(616) 866-6883
www.grys.org

Holland Area Youth Orchestras
(616) 494-0256 ext/ 24
www.hollandsymphony.org/hayo.html
hayo@macatawa.org

International Symphony Youth Ensembles
(In the Thumb)
(810) 984-8857
iso@rivernet.net

Kalamazoo Junior Symphony
(269) 349-7577
www.kjso.org
kjso@aol.com

Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra
Manager - Lee DeLorme
(269) 982-4030



Lansing Junior Symphony
David Rosin, contact
rosindav@msu.edu

Livonia Youth Philharmonic of Michigan
auditions@lymp.org
Maggie Anderson
mail@lymp.org

Metropolitan Youth Symphony (Southfield)
(248) 355-5685
www.metropolitanyouthsymphony.org

Michigan Youth Symphony (Ann Arbor)
(734) 763-1279
www.music.umich.edu/resources/myo/myel/mysymphorch.html

Oakland Youth Orchestras
(248) 988-7561
www.oyomi.org
Joanne Walle
librarian@oyomi.org

St. Cecelia Music Society Youth Orchestras
(Grand Rapids)
(616) 459-2224
www.scmsonline.org

Suzuki Royal Oak Institute of Music
Director, Mark Mutter
(248) 561-7742

Traverse Youth Orchestras
(231) 947-7120
www.tso-online.org/tyso/tysofrdef.htm

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(231) 726-3231
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Ypsilanti Youth Orchestra
(734) 347-9963
bgaller@umich.edu

If your youth orchestra has not been included, or if your information needs updating, please contact
Becky Bush at violabush@yahoo.com.



News Brief...



Exciting news from Geri Arnold!

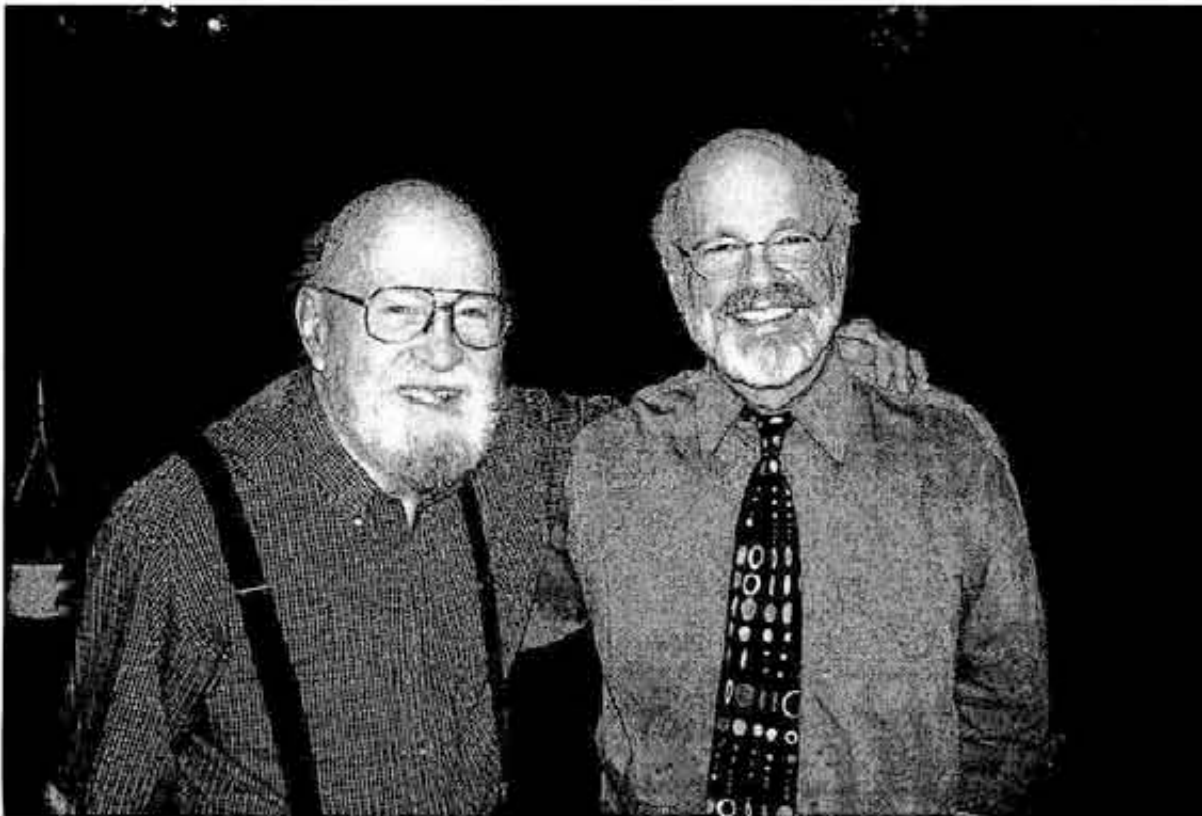
The University of Michigan School of Music-Dance & Theatre has done a fabulous job in searching out a new dean. It's now official that Christopher Kendall will be moving here from Washington, DC and taking on the job.

Christopher just happens to be the son of John Kendall. John is one of the founding fathers of Suzuki Method here in the United States, not to mention an incredible violin teacher and famous Suzuki pedagogy teacher. He has trained hundreds of teachers world wide. So guess what? John is moving to Ann Arbor along with Christopher's lovely family. That's right - John is going to be living in Michigan!!

I have had several phone conversations with John over the past few weeks. We are setting up a 1st Tuesday of each month at 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM called "Tuesdays with John," starting this September. It will be a study group that will bring in a few of their students (from 1 or 2 teachers per month) and then John will continue with how we can help the students do better. We already have 14 teachers committed. John feels that we should limit the number to 25. He also said that "No one will be admitted without a violin!!!" Everyone needs to play. After all John is almost 88 years old and has Parkinson's, so someone has to demonstrate! (By the way, he did say that "cellists can observe.")

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! Please spread the word. If anyone is interested in our "Tuesdays with John" group and would like to join, please contact me.

You can reach me at my email darnold2@aol.com, phone 734-663-2228 or regular mail, Geri Arnold, 3750 Miller Rd., Ann Arbor, MI. 48103.



John and Christopher Kendall, getting ready to move to Michigan!

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The Private Lesson Scheduling Solution by Geri Tata Arnold

FALL SCHEDULING!!! Certainly a task most teachers would love to eliminate. I remember spending hours and hours each August just to schedule the year's lessons...arguably my least favorite activity as a Suzuki teacher of 33 years..

First, I had to find out what day and time was good for a particular student for the entire year. Invariably, four other students all wanted the same day and time. I would then have to be the judge, and often the bad guy, to determine who would be the lucky one.

I understand that as a teacher I don't necessarily have to be everyone's best friend, however, the old way of scheduling often ended up with me, the teacher, as the goat. Not a good way to start the new school year!

I remember phone calls I would receive from frantic students, who just found out that some other important activity had just landed on their *perfect* lesson time. They had to change their time and now it was my job to fix it...fast. All of a sudden this was my problem and not just their problem. Some of the more assertive type of students would try to use the "seniority" argument, ie. "fix it for me because I'm the oldest". Then, there were the early birds, the students trying to edge their way into their "perfect" lesson time by quoting... "Remember I told you last spring that I needed that time for my lesson?"

As private teachers, we all have experienced the anxiety and irritation of fall scheduling. It was time for me to create a win-win situation. After all, Suzuki education is all about learning through discipline and positive experience.

For the last 10 years, I believe that I have found a workable solution that was presented to me by a fellow Suzuki colleague years ago. I had been so frustrated about the "old way" that I felt that I'd give it a try.

HOW IT WORKS:

One week before school starts, the teacher sets up a time for a **MANDATORY PARENT MEETING**. They are told to review their upcoming schedules and be prepared to have several lesson times in mind before the meeting takes place. The meeting begins with a welcome, introduction, and a recap of the summer along with routine information for the coming year.. (Note, written materials regarding policy can be very important in preventing misunderstandings later on in the year!)

At that time, the parents are given an outline of the hours and days that I have made available to teach lessons. They then go to one of five stations corresponding to Monday through Friday schedules. Each group has an assigned leader (usually a veteran parent) to facilitate the discussion of people's priorities and selection of lesson times. If there is a time conflict, the parents have to come to a consensus, aided by the parent facilitator. This may end in a switch to another day for some. Parents bounce from group to group. Other groups may announce that they have open times. Parents with lessons already scheduled often help out others who have run into roadblocks. It can be an action packed hour! There is a great deal of give and take as well as some frantic negotiations... picture the floor of the Stock Exchange!

The good news is that the parents take responsibility for scheduling problems, not you! And it's done in 60 to 90 minutes!

Some priorities have to be made ahead of time. For example, Middle School and High School students are given some priority, as well as students coming in from out of town. All preschool and early elementary students fill the empty spots or come for early morning times

(7-9:00am). Parents with multiple children in the program have to be warned ahead of time that they may have to split up their lesson times. The key is to ask for their utmost patience, understanding and flexibility.

At the end, the reps from each group present me with the day's schedule. Later the lists are compiled and parents are given the entire week's schedule with a roster of names and phone numbers. If a conflict arises later, it is the student's responsibility to contact another with whom to switch. They know ahead of time that I cannot makeup lessons.

Advantages:

- 1) When a parent begins to tell me their schedule conflict, I just simply say to them, "I do not make my lesson schedule, the parents do at the scheduling meeting."
- 2) The parents have to explain to the other parents why they have to have that particular lesson time, not just to me.
- 3) It removes me from the frustration of solving everyone's problems and allows me to teach
- 4) It takes 1 hour (maybe at most 90 minutes) to finish scheduling 45 students!
- 5) It removes me from the stress of trying to please everyone and it shares the responsibility. I'm no longer the bad guy.
- 6) No long hours on the phone!!!

It really is very simple. I can't say that the families really enjoy it, but it saves me those hours of phone calls and upsets that I would have to bear each year, and I think they really understand why I do it and... it is over in one night. For your first time, it may seem intimidating, but it gets easier. Be prepared and be positive.

My son now tells me that there are computer scheduling programs for teachers. However, without that personal involvement, there is more room for parent dissension later. The input from parent to parent during negotiations isn't always fun, but the fact that there is a discussion is very important. Another option is to hire someone else to do the scheduling, like another teacher here in town does. There are many ways to do it, but you cannot avoid it.

So, if you find yourself on the phone for hours like I did, ready to tear your hair out, try this system. I sure am glad I discovered it! Imagine 45 students scheduled in 1 hour! It's amazing! It is possible for you, too! Now go concentrate on teaching!

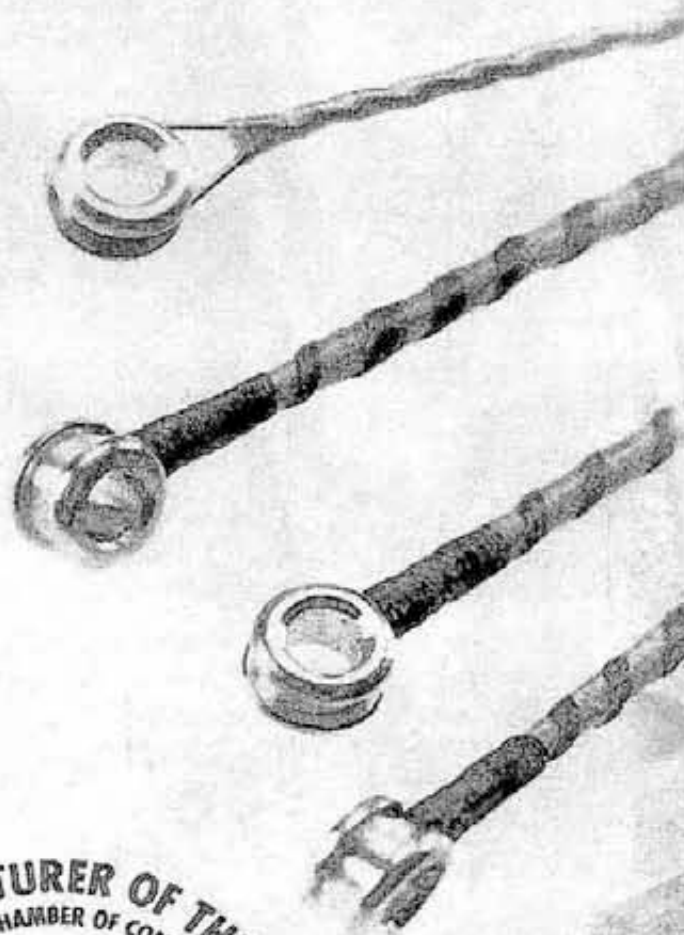
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MASTA Spring 'Meeting' Minutes

MASTA W/NSOA Board Members' Reports May 2005

I. **Call to Order:** Meeting scheduled for May 14 at Western Michigan University was cancelled. The following document includes reports sent by board members via email.

II. **Minutes (Stuart):** January Meeting Minutes were emailed to all board members for their approval. No vote to accept has been recorded at this time.

III. **Treasurer's Report (R. Reed):** Third Quarter
(January 1, 2005-March 30, 2005)

Beginning Net Worth	\$44,123.03
Beginning Balance:	\$27,182.73
Deposits:	\$6181.02
Disbursements:	\$15,026.60
Ending Balance:	\$18,337.15
Satellite Accts.	\$18,300.27
Net Surplus (LOSS)	\$8,845.58
Net Worth	\$36,637.42



IV. **President's Report (Palmieri):** Palmieri has been in discussion with C. Johnson regarding MASTA's providing her with a new computer to assist with the newsletter publishing. The state is in desperate need for qualified MSBOA Solo and Ensemble judges. Palmieri is calling for members to step up and get trained (she is looking into shortened training sessions). Palmieri had a conversation with National ASTA regarding our Chapter. Michael Palumbo, ASTA Secretary, asked her a series of questions. Of interest/concern to our members include: ASCAP is interested in the public performances given by ASTA chapters. NASTA (National) is looking into paying their fees (committees that sponsor performances- please take note of this). There may be ASTA related items on consignment to sell at our booth in Grand Rapids (its suggested that student chapters do this). Information to be passed along: We are looking for three presiders for the Kansas City ASTA Conference. We need names of Solo Competition Chairs for the state fall 2006 Solo Competitions by July 1.

V. **Member-at-Large Report (D. Parrish):** No report received.

VI. **Past President Report (Miller):** No report received.

VII. **President Elect Report (S. Reed):** No report received.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. **Newsletter (Bush/Johnson):** Johnson's computer has been having problems. Her school may provide one for her this summer. However, if that falls through, Val has offered for MASTA to purchase one for her. The MASTA directory and the MASTA Summer Notes will be sent as two separate mailings this summer. The MASTA Notes were sent to the National Executive Board, all 50 state presidents, and all 50 state newsletter editors.

B. **Outreach (Gippert):** Student Scholarships: \$3,000 (14 scholarships totaling \$980 were awarded for Elementary Campers, 14 scholarships totaling \$2120 were awarded Junior High Campers). Professional Development Grants: \$3,500 (Carol Johnson \$250, Becky Bush \$250). New Requests: Andrea Yun, Andrea Tolmich. Outreach Program Grants: \$2,500. New Requests: Bernal Koch, Katie Rowan, Jason Economides, and Patricia Baser

C. **Michigan School Music Conference (Kramer):** Planning sessions continue for the 2006 Michigan Music Conference. The conference will be held from Thursday, January 19th through Saturday, January 21st at DeVos Place

and the Amway Grand in Grand Rapids. The clinicians have been selected and should be contacted by the marketing company. Ideas/clinicians needed for the Make and Take session. The Annual MASTA Luncheon/ Winter Business Meeting will occur on Saturday, January 21, from noon until 2 PM. The past luncheon reported a loss (due to snowstorm, etc.). The new location should help in the future.

D. **Membership (Scafuri):** Current Michigan ASTA Memberships: 440, with 17 dual, 11 life, 17 non-paying dual, 258 professional, 42 senior, 95 student memberships as of April 29, 2005.

E. **Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler):** No report received.

F. **Okemos Suzuki (Kesler):** No report received.

G. **MSBOA Liaison (Kesler):** No report received.

H. **Elementary String Camp (Hansen):** The Elementary String camp is doing well in preparation for the summer. Staff has been secured, however, enrollment has been very slow. Hansen would like to propose looking at the age levels for each of the camps.

I. **Junior High String Camp (Stuart):** The Junior High Camp is doing well in prep. for this summer. Camp is full with a waitlist and staffing is almost complete.

J. **Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman):** The 2005 Chamber Music Festival was held on March 8 at MSU and was a success. The financial report is not yet completed. 102 students participated in 26 ensembles, 10 ensembles participated in the competition. The winning quartet, the Jarvi Quartet, was from Detroit Civic. Next year's festival will be March 9, 2006 at MSU. The Orpheus Trio tentatively lined up as the guest ensemble.

K. **Youth Arts Festival (Winder):** MYAF was a great success. The Jarvi Quartet, from Detroit Civic, performed an excellent program representing the MASTA Chamber Music Competition. The Cranbrook Quartet was featured on the Collage Concert and Marta Bagratuni, cello, was one of the solo competition winners. Jan Burchman was featured as Teacher of the Year at an awards banquet.

L. **Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau):** There is no final report yet. The workshop was a success. The clinicians were fabulous and everyone spoken to enjoyed themselves. Enrollment was down. People are busy and there are many Saturday Youth Orchestras. This may have to become a smaller workshop for younger students. Charboneau will look into getting facilities at a lower cost due to high Troy student involvement and will know better in the fall. Dates will be set for next year soon.

M. **Solo Competition (Long):** The National Office has decided that a change needed to avoid having the National Solo Competition fall on the same year as the National High School Orchestra. In order to make this happen the Solo Competition has been postponed this year and will take place next year. It is hoped that Western Michigan University will still be able to host in the fall of 2006. Bruce Uchimura is exploring this possibility. This change will not make it possible for a prize winning solo performance at our 2006 luncheon in Grand Rapids. Long would still like to feature live music during the luncheon.

N. **Suzuki Liaison (Arnold):** The new dean of the University of Michigan School of Music-Dance-&Theatre is Christopher Kendall, who is the son of John Kendall. John Kendall is one of the founding fathers of Suzuki Method here in the United States and will be moving to Ann Arbor. Arnold is setting up a 1st Tuesday of each month at 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM meeting called "Tuesdays with John," starting this September. We already have 14 teachers committed, with a limit of 25.

O. **Student Chapters (D. Reed):** No report received.

P. **Website (Scott):** No report received.

Q. **CPS (Brown):** No report received.

IX. **Old Business**

X. **New Business**

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendy Stuart

OUTREACH PROGRAM GRANTS

Guidelines

The MASTA Outreach Program is designed to assist members finance projects that promote string playing and teaching in the state. The maximum grant is \$500, which must be matched (one-to-one) by another source - a school board, community education, ticket sales, business support, etc. The current grant budget is \$3,500 per year.

Through the Outreach Program, MASTA can share the cost of consultants, clinicians, and evaluators for school districts and string teachers. It can help underwrite the cost of a feasibility study for a new string program. Many other kinds of projects have also been funded.

Grant applications for projects are found in the MASTA Newsletter, or may be obtained from the Outreach Chair, and are due on September 1, January 1 and April 1. To make grant applications successful, consider the following:

1. Projects should benefit a maximum number of students and/or teachers. Consider combining forces with other schools in your district or other teaching studios.
2. Requests should concern outside clinicians, not those already on the payroll. Also, grants are not normally awarded in order to buy physical supplies.
3. Be thorough in your application. The more information on finances, need for the project, qualifications of the clinicians, etc., the better.
4. The project must be finished during the current fiscal year, or the grant may be rescinded. If this is a multiyear project however, state that on the application.

Send completed applications to Carl Gippert, MASTA State String Outreach, P.O. Box 3201, Farmington Hills, MI 48333. If you have any questions, please call me at 248.417-0391

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Guidelines

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Area Code _____ Number _____

ASTA Member? yes no

Name and/or describe workshop you plan to attend: _____

Date of workshop _____

Will you be receiving funding from any other sources(s)? yes no

Identify the other source(s) _____

Please return you completed application before the first of Sept, Jan, or April to the address below.

Carl Gippert, MASTA Outreach Chair, P.O. Box 3201, Farmington Hills, MI 48333 (248).417.0391

**ASTA w/NSOA Michigan Chapter
Outreach Program Grants Application
General Grants**

I. School or Organization _____

Contact Person _____

Are you an ASTA member? Yes No

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____

II. Brief description of project (use additional sheet if needed):

Number of people participating _____ Age/Grade Range _____

Date/time period over which project is to take place _____

Location _____

Clinician or performing group _____

Total cost of project _____

Amount requested of MASTA _____

Other sources of funding _____

III. Please prepare a total project budget on a separate sheet. Include such things as clinician fees, advertising, copying, meals, transportation, etc.

IV. Submit all materials to Carl Gippert, MASTA Outreach Chair, P.O. Box 3201, Farmington Hills, MI 48333. Applications will be reviewed at MASTA board meetings. Deadlines for submission are: Sept. 1, January 1, and April 1. Maximum funding is \$500 and must be matched by other sources.

V. If funds are granted, you will be notified within two weeks of the board meeting. Grants are paid upon completion of the project and upon filing a final report with the Outreach Chair.

Membership Application

Use this application to join ASTA today or apply online at www.astaweb.com.

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member	Preferred Method of Contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Mail
--	--

Personal Information

Name _____	Date of Birth _____
Address _____	Prof. Affiliation _____
City, State, Zip, Country _____	Prof. Title _____
	Home Phone _____
	Work Phone _____
	Fax _____
	Email _____
	Anticipated Grad. Date (students) _____

Membership Category

Check *only one*, dues paid annually.

- Professional \$89
 - Senior (age 62 or over) \$63
 - Full-time Student (ID req.) \$40
 - Dual \$125
- (Couples residing at same address. Requires two forms)
- Library Subscription \$75

Other Memberships

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AHS | <input type="checkbox"/> MENC | <input type="checkbox"/> SAA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ISB | <input type="checkbox"/> MTNA | <input type="checkbox"/> IAJE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CMA | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Profession		Instrument	
Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
Check <i>only 1</i> primary profession		Check <i>only 1</i> primary instrument	
Check <i>any</i> secondaries that apply		Check <i>any</i> secondaries that apply	
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Violin	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Viola	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle/Jr. High School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cello	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Double Bass	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> School (Multi-Level)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Guitar	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Studio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Harp	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Performer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Brass	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Conductor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Keyboard	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Percussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Music Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodwind	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> String Enthusiast	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Contribution to Foundation

Make a tax-deductible charitable contribution:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 - \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$26 - \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$51 - \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over \$100 |

Totals

Membership Category	\$ _____
Foreign Postage (US residents: postage included)	
(\$5 for Canada/\$10 for Other)	\$ _____
Membership Lapel Pin (\$7 each)	\$ _____
ASTA Contribution	\$ _____
Membership Certificate (\$10 each)	\$ _____
GRAND TOTAL	\$ _____

Payment Information

Check made payable to ASTA Check No. _____

Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Sig. _____

Choose from the following those directories you wish to be excluded from:

- Online Membership Directory Mailing Labels
- ASTA Email Announcements

To reduce risk of delay in processing your application, please complete all sections of this form. Dues are for individual membership only. Dues are nontransferable and nonrefundable. There is a \$27 charge for all items returned from the bank.

Membership applications should be returned to:
 ASTA Membership Department
 4153 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA, 22030
 Or use your credit card to join online at www.astaweb.com.

2005



C

JULY 2005

28 Jerry Bartlett Memorial Golf Outing

A

AUGUST 2005

2-3 MASTA/NSOA Board Retreat @ Grand Rapids Amway Grand Hotel

L

SEPTEMBER 2005

17 MSBOA String Orchestra Reading Session, Plymouth Edu. Park HS,
Phase 3 Bldg

17 MASTA/NSOA Fall Board Meeting Plymouth Edu. Park HS, Phase 3 Bldg
11 a.m. Executive Board
noon Full Board

E

**More dates will be coming after the board meets in August...
Please visit the web site for additional updates and postings!**

N



D

A



R

ANNOUNCING MSBOA ALL STATE ORCHESTRAS FOR NEXT YEAR!

HERE ARE THE DATES TO REMEMBER:

OCT. 1 - APPLICATIONS DUE

OCT. 15 - AUDITION SCHEDULE
POSTED ON WEB

Nov. 5&6 - TAPED AUDITIONS AT
VARIOUS SITES

DEC. 1 - ACCEPTANCE AND FEES DUE

JAN. 21 - PERFORMANCE AT MICHIGAN
MUSIC CONFERENCE IN
GRAND RAPIDS!

MASTA w/NSOA Chapter Board Roster

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MASTA w/ NSOA
WEBSITE
www.astamichigan.org



American String Teachers Association w/NSOA
Michigan Chapter
4447 Bremer St. SW
Grandville, MI 49418

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GRAND RAPIDS MI
PERMIT #1

SCHOOL OF MUSIC 05-06 AUDITION DATES!

Calvin College - by appt. drr2@calvin.edu or (616)526-6259

Central Michigan University - Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 17, Mar 18, 2006

Eastern Michigan University - please check for audition dates at www.emich.edu

Grand Valley State University - Aug 17, Nov 12, 2005,
Jan 14, Feb 26, Mar 18, Apr 1, Apr 8, 2006

Hope College - for audition information, please contact Linda Strouf, Fine Arts Recruitment
Coordinator at strouf@hope.edu, (616) 395-7106 or (800) 958-7850.

Michigan State University - Nov 18, 2005 (Graduates and transfer students only),
Jan 27 (Undergrads only), Jan 28 (Grad only), Feb 10 (Undergrad only),
Feb 11 (Grad only), Feb 24 (Undergrad only), Feb 25, 2006 (Grad only)

University of Michigan - Nov. 18, 2005, Jan. 13, Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Mar 10, Apr 7, 2006

Wayne State University - Nov 14-18, 2005 and Feb 13-17, 2006, or by appointment

Western Michigan University - Nov. 11, 2005 (for Spring '06 enrollment)
Feb 3, Feb 17, Mar 10, 2006 (for Fall '06 enrollment)