

Spring 2007

MASTA notes



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MASTA Notes

Spring 2007

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2006-2007*

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Michigan Chapter
American String Teachers Association
 CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2006-07

AUGUST 2006

17 MASTA Board Retreat: Valerie Palmieri's home – Wixom

SEPTEMBER 2006

1 Deadline for MASTA Outreach Grants
 16 MSBOA String Orchestra Reading Session, Plymouth Edu. Park HS, Phase 3 Bldg
 16 MASTA Fall Board Meeting
 Plymouth Edu. Park HS, Phase 3 Bldg

OCTOBER 2006

1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
 10 MASTA Solo Competition Deadline
 14 MSBOA Elementary/MS Workshop
 14 /21 MSBOA Middle Level String Clinics
 24 CMU Honors Orchestra
 28 EMU H.S. String Conference

NOVEMBER 2006

1 Gathering MASTA Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year Nominations
 3-4 32nd Annual Okemos Suzuki Workshop
 4 MASTA Solo Competition - WMU
 4-5 MSBOA All State Honors Auditions
 10 -11 MSBOA Music Ed Survival Camp, CMU

DECEMBER 2006

2 MSBOA Conducting Symposium
 9 MSBOA Orchestra Adjudicator Workshop
 18-22 Chicago Mid West Music Conference

JANUARY 2007

1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
 25 MASTA Winter Board Meeting, GR 400p Executive Board; 600p Full Board
 25-27 Michigan Music Conference, Grand Rapids.
 27 MASTA General Membership Meeting and Luncheon 1100a-100p, Imperial Room

FEBRUARY 2007

1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline

MARCH 2007

6 MASTA Chamber Music Festival, MSU
 8-10 National ASTA Conference
 Detroit, Michigan
 24 MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival

APRIL 2007

1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
 12 MSBOA Youth Arts Soloist Audition CMU
 20-21 Troy Suzuki Workshop/Bass Workshop
 27-28 MSBOA State Orchestra Festival

MAY 2007

4-5 MSBOA State Orchestra Festival
 10-12 Michigan Youth Arts Festival, WMU
 12 MASTA Spring Full Board Mtg
 WMU, 2nd Floor Conference Rm
 1000a Executive Board; 1100a Full Board

JUNE 2007

1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
 2 MSBOA General Membership Mtg
 17-19 MASTA Elementary String Camp, Howell Nature Center
 20-22 MASTA Elementary String Camp, Howell Nature Center
 16-19 Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp Strings/ Piano
 20-23 Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp Strings only
 24-30 MASTA Junior High Camp, Howell Nature Center

JULY 2007

28 Jerry Bartlett Memorial Golf Outing

AUGUST 2007

TBA MASTA Board Retreat

MASTA Notes is the tri-annual publication of the Michigan Chapter, American String Teacher's Association

Advertising Info: Advertising space is available in MASTA Notes at single issue and annual rates. Space is available in dimensions: full page (7.5" x 10"), half-page (7.5" x 4.75") or 3.5" x 10"), and quarter page (3.5" x 4.75"). Advertising should be submitted in digital format, preferably via Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) files. Interested parties should contact the editor for pricing and additional format information.

Submission Info: Articles submitted for publication should be in the following computer formats:
Most operating systems: text files (.txt) or text-only articles; text pasted directly into email; Acrobat files (.pdf)
Macintosh operating systems: Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, or Pagemaker documents; Microsoft Word documents (.doc); Apple Appleworks or Pages documents.
Windows operating systems: Microsoft Word documents (.doc)

Other program files may be converted to a format useable by MASTA Notes. Please contact the editor for questions regarding article format and submission.

MASTA Project Directors

Chamber Music Festival

Anne Kearney-Looman
 622 Beech Street
 East Lansing, MI 48823
 H: 517.337.4519
 annekl@sbcglobal.net

Elementary String Camp

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 H: 616.669.8034
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Junior High String Camp

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see Secretary listing

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edanlong@ic.net

State String Outreach

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Port Huron, MI 48060
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cgippert@sbcglobal.net

Troy Suzuki and Bass Workshop

Claire Charboneau

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Youth Arts Festival

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Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp

Marilyn Kesler

see Okemos Suzuki Workshop listing

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President's Message – Feb 1, 2007

Dear MASTA members,

It was good to see so many of our members at the Michigan Music Conference (MMC) this past weekend in Grand Rapids. What a great conference this is getting to be with improvements every year in scope of sessions, performances, All-State Honors groups, and most importantly – re-charging! Who could not be inspired after hearing John Kendall's "Teacher of the Year" acceptance speech where he claimed that the best thing he ever did was join ASTA! I can't think of a better way to validate the credibility of our organization.

Many thanks for Kelly Kramer for all her work the past four years in organizing the MMC sessions for the benefit of MASTA members. The past two in particular have been extremely intensive with a doubling of our sessions, increasing attendance at the conference and luncheon, and the extra time it now takes to manage our own conference. Kelly now passes the torch to Valerie Palmieri who will move over to the MMC Planning Committee, charged with the planning and recruitment of next year's conference presenters. If you have any suggestions for sessions you'd like to see or topics you'd like covered next year, NOW is the time to put them in writing and get them to Valerie. Our February meeting will be geared towards evaluating this year's event, indoctrinating new members to the MMC Planning Committee and Executive Board, and beginning to plan ahead for next year's conference.

Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year, John Kendall, and Administrator of the Year, Dr. Jerry L. Seese! We were honored to have them both in attendance at our luncheon and their words were inspiring to say the least. Look for more information regarding these annual awards and the winners in this issue of the MASTA Newsletter. And what a treat it was to hear Megan Fergusson, our Senior Division Grand Prize Solo Competition Winner, perform at the luncheon. Hearing these fabulous young musicians perform at the MASTA luncheon has always been a highlight of the January conference. Be sure to read Dan Long's complete report of all our winners and honorable mentions also in this issue.

Looking forward, I would once again encourage everyone to attend the National ASTA Conference this coming March 7-10, in Detroit. This outstanding conference is not likely to come anywhere near here again in our careers, making it an excellent opportunity for all of us to attend this year. Even if you can't make the entire three days, at least drive in for a day or two and catch some of the unbelievable events. Midori with the Civic Youth Symphony on Thursday night, Lynn Harrell with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra on Friday night preceded by our own MASTA sponsored reception, the Turtle Island String Quartet on Saturday night, not to mention the National Solo Competition, National Orchestra Festival, Alternative Styles sessions, plus the national presenters and special performances by auditioned groups from all over the nation! It might be tough to schedule it in at this time of the year but it will be well worth the time, effort and expense – guaranteed! Please come and enjoy the camaraderie and collegiality of so many great ASTA people!

Look for detailed conference information on the ASTA website (www.astaweb.com) and on our website (www.astamichigan.org) as well.

I'll see you in Detroit in March. Until then – happy teaching and don't forget to have fun.

Sincerely,

*Steve Reed
President*



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MASTA Winter Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 2007
Executive Board: 4:00 p.m.
Full Board: 5:00 p.m.
Amway Grand Hotel, Fine Arts Room
Grand Rapids, MI

I. Call to Order (*S. Reed*): at 4:05 p.m. Members present: Steve Reed, Mark Kotchenruther, Robert Reed, Wendy Stuart, Janice Peterson, Val Palmieri, Kelly Kramer, Anne Kearney-Looman, Rick Dapprich, Wendy Azrak, Geri Arnold, Carl Gippert, Pam Phillips, Kathy Scafuri, Dan Long, Diane Winder, Amy Feldkamp

II. Minutes (*Stuart*)- Minutes from the September meeting passed with a motion from Palmieri, which was seconded by R. Reed.

III. Treasurer's Report (*R. Reed*): Fourth Quarter

Beginning Net Worth	\$45,527.68
Beginning Balance:	\$17,186.44
Deposits:	\$2,520.00
Disbursements:	\$4,386.40
Ending Balance:	\$15,320.04
Satellite Accts.	\$29,029.80
Net Surplus (LOSS)	(\$1,866.40)
Net Worth	\$44,349.84

The chapter is doing well. TCF Bank will be replaced after R. Reed researches banks with statewide branches. Report approved with a motion by Palmieri, seconded by Winder.

IV. President's Report (*S. Reed*): S. Reed thanked Kramer for all of her work planning the conference. We are incorporated at a very low cost to the Chapter. He is still working on obtaining insurance for the Chapter. There is a plan available but it does not cover directors, board members or committee chairs. Many sponsors have pledged to fund the Friday Night Reception at the ASTA National Chapter including the Baroque Violin Shop (\$500), Psarianos (\$500), Guarneri House (\$500), White Brothers (\$200), Tata Classical LLC (\$150), String Connection (\$100), and Wilson Fine Violins (\$200). Letters have been sent to each company with instructions for sending payment to our Treasurer. This is the year for National Honors Orchestra. Carl Gippert is chairing this committee. Up to 30 applications are accepted from each state. Those selected will compete at the 2008 ASTA Conference in Albuquerque. S. Reed would like to see the camp directors apply for a grant to fund the production a promotional video to send out about our camps. A motion to accept the president's report was made by Palmieri, seconded by R. Reed. Motion passed.

V. Member-at-Large Report (*Flower*): Flower has been making contact with new teachers and new programs by phone and email. Some of the new and young programs include Milford-Huron Valley Schools (community program), Novi Schools (two elementary string classes), and Webberville. New teachers or transfers to different districts include Andrea Marttila at Ann Arbor Pioneer H.S., Nicole Langford at Byron Center West M.S., Ben Moy at Ferndale H.S. and M.S., Robert Ward at Grand Rapids City H.S. and M.S., Ann Marie Jones at Greenville M.S., Caitlin Rizner at Holland Christian N. Shores M.S., Teresa Cirihall at Livonia Franklin H.S., Leslie Hamel at Okemos Chippewa and Kinawa M.S., and Katie Pearsall at Saginaw Heritage H.S. If there are others Flower should know about, please contact her.

VI. Past President Report (*Palmieri*): Palmieri has spoken with several student chapters. Melissa Gerber is still trying to get a student chapter in Hillsdale. Weston Holser, president of EMU's student chapter, is receiving instruments donated by various individuals and companies to take to New Orleans. MSU is hosting an Alternatives Styles Day and is a speaker on urban teaching environments. U-M's chapter is still functioning.

VII. President Elect Report (*Kotchenruther*): There were three excellent nominees for Teacher of the Year: John Kendell, David Reed and Marijean Quigley-Young. The Administrator of the Year nominee is Dr. Jerry L. Seese from Saginaw. The basket for the ASTA Convention Silent Auction is going well. Basket Works, LTD in Grand Rapids is coordinating the basket. In addition to Michigan made or inspired products, the basket will include gift certificates, merchandise, a violin bow, a camp scholarship, and a DVD.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Newsletter (*Dapprich*): The deadline for spring publication is February 1st. Dapprich wants the newsletter to be delivered before the ASTA Convention.

B. Outreach (*Gippert*): There are two new requests from Farmington, one for the Pacifica String Quartet and National Orchestra Festival Registration. A request has been made to receive the check from MASTA before the events, rather than after, as is standard practice. Palmieri made a motion to approve payment before the event with a second from Winder. Motion passed. The Gaylord Youth Orchestra proposal was approved after a motion from Peterson, seconded by Kearney-Looman. The Okemos School's proposal was approved after a motion from Long, seconded by Scafuri.

C. Michigan School Music Conference (*Kramer*): Kramer thanked members of the board for presiding, presenting and performing at the conference. The Luncheon will be at 11:00 on Saturday in the Imperial Room. She also thanked the board for allowing her to hold this position.

D. ASTA National Conference (*Phillips*): There is a new addition to the Conference: John Benham (music advocacy specialist) will be answering questions of anyone during posted hours in a booth in the exhibit hall. The Teaching in Diverse Settings pre-conference session is available to students for \$10 (email Deanna@astaweb.com). Volunteers are needed to preside over sessions, stuff bags, and host NOF mastersclasses. Two people are needed to spend an entire day assisting the National Orchestra Festival. Early registration is at the conference's highest level to date. There has been some confusion between groups who have been invited to perform at the conference versus those registered for National Orchestra Festival. They are not the same. Luck's Music is hosting a tour/reception on Wednesday night from 5:30-7:45 with shuttle service downtown.

E. Membership (*Scafuri*): There has been an increase in membership totaling 539 (14 dual, 6 institutional, 13 life, 14 non-paying dual, 288 professional, 8 string industry council, 18 school library subscription, 54 senior, and 124 student memberships). 32 reminders were sent to those whose membership had lapsed. Hopefully membership will grow further when MSBOA string teachers who are not MASTA members are contacted.

F. Elementary String Camp (*Scott*): This year's camp dates are June 17-19 and June 20-22 in Howell, MI. Scott is in the process of hiring for the summer. Carol Johnson and Kelly Kramer will be conducting this summer.

G. Junior High String Camp (*Stuart*): This year's camp dates are June 24-30 in Howell, MI. Stuart is in the process for hiring for the summer. Dan Scott will return as Music Director this summer.

H. Chamber Music Festival (*Kearney-Looman*): The Festival will be held on March 6, 2007. This year's winner will perform at the ASTA National Conference Chamber Music Masterclass. The Merling Trio from WMU is in residence this year.

I. Michigan Youth Arts Festival (*Winder*): 2007 Youth Arts Festival will be held on May 10-12 at WMU again this year with no new venue in consideration presently. The MASTA Honors Quartet will perform four times at YAF. Opening Gala will be held at Miller Auditorium. The new art facility (Richmond Center) at WMU will be featured. Executive Director is continuing to seek outside sources of funding. Winder is coordinating 4th Annual College Art Fair. Winder is still looking for people who work in the music profession that attended YAF while in High School. Contact Information/Donations for YAF: Kim Dabbs, MYAF, 988 S. Adams, Suite 207, Birmingham, MI 48009, 248.649.8888, <http://www.myaf.org>.

J. Solo Competition (*Long*): The Solo Competition was held on November 4th at WMU. The judges were Bruce Uchimura (WMU), Dan Foster (EMU), Suren Bagratuni (MSU) and Yehonaten Berick (U-M). There were 35 contestants entered: 24 Junior Division and 11 Senior Division, the highest number of participants to date. The Grand Prize Junior Division (Shar Music Award) winner was Barbora Kolarova, violin, and First Prize (Elizabeth A.H. Green Award) winner was Benjamin Beilman, violin. Junior Division members chosen to have tapes submitted to the National Competition included Jordan Huang, violin, and Andrea Jarrett, violin. The Senior Division Grand Prize (Shar Music Award) winner was Megan Fergusson, viola, and the First Prize (Psarianos Award) winner was Petra Vilankova, violin. The following senior division members were chosen to have tapes submitted to National: Elizabeth Beilman, viola, Carla Fabris, harp, Alexandra Hamzea, violin, Sheryl Hwangbo, violin. Prizes were increased this year to \$1000 for the Grand Prize and \$700 for the First Prize and Elizabeth A.H. Green Award. Junior Division judges were paid extra as their day was doubled in length due to the record number of participants. Those participants who were selected to submit tapes (winners those listed above) will be notified on February 1st if they have been selected to participate in the National Solo Competition. Thanks to Bruce Uchimura, Carl Doubleday, WMU and the WMU Student ASTA chapter for hosting the Solo Competition. Congratulations to all contestants for his or her outstanding audition.

K. Studio Teaching (*Brown*): No report.

L. Suzuki Liaison (*Arnold*): Every Child Can (ECC) was held at the MMC on Thursday Jan. 25 with 11 participants. For future EEC sessions, they need to know in advance who is participating. The website says walk ins are welcome, but the class is not structured to accommodate them easily. Suzuki activities in Michigan include the "Tuesdays with John," where 25 teachers meet the first Tuesday of

each month and three students perform in a masterclass with Kendall. The John Kendall Scholarship program was established this year for one violinist to be awarded \$250 and one teacher to be awarded \$400 for Suzuki Blue Lake. A motion was made to accept John Kendall scholarships by R. Reed, seconded by Kearney-Looman. Motion passed. Requirements can be obtained from Pat Smith with an April 24th application deadline. Ann Arbor Suzuki and Suzuki Royal Oak students will be performing together on Thursday, March 8th to open the National ASTA Conference at the Detroit Renaissance Center. Suzuki Activities nationally include the posting online of the 2007 Institute Dates (see SuzukiAssociation.org). SAA Teacher Scholarship Applications are due Feb. 15. There are new DVD's available: Nurtured by Love, Parents as Partners, and Piano Concertos and International Ensemble Concert from the 2006 Conference.

M. Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau): John Kendall is giving a masterclass Friday night again this year, before the Saturday workshop.

N. Okemos Suzuki (Smith): The date of the Okemos Suzuki Workshop was November 3 and 4th.

O. Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler): No report.

Q. Student Chapters (Palmieri): See Past President report.

R. Website (Scott/Hansen): There has been some problems with the new website: not everyone can access it. Scott will arrange to have the old website up to make it available to all.

S. MSBOA Liaison (Peterson): The String Committee will meet 1/26/07 to discuss goals and the Middle Level Workshop. There has been a proposal to move the dates later in the year and to address repertoire difficulty. The new schedule will also be reviewed. The new Michigan Graduation requirements are felt to endanger programs throughout the state. All members are asked to brainstorm ideas to develop a plan to keep Orchestras (and all school music programs) off the endangered species list. The following are adopted goals of the string committee: support struggling Orchestra Programs, develop communication between Orchestra members, continue training for band directors teaching orchestra, creating chamber orchestra opportunities, establish alternatives to Festival, develop a "rent-a-wind" section/collaboration with College-Level Orchestras, build the number of string specialist adjudicators, develop a stronger team relationship with all music educators, and maintain a quality Middle Level Orchestral activity in the fall.

IX. Old Business:

X. New Business:

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart

MASTA Winter General Meeting
Saturday, January 27, 2007
Luncheon, 11:00 a.m.- 12:50 p.m.
Amway Grand Hotel, Imperial Room
Grand Rapids, MI

I. Call to Order (S. Reed): at 11:25 a.m. Introduction of members and guests. Guests present: Haig Avsharian, Megan Fergusson, Misuzu Tamaka, John Kendall and family, and Dr. Jerry Seese.

II. Minutes (Stuart): Minutes from the September meeting passed with a motion from Wimsatt, which was seconded by Winder.

III. Treasurer's Report (R. Reed): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. Report approved with a motion by Palac, seconded by Bush.

IV. President's Report (S. Reed): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. In addition, we had been \$350 short of covering the entire \$2500 cost of hosting the reception at the National Conference at the Board Meeting on January 25th. During the meeting, Bob Phillips and family offered to cover the remaining \$350. A motion to accept the president's report was made by Peterson, seconded by Azrak. Motion passed.

V. Member-at-Large Report (Flower): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. Flower cannot be here today as she is conducting the All-State Middle School Orchestra.

VI. Past President Report (Palmieri): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. Dudd moved to accept report, Dietrich-Reed seconded. Motion passed.

VII. President Elect Report (Kotchenruther): See New Business.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Newsletter (Dapprich): Thanks to the previous newsletter editors for a smooth transition. Please support the businesses that advertise in our newsletter. They make the newsletter possible. Contact Dapprich if you wish to have anything published in Notes. The Spring Edition will be mailed before the ASTA National Conference.

B. Outreach (Gippert): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. Gippert is in charge of the National Honors Orchestra to be held at next year's ASTA National Convention.

C. Michigan School Music Conference (Kramer): Kramer requested the membership to complete the pink conference survey. She thanks the board for the opportunity to serve and will be passing the committee chair to Val Palmieri.

D. ASTA National Conference (Phillips): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. 1000 string teachers are expected at this year's conference. There is a student discount for the five pre-conference events. There will be 120 sessions and performances by Midori, Lynn Harrell, the Turtle Island String Quartet and a keynote address by Aaron Dworin.

E. Membership (Scafuri): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting.

F. Elementary String Camp (Scott/Feldkamp): This year's camp dates are June 17-19 and June 20-22 in Howell, MI.

G. Junior High String Camp (Stuart): This year's camp dates are June 24-30 in Howell, MI. Open to 6th-9th grade students.

H. Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting.

I. Michigan Youth Arts Festival (Winder): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. This event incorporates all the Fine Arts, not just music. If you haven't attended a Festival, please consider visiting.

J. Solo Competition (Long): See New Business.

K. Studio Teaching (Brown): No report.

L. Suzuki Liaison (Arnold): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting.

M. Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau): John Kendall is giving a masterclass Friday (April 20) night again this year, before the Saturday workshop. The date of this year's Workshop is April 21. Applications will be out within the next few weeks.

N. Okemos Suzuki (Smith): The Okemos Suzuki Workshop was held on November 3rd and 4th and was very successful. Molly and Paul Rebeck will be taking over next year. Next year marks the 40th year of the workshop. It will be held the first weekend of November.

O. Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler): Held in June (around Fathers Day). Unit One Teacher training will be taught by Wendy Azrak. 800 students are expected to attend.

Q. Student Chapters (Palmieri): See Past President report.

R. Website (Scott/Hansen): There has been some problems with the new website: not everyone can access it. Scott will arrange to have the old website up to make it available to all. Erin Hansen is taking over as Webmaster. To send emails to the membership, email members@astamichigan.org. To send attachments, permission from the Webmaster is needed in advance.

S. MSBOA Liaison (Peterson): See report listed in the minutes from 1/25/07 meeting. The Mid-Level Clinics will be held one week later than previously. Peterson encourages members to form teams with their band and choir colleagues.

IX. Old Business:

X. New Business:

A. Teacher of the Year/Administrator of the Year Presentation (Kotchenruther): There were three excellent nominees for Teacher of the Year: John Kendall, David Reed and Marijean Quigley-Young. The Administrator of the Year is Dr. Jerry L. Seese from Saginaw. The Teacher of the Year is John Kendall. See details about the winners and the presentation of the awards in the Spring Edition of MASTA Notes.

B. Solo Competition winner performance (Long): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 25th board meeting. Performance of the Enesco Concert Piece for Viola and Piano and the first movement of the Rozsa Viola Concerto by Solo Competition Senior Division Grand Prize Winner, Megan Fergusson, *viola* (accompanied by Misuzu Tamaka, *piano*). Fergusson thanked MASTA and Shar for supporting the competition. She feels as a product of the public school Orchestra system, she owes much to string teachers. She dedicated her performance to all string teachers.

Meeting ended at 1:10 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart

[due to proximity of these meetings and this issue's press date, these minutes are printed without Board approval. Any necessary changes will be noted in the next issue of MASTA Notes-Ed.]

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ASTA's new online ASTA Advocacy Resource Center can give members the tools necessary to begin, keep, and support strings programs in the United States. ASTA has developed a downloadable Power point entitled SOS: SUPPORT OUR STRINGS, that includes facts, graphs, and research on the value of instrumental music in the schools and in particular strings programs. Also included are instructions on how to use the SOS. See: www.astaweb.com/advocacyresourcecenter.htm.

National Orchestra Festival online application – 2008 in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Michigan can send up to 30 audition tapes for the National Orchestra Festival that will perform at the 2008 National ASTA Conference, February 27 – March 1st, 2008, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This national orchestra will be selected from the audition tapes and recommendations from each state and will be conducted by Jung-Ho Pak, conductor of Orchestras at the Interlochen Arts Academy.

On line application information can be found at www.astaweb.com. Audition tapes must be sent to the MASTA National Orchestra Coordinator (Carl Gippert) by August 1st, 2007.

More Great Recruiting Materials!

Strings Encourage Dreams Advocacy kit-this kit is available exclusively to members to promote strings. Each kit contains a 30 second public service announcement by Mark O'Connor in VHS format, a Strings Encourage Dreams poster. 10 Shy Strings? Brochures, and 10 Strings Encourage reams bumper stickers.

Visit the Advocacy section of the ASTA web site. The association can also provide letters of support for schools that are trying to start new programs or save existing programs. To obtain a letter, write to tami@astaweb.com

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Faculty

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VIOLA

Catherine Carroll carroll.257@osu.edu

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CELLO

William Conable conable.1@osu.edu

DOUBLE BASS

Paul Robinson robinson.17@osu.edu

HARP

Jeanne Norton norton.214@osu.edu



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Capwiz Web Site: Strings Advocacy**

In a recent membership survey, advocacy was identified as a top priority by ASTA members. You can become an example of your commitment to string advocacy with the use of ASTA's program-CapWiz. CapWiz provides users with a wealth of information about their elected officials, important legislation that affect Strings advocates, and most of all the ability to take action and have their voices heard in Washington and State Capitols across the country.

The Home page includes the following categories:

- Action Alerts and Updates
- Elected Officials-Includes: Search by your home zip code; bios; voting records; Links to their home pages
- Issues and Legislations-Includes: Legislative Alerts and Updates; Current Legislation; Key Votes; and Tips to help advocates communicate effectively.
- Elections and Candidates-Includes information needed to register to vote: candidate and election searches.
- Media Guide: Identifies various media outlets and contact information.
- String Advocacy Features-Action List Sign up; Mega vote; Tell-a Friend; Web Stickers; Congress Today

Write to your Senators and Representatives-it has never been easier! In your note, direct them our web site: www.astaweb.com. CapWiz is easy to use! Go to the ASTA web site (www.astaweb.com) and under Advocacy, the CapWiz link is available (<http://capwiz.com/astaweb/home/>)

Let ASTA Keep the Records! Get Professional Development Credit for Attending Conferences

For a one time enrollment fee of \$25, ASTA will create and maintain a permanent and ongoing record of your professional development hours at National conference sessions. For an additional \$10, a certificate of completed hours will be mailed two weeks after receipt of the completed form. Visit the ASTA web site for complete details.



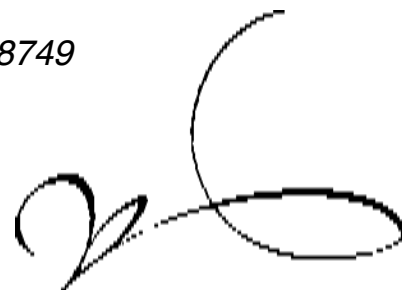
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Section 1: Conference Rates		
Early-Bird Registration: postmarked on or before Dec. 1	Pre-Registration: postmarked Dec. 2 – Feb. 2	On-Site Registration: postmarked after Feb. 2
ASTA Member Rates		
\$219	\$267	\$292
Non-Member Rates - Join Today and Save \$\$ (See Section 4)		
\$369	\$417	\$442
Student Member Rates		
\$95	\$129	\$179
Student Non-Member Rates - Join Today and Save \$\$ (See Section 4)		
\$195	\$229	\$279
Member One-Day Rate: \$159		
Non-Member One-Day Rate: \$199		
		Indicate which day (circle one):
		Th F S
Section 1 Subtotal		\$ _____

Section 2: Optional Conference Activities	
Pre-Conference Workshops (Choose only one.) Wednesday, March 7, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$59 – Members; \$79 – Non-Members	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Styles	<input type="checkbox"/> State Leadership (invitation only) State _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bodywork	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conducting	
<input type="checkbox"/> Diversity	
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Studio	
Evening Concerts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Midori Concert – Thursday, March 8	\$20 Qty. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lynn Harrell – Friday, March 9	\$20 Qty. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gala Benefit Evening – Saturday, March 10	\$40 Qty. _____
(Gala includes Silent Auction and the Turtle Island String Quartet)	
Section 2 Subtotal	
\$ _____	

Section 3: Documentation of Professional Development	
(Choose this option if you wish to have ASTA keep an ongoing record of your professional development hours. See brochure for more information.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Enrollment Fee of \$25	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Professional Development	\$10 x _____ = \$ _____
Name on Certificate: _____	
Certificate of Participation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Conference Participation	\$10 x _____ = \$ _____
Name on Certificate: _____	
* Does not contain hours of professional development.	
Section 3 Subtotal	
\$ _____	

Conference Badge Information
Please print your name and professional affiliation as you wish it to appear on your badge (e.g., John Doe, University of Maryland, or Jane Doe, City High School, or Jane Doe, Private Studio Teacher).
Nickname _____
Place of Employment _____
Primary Instrument _____

Section 4: ASTA Membership (Join or Renew Now!)
Join or renew your membership when registering for the conference and take the discounted member rate on registration fees. Memberships must be current prior to the conference for member rates to apply.
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional \$93
<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time Student (copy of ID required) \$42
<input type="checkbox"/> Dual \$130
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (age 62 or over) \$66
If you pre-pay your 2006-2007 membership dues, you will receive a complimentary membership pin. Otherwise, pins may be purchased at the conference.
Section 4 Subtotal
\$ _____

Registration Totals	
Please enter your subtotals from all sections.	<input type="checkbox"/> I want to be a 60K club member. I am enclosing my \$60 donation!
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Section 2 _____	
Section 3 _____	(Visit www.astaweb.com for more information about the 60K club.)
Section 4 _____	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Purchase Order # _____ (copy must be attached) (Must be fully paid 45 days before conference or balance collected at registration.)
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard
Card # _____ Exp. Date _____
Cardholder Name _____
Signature _____

Cancellation Policy
All cancellation requests must be received in writing by February 2, 2007 . No refunds will be given on requests after this date. NO EXCEPTIONS . There is a \$75 cancellation fee. Refunds will not be processed until after the conference.
Note: Registrations with funds from outside the U.S. must be drawn on a U.S. bank.

2007 ASTA National Conference Update

submitted by Pam Phillips, National ASTA Conference Coordinator

How many times are you going to be able to attend a national conference right here in MI? Not very often! Remember: the 2007 ASTA National Conference will be our only chance for some years to have this event in our state! It will be too good to miss and worth extra effort and expense to get there! The dates are March 7-10, 2007 at the Renaissance Center Marriott Conference Center in Detroit. See astamichigan.org or astaweb.com for details and registration I have to tell you that I am really pleased with the schedule, the variety of classes offered, the performers. Though the conferences in past years have been spectacular, there is always room for improvement! Other than the fact that you need to be there if at all possible, there are four things to know right now.

First:

March 7 – Special 5 hour, in depth Pre-Conference sessions including Conducting, Body Work, Alternative Styles, Teaching in Diverse Situations and Studio Teaching.

March 8-10 – Over 120 educational sessions and performances covering a wide variety of topics applicable to school orchestra and the private studio setting. Many Michigan ensembles, presenters, masterclass clinicians and students are represented. Evening performances by Midori with the Civic, Lynn Harrell with the DSO and Turtle Island String Quartet. Michigan ASTA is sponsoring the reception prior to the DSO concert!

March 7-10 - The National Orchestra Festival takes place with many performances by groups from around the country and Michigan. Winner's Concert on Saturday!

Second:

You can also be a part of the team working to make this happen. Volunteers are needed to escort performing groups (just like at Festival), host NOF masterclasses, stuff bags on Tuesday morning (free lunch) and to preside over sessions. Please email Deanna Tompkins, Deanna@astaweb.com, to volunteer.

Third:

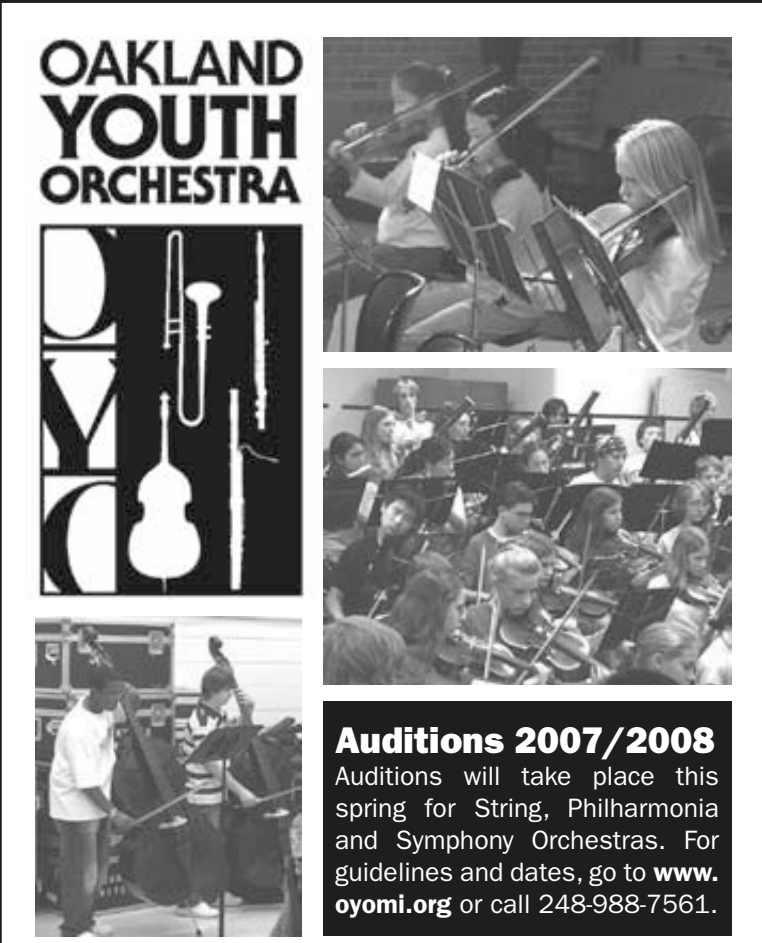
An added bonus! And very timely for our state! One on one or drop-in time with an expert to ask questions about anything to do with saving, supporting and expanding music programs! Dr. John Benham, long an icon in and consultant on music advocacy theory and practice, will be answering questions. Stop by with general or specific questions about topics such as starting a new string program, avoiding cuts, managing a crisis when cuts are threatened, scheduling, etc. Dr. Benham is the author of *Counterpoint* as seen at www.supportmusic.com and well known for his theory of reverse economics. Sponsored by NAMM.

Fourth:

Just announced – a special price of \$10 for college students to attend the Pre-Conference session about Teaching in Diverse Settings! Email: Deanna@astaweb.com to sign up.

There will be approximately 1000 string teachers there. Only conference out there where string players are in the majority! The energy is indescribable and the educational content is amazing!

General questions– email the National Office or Pam Phillips, Conference Coordinator at phillipsfiddlers@aol.com.



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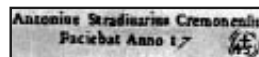
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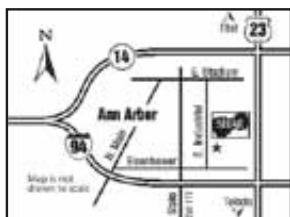
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Michigan Presenters: 2007 ASTA Conference

The following Michigan-based musicians are scheduled to present Educational Sessions at the National Conference. Sessions are 60-minute interactive sessions covering a wide range of content applicable to string teaching and performance.

Richard Aaron,

University of Michigan

Anthony Elliott,

University of Michigan

*Sequential Teaching Strategies
for Cellists*

Thursday, 12:15pm-1:15pm

Wondering about set-up, tension issues, repertoire choices, or looking for novel approaches to teaching the fundamentals? Come join two of America's top cello teachers as they share concepts from their unique "team teaching" studio at the University of Michigan.

Matthew Ardizzone,

Bowling Green State University

*Total Recall: Harnessing the Power of the
Mind to Enjoy Playing by Heart*

Saturday, 12:30pm-1:30pm

Does the concept of memorization strike fear in your heart? This session explores memory work as an essential part of the learning process. The goal is not to advocate memorization for its own sake, but rather to improve our mental engagement in the practice room and enhance our enjoyment of performance.

Mihai Craioveanu,

Hope College

*Everything is Possible When One
Knows How to Practice.*

Thursday, 12:15pm-1:15pm

This presentation is intended to offer practice related advice, and creative ideas leading to excellent results in the area of technique, tone production and interpretation. It is designed to target strategies that lead to quick problem solving solutions and goal accomplishment in all performing levels of the violin and viola.

Katherine Doversberger,

Clarkston Conservatory of Music

*Let's Play: An Introduction
to Group Improvisation*

Thursday, 2:45pm-3:45pm

Bring your instrument for a workshop on free improvisation in a group setting. This session will demonstrate simple strategies to get beginning improvisers to make music together. We'll be playing in large and small groups using games and exercises to create cogent musical ideas and become more responsive to the music making of others.

Anthony Elliott,

University of Michigan

and the Aspen Music School

Collegiate Level Cello Master Class

Thursday, 2:45pm-3:45pm

Amy Feldkamp,

Tecumseh Public Schools

*Fiddlin' Fun: The Inclusion of Alternative
Styles in a Beginning Orchestra
Curriculum*

Friday, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Want to address local, state, and national mandates in your orchestras in new and exciting ways? Including alternative styles creates dedication, motivation, and inspiration in students, all while reinforcing and refining techniques. A list of tunes with the techniques that they teach will be provided and performed! Tecumseh Schools Orchestra students will serve as a demonstration group.

Larry Hutchinson,

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

*Pre-College Level Double Bass
Master Class*

Thursday, 9:45am-10:45am

Larry Hutchinson,

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

John Kennedy,

Farmington Public Schools

*How Do You Know What You Don't Know:
Bridging the Gap Between Studio and
Public School String Teachers*

Friday, 11:45am-12:45pm

Studio and public school teachers form a symbiotic relationship that should be nurtured and cultivated. There are a variety of strategies that will help studio and public school teachers work together to create quality string playing in the public school. Examples will be drawn from bass playing but are applicable to all.

Jeremy Kittel,

Manhattan School of Music

*Approaching Jazz: Improvisation
for String Players*

Friday, 3:30pm-4:30pm

In this fun and engaging workshop for all skill levels, 2005 Alternative Styles award winner Jeremy Kittel will explain various methods of learning jazz improvisation. Topics covered will include groove, inflection, playing over chord changes, improvising on a theme, and much more. This will be an interactive workshop, so bring your instrument and be ready to play!

Kevin Miller,

Eastern Michigan University

*New String Orchestra Music Reading
Session, Grades 3 through 6*

Friday, 10:30am-11:30am

Hear a selection of the latest new music releases for middle school and high school performed by the Troy High School Orchestra prepared by their director Alan MacNair.

Judy Palac,

Michigan State University

Sharan Leventhal,

Boston Conservatory

*Gain Without Pain: A Practical Application
Workshop for Injury Prevention*

Saturday, 11:15am-12:15pm

Hurting? Or trying to make sure you don't? Bring your instruments for this hands-on session. We'll present five principles for injury prevention, and then work with volunteers to illustrate how they can be used to problem solve and to enhance musical, pain free performance.

Bob Phillips,

Composer & Author

Beyond the Baton:

Rehearsing the High School Orchestra

Friday, 11:45am-12:45pm

Set the stage to strive for excellence, refine technique and maintain enrollment in your high school orchestra with these exciting strategies and rehearsal techniques.

Bob Phillips,

Composer & Author

Shall We Dance?

Energizing the Right Arm

Thursday, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Encourage younger string students to develop bows that dance with fiddling, jazz, mariachi and other alternative styles. Develop students who play rhythmically and with energy while using the entire bow. Session will include strategies and tips that develop energized, aggressive right arms through the use of alternative styles.

Stephen Shipp,

University of Michigan

Collegiate Level Violin Master Class

Thursday, 11:00am-12:00pm

Michigan Ensembles Performing at the Conference

The following Michigan ensembles are performing either as a part of the National Orchestra Festival or as invited guest performers at the National ASTA Conference.

Gabriel Villasurda,

Greenville Public Schools

*A Tuneful Approach to
Advanced Shifting*

Friday, 10:30am-11:30am

Using familiar folk songs and patriotic melodies, teach advanced shifting to your private student or school orchestra. Materials can be used with violin, viola, cello and bass alone or in any combination. This session will demonstrate early preparation exercises for introducing shifting and teaching strategies for using these materials as part of the regular string orchestra rehearsal. All materials can be downloaded without charge at www.stringskills.com

Leslie Wimsatt,

University of Michigan

*Building Musicianship Among
Student Beginners: Visual Versus
Auditory Triggers*

Friday, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Learn how to extend the ability of beginning students to perform musically. Discussion will focus on the role of learning preferences/styles, technical development, note reading ability, and ear training skills in the learning process. Activities that stimulate young players to perform musically will be demonstrated.

Leslie Wimsatt,

University of Michigan

Psyching Up for Sight Reading

Thursday, 2:45pm-3:45pm

Learn how to help students improve their ability to sight read. Discussion includes an overview of current research, methods to extend basic reading skills, and creative use of visualization, music theory, and sight reading procedures to enhance performance. String teaching activities for the studio and classroom will be demonstrated.

The National Orchestra Festival brings together orchestras from around the country to a single location in order to provide an unparalleled opportunity to receive placement, ratings, comments, and education from leading clinicians and adjudicators in the industry. The following Michigan ensembles are participating in this year's Festival.

Farmington Festival Orchestra

Tracey Riggs, director

Farmington Hills, MI

Thursday, 8:00am

Cityside Middle School 7th & 8th Grade Orchestra

Marie Den Braber, director

Thursday, 9:00am

Zeeland, MI

Mona Shores Chamber Orchestra

Tim Staudacher, director

Muskegon, MI

Thursday, 11:00am

Waterford Kettering High School

Symphony Strings

Merlyn Beard, director

Thursday, 2:00pm

Chelsea High School Symphony Orchestra

Jed Fritzemeier, director

Thursday, 3:00pm

Adrian High School Symphony Orchestra

Lorri Wittenkeller, director

Thursday, 4:00pm

Waterford Kettering High School

Chamber Orchestra

Merlyn Beard, director

Friday, 8:00am

Bedford Jr. High String Orchestra

Jeffrey Thomas, director

Temperance, MI

Friday, 10:00am

ASTA is pleased to announce that the following Michigan orchestras have been invited to perform at the conference. These talented groups were selected from many that applied to perform at the conference.

Ann Arbor Suzuki Institute Advanced Violin Group

Gerri Tata Arnold, director

Thursday, March 8

Opening Ceremony 8:00am-9:30am

Suzuki Royal Oak Institute of Music Camerata

Mark Mutter, director

Troy, MI

Thursday, March 8

Opening Ceremony 8:00am-9:30am

Detroit Public Schools All City Middle School and High School Orchestras

Benjamin Pruitt,

Instrumental Music Supervisor

Thursday, March 8

1:30pm-2:30pm

Michigan Youth Ensemble Symphony Orchestra

Anthony Elliott, director

Ann Arbor, MI

Friday, March 9

8:00am-9:00am

Hope College Symphonette

Richard Piippo, director

Holland, MI

Friday, March 9

1:00pm-2:00pm

Troy High School Orchestra

Alan MacNair, director

Friday, March 9

3:30pm-4:30pm

March 7-10, 2007
Detroit, Michigan
ASTA National Conference

Schedule-at-a-Glance

For a detailed schedule of events at the conference, please visit <http://astaweb.com/2007/>

Wednesday, March 7

10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Registration Open
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Pre-Conference Sessions
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	60K Club Foundation Reception
8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	State Chapter Meetings

Thursday, March 8

7:30 am. - 6:30 p.m.	Registration Open
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	National Orchestra Festival Events
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	National Solo Competition – Senior Division Finals
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Grand Opening of Exhibits and Reception in Hall
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Midori performs with the Civic Youth Orchestra

Friday, March 9

7:30 am. - 6:30 p.m.	Registration Open
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	ASTA Business Meeting of Membership
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	National Orchestra Festival Events
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	National Solo Competition – Junior Division Finals
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Lynn Harrell performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, March 10

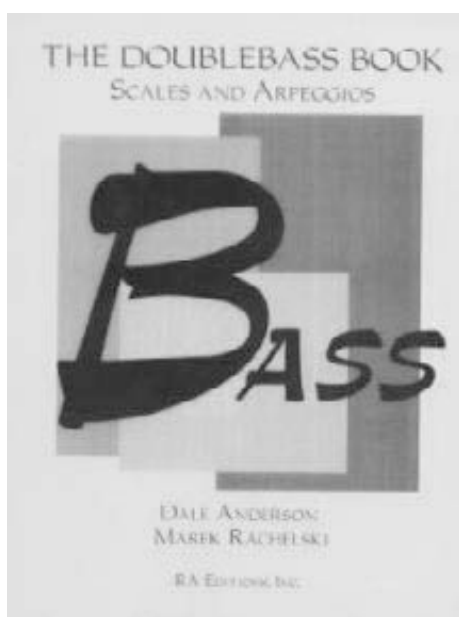
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Registration Open
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Alternative Styles Awards Winner's Concert
10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Coffee Break with Exhibitors
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Solo Competition Winner's Recital and the National Orchestra Festival Winner's Concert
1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Dessert Reception and Grand Prize Drawing
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Silent Auction
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Turtle Island String Quartet Performance

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EMU ASTA is reaching further

submitted by Weston Hosler, EMU Student Chapter President

The ASTA chapter at Eastern Michigan University is currently finishing a project concerning some very special people. During the final week of February, the chapter will be taking over fifty instruments down to New Orleans, in hopes to continue string education in the city. Along with the instrument donations, the chapter will be repairing instruments that have been damaged, and working with students and teachers. There are currently only two strings programs running in the city. The chapter has high hopes of contributing all they can to the teachers, and especially to the students, of this great community.

Music, instruments, and transportation are still needed, with hopes of collecting several more instruments and accessories in the final month before departure. Any donations would be greatly accepted, and more information can be obtained through Weston Hosler at 734.487.2448.

MASTA Welcomes New and Moving Music Educators within Michigan

submitted by Jan Flower, MASTA Member at Large

A majority of the new teachers and string programs in our State have been contacted by e-mail or phone to see if MASTA can assist with their transition. There are new string programs in the Milford-Huron Valley Schools (Tom Kern teaching a "community" string program); Novi schools (Kristen Hurd teaching elementary strings); and Webberville (Jennifer Filipiak teaching in grades K-4).

The following educators are newly hired at these schools: Andrea Marttila, Ann Arbor Pioneer H.S.; Nicole Langford, Byron Center West M.S.; Ben Moy, Ferndale H.S./M.S.; Robert Ward, Grand Rapids City HS/MS; Ann Marie Jones, Greenville M.S.; Caitlin Rizner, Holland Christian N. Shores M.S.; Teresa Cirihal, Livonia Franklin H.S.; Leslie Hamel, Okemos Chippewa M.S.; and Katie Pearsall, Saginaw Heritage H.S.

[As Member at Large, Jan Flower has accepted the task of assisting new and transferring educators within Michigan on behalf of MASTA.-Ed.]

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2007 Michigan Music Conference Review

Kelly Kramer, Michigan Music Conference Coordinator

The Second Annual Michigan Music Conference had much to offer this year to our members. The sessions were well attended and very informative. This year's conference was a success in part to the clinicians and performers who shared their expertise.

MASTA would like to thank the following individuals and ensembles for their time and effort:

Geri Arnold
Abby Alwin
Sandra Dackow
Kathleen DeBerry Brungard
Matt Deloria
Melissa Gerber Knecht
Andrew George

Carl Gippert
Mark Kotchenruther
Lynne Latham
Dan Long
Alan MacNair
Kevin Miller
Chris Orlik

Bob Phillips
Wendy Stuart
Gabriel Villasurda
Terese Volk
Leslie Wimsatt
Diane Winder

Nathan Peters and the Chelsea Beach 8th Grade Orchestra
Sarah K.H. Maurice and the Black River High School Advanced Orchestra
Valerie Palmieri and the Walled Lake Western High School Symphony Orchestra
Janice Flower and the All-State Middle School Orchestra
Leon Gregorian and the All-State High School Orchestra

Clinic session ideas are now being accepted for the 2008 Michigan Music Conference. The dates for next year are January 24–26, 2008. Please visit the conference web site, www.MichiganMusicConference.org, to submit your ideas. Session applications for 2008 must be submitted electronically by mid- April. The web site also lists how you can be part of the evaluation process for MMC 2007. Your ideas and suggestions will help the planning committee build this conference to meet your needs, so please take a moment to participate.

This is my last newsletter article as a member of the MMC planning committee. Valerie Palmieri has graciously agreed to represent MASTA in the conference planning process. Thanks to you all for allowing me to serve as your MASTA representative.

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SOLO COMPETITION SETS NEW RECORD

submitted by E. Daniel Long, MASTA Solo Competition Chair

The Fourteenth Biennial Solo Competition took place on November 4, 2006 at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. A record number of contestants participated in the competition. Twenty-four musicians entered the Junior Division and eleven musicians played in the Senior Division. These thirty-five talented individuals gave outstanding performances in all six instrument categories—violin, viola, cello, double bass, guitar and harp.

Judges for the Junior Division were Suren Bagratuni, Michigan State University and Daniel Foster, Eastern Michigan University. Judges for the Senior Division were Yehonatan Berick, University of Michigan and Olga Ziabrikova, Western Michigan University. These judges selected two prizewinners in each division.

The winners in the Junior Division were GRAND PRIZE (SHAR MUSIC AWARD) Barbora Kolarova, violin, Michigan State University, Charles Avsharian, teacher and FIRST PRIZE (ELIZABETH A.H. GREEN AWARD) Benjamin Beilman, violin, Ann Arbor, Almita Vamos, teacher. Additionally, the following contestants were chosen to submit tapes to the National Screening Committee: Jordan Huang, violin, Portage, Renata Knific, teacher and Andrea Jarrett, violin, Saline, Ann Weller, teacher.



Grand Prize (Shar Music Award) Junior Division winner Barbora Kolarova, violin, with Michael Avsharian

The winners in the Senior Division were GRAND PRIZE (SHAR MUSIC AWARD) Megan Fergusson, viola, University of Michigan, Yizhak Schotten, teacher and FIRST PRIZE (PSARIANOS AWARD) Petra Vilankova, violin, Michigan State University, Charles Avsharian, teacher. Additionally, the following contestants were chosen to submit tapes to the National Screening Committee: Elizabeth Beilman, viola, Ann Arbor, Heidi Castleman, teacher; Carla Fabris, harp, University of Michigan, Lynne Aspnes, teacher; Alexandru Hamzea, violin, Holland, Mihai Craioveanu, teacher; and Sheryl Hwangbo, violin, Berrien Springs, Paul Kantor, teacher.



Grand Prize (Shar Music Award) Senior Division winner Megan Fergusson, viola, with accompanist Misuzu Tamaka and Haig Avsharian

Western Michigan University was most generous and gracious for hosting this year's competition. The facilities at the Dalton Center were superb. Special thanks and kudos to Bruce Uchimura and Carl Doubleday for their guidance and organizational skills. We are indebted to them for their support of this endeavor. Special thanks to the members of the WMU Student Chapter of ASTA who provided assistance in making the day's events run smoothly and efficiently.

It was, once again, a pleasure to be a part of this fine competition. It is another example of the professional involvement and commitment of our state membership in ASTA activities. It clearly demonstrates the successful

venture between our organization and the music industry. Psarianos Violin Shop and Shar Products Company are to be commended and thanked for their continuous generosity and steadfast support.

Many individuals contributed to the success of this year's solo competition. The contributions made by the contestants themselves—the highest level of musical performance—was the most important factor in making this a grand day. Each contestant is to be congratulated for his or her outstanding playing.


Megan Fergusson and her accompanist, Misuzu Tanaka, gave a brilliant performance of Enesco's Concertpiece and one movement of Rozsa's Concerto for Viola at the Annual Meeting/ Luncheon in Grand Rapids, in conjunction with the Michigan Music Conference. As in past years, the challenge was put to those in attendance to "name that tune"—identify the compositions being performed. For the first time in recent memory, no one was able to identify Ms. Fergusson's mystery tunes.



First Prize winners Petra Vilankova, violin, Senior Division (Psarianos Music Award) and Benjamin Beilman, violin, Junior Division (Elizabeth A. H. Green Award), congratulated by Michael Avsharian

HOT OFF THE PRESS

As this newsletter goes to press it has just been learned that Petra Vilankova, Megan Fergusson, Benjamin Beilman and Elizabeth Beilman are among those selected as NATIONAL FINALISTS to audition live in Detroit at the National Solo Competition, this coming March 7-10. Best wishes to these fine young musicians.



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"I loved this clinic. It was life-changing and I plan on returning next year!"

"Workshop presenters are not only knowledgeable, but also warm, caring, and up beat – positive! I'm inspired!"

"Chapters could be written on ideas learned at the OSU workshop."

MASTA Honors Teacher and Administrator of the Year

submitted by Mark Kotchenruther, MASTA President Elect

On Saturday, January 27 at our annual luncheon, in conjunction with the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids, MASTA awarded its Teacher and Administrator of the Year awards. This was once again a wonderful occasion to highlight and honor great service to our organization, its members and their students.

The MASTA board received this year three nominations for Teacher of the Year: John Kendall, Marijean Quigley-Young, and David Reed. All three are world class teachers and it was a high honor to have them on our ballot. We know it was a hard task for MASTA members to choose between three truly outstanding string educators, but after a tally of membership ballots, the recipient of our 2007 Teacher of the Year Award was John Kendall. Here is an excerpt of the nomination letter submitted by Geri Arnold:

“JOHN KENDALL attended the Oberlin Conservatory, Columbia Teachers College and Indiana University, and studied violin with Raymond Cerf, Ivan Galamian, Tossi Spivakovky, Christine Dethier and others. He began his teaching career in 1939 at Dury College in Missouri, and later moved to Ohio to join the faculty of Muskingum College. Inspired by a film of a performance in Tokyo of 700 young violinists playing the Bach Double Violin Concerto. Kendall became the first American string teacher to observe and study in Japan the Talent Education teaching approach of Shinichi Suzuki. His first trip in 1959 was followed by four additional visits. In 1963 Kendall became a Professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, from which he retired as Professor Emeritus in 1997. He has had an active performing career as a conductor, solo recitalist, concertmaster and as a member of the Lincoln String Quartet. As a teacher, he has trained literally hundreds of violin teachers and has taught in every part of the U.S. and in over a dozen countries internationally. Even though



John Kendall, MASTA 2006 Teacher of the Year, with the MASTA Executive Board. Nominating educator Geri Arnold is to the right of Mr. Kendall

MASTA Teachers of the Year

- 1964 Yenovk Kavafian
- 1965 Anne Dodge
- 1966 Robert Lint
- 1967 Elizabeth Green
- 1968 Louis Potter
- 1969 Maurice Riley
- 1970 Emily Austin
- 1971 Mildred Bachellor
- 1972 Olive Gold Parks
- 1973 Julius Stulberg
- 1974 Lawrence Guenther
- 1975 Betty Heaton
- 1976 Marilyn Kesler
- 1977 Ara Zerounian
- 1978 Gabe Villasurda
- 1979 Carolyn Tarzia
- 1980 Ann Schoelles
- 1981 Martha Froseth
- 1982 Valerie Palmieri
- 1983 Jean Manning
- 1986 Helene Bleecker
- 1987 Lyman Bodman
- 1988 Yvonne Schilla
- 1989 Dan Long
- 1990 Geri Arnold
- 1991 Russell Reed
- 1992 Roxanne Oliver
- 1993 Jerry Bartlett
- 1994 Robert Culver
- 1995 Bob Phillips
- 1996 Bob Ritsema
- 1997 Bill Tennant
Connie Dugger
- 1998 Alan MacNair
- 1999 Catharine DeLuca
- 2000 Pat Smith
- 2001 Marshall (Larry)
Hutchinson
- 2002 Rosemary Maloczay
- 2003 Judith Palac
- 2004 Steve Reed
- 2005 Leslie Wimsatt
- 2006 John Kendall

MASTA Administrators of the Year

- 1984 Ella Villa
- 1985 Gustave Rosseels
- 1998 James Huber
- 1999 Hedy Blatt
- 2000 R. Paul Barber
- 2001 Ellen Ewing
- 2002 Barbara Elmer
Tom Miller
- 2003 Steve Gaynor
- 2004 Tom TenBrink
- 2005 Dr. Wayne Vasher
- 2006 Dr. Jerry L. Seese

Mr. Kendall is a new Michigander, and has done so much for string players already. He has generously given his teaching services to both teachers and young students from all over the state in several ways. In "Tuesdays with John," a monthly master classes for Teachers and their students, all proceeds go toward a scholarship fund to benefit students needing financial assistance to study at the Suzuki Blue Lake Family Camp. Mr. Kendall also did a Master class for the MASTA Troy Suzuki Workshop, to help them with their enrollment, and has agreed to do this once again this coming year. Mr. Kendall has students come to him from all over the state for assistance, and at 89 years of age, he is just a marvel on how he helps all these students."

Although a relatively new award, the MASTA Administrator of the Year honor is one that we as a membership greatly value. This year's recipient was the superintendent from the Saginaw Township Community Schools, Dr. Jerry L. Seese. Here is an excerpt of the nomination letter submitted by Iris Haynes:

"DR. JERRY L. SEESE is the consummate instrumental music advocate and a champion of string education. He listened to the community when interest was keen in creating an elementary strings program in addition to the middle and high school programs. Funding was allocated and scheduling rearranged to allow for a new hire to take on the elementary responsibilities of six schools. Enrollment at all three levels has increased dramatically since starting the elementary program. Dr. Seese has been highly visible in all the strings classes from elementary to high school becoming actively engaged upon stepping into the classroom. He makes the effort to attend as many performances as his schedule will allow. At his behest, various ensembles have performed for numerous school board functions and programs in and around the community as well as out of state. Dr. Seese has provided essential support for the arts in general and for strings specifically. Because of him, a waning program has grown vibrant and healthy."

Thank you to all who nominated and voted for this year's awards. We are truly fortunate to have such outstanding dedication, quality and service in our state.

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Dr. Jerry L. Seese, 2006 MASTA Administrator of the Year,
with nominating educator Iris Haynes

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Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts

734.995.4625
www.info@spa-aa.org
www.spa-aa.org

Battle Creek Youth Orchestras

269.966.2527
www.unitedartscouncil.org/bcyo

The Brighton String Orchestra

810.299.4130
Celloswimmer10@hotmail.com
Weston Hosler, director

Cadillac Area Youth Orchestra

231.876.5667
JLKoll1@aol.com

Dearborn Youth Symphony

313.943.2354
bherm@ci.dearborn.mi.us
www.DearbornFordCenter.com

Detroit Civic Orchestras

313.576.5164
www.detroitssymphony.com/education/
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Flint Youth Symphony

810.238.1350 ext. 3
www.thefim.org

Grand Rapids Youth Symphony

616.866.6883
www.grys.org

Holland Area Youth Orchestras

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hayo@macatawa.org
www.hollandsymphony.org/hayo.html

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Maggie Anderson
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Troy Suzuki Workshop & Troy Bass Workshop Info

submitted by Claire Charboneau, Troy Workshops Project Director

The Troy Suzuki Workshop & Troy Bass Workshop are scheduled for April 20 & 21, 2007. If you have any questions regarding this year's workshop, please contact Claire Charboneau at (248) 546-6450 or ccharbs@comcast.net.

Alternative Styles Day: Latin, Jazz, and Fiddling for Strings at MSU

submitted by Jessica DeZess, MSU Student Chapter Treasurer

The Michigan State University Student ASTA Chapter will be hosting "Alternative Styles Day: Latin, Jazz, and Fiddling for Strings" on April 14, 2007 from 9:30am to 3pm. The event will feature clinics and master classes on Latin, jazz, and fiddling styles for string players with Corinna Smith, MSU Professor Raphael Jimenez, and Jeremy Kittel. Alternative Styles Day will be held at the Music Building on the campus of Michigan State University. String teachers, high school string students, and college music majors are welcome. Registration materials can be found on the web at www.msu.edu/~coalsonj/altstyles.htm. Please email msuasta@gmail.com with any questions. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn about alternative styles for strings!

Michigan Youth Arts Festival Update

submitted by Diane Winder, MASTA/MYAF Liaison

The 2007 Michigan Youth Arts Festival will be held May 10-12 at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, and will feature performances by the MASTA Honors String Quartet, an All-State Orchestra, and concerto soloists. For information, please visit: <http://www.myaf.org/>.

Orchestra Notes from MSBOA


submitted by Janis Shier Peterson, MASTA MSBOA Liaison and MSBOA - VP Orchestral Activities

The String Reading Session and the Middle Level String Workshops will happen one week later than years past. This will give directors more time to prepare for the registration deadlines AND the events. The String Reading Session will be held on September 22, 2007 and the workshops will be October 20th and 27th.

The string committee is working on a list of nine goals:

- 1) Find support for struggling orchestra programs
- 2) Develop more communication/participation among orchestra teachers in MSBOA
- 3) Continue training for Band directors teaching Orchestra
- 4) Create Chamber Orchestra opportunities
- 5) Establish alternatives to Festival
- 6) Develop rent-a-wind section/collaboration with College-level Orchestra programs
- 7) Build numbers of string specialist adjudicators
- 8) Develop a stronger TEAM of music educators in Michigan: Orchestra + Band + Choral *via* MSBOA + MASTA + MSVMA + MMEA
- 9) Maintain a quality Middle Level orchestral activity (Fall Clinic)

Contact your district representative if you have input...and remember:
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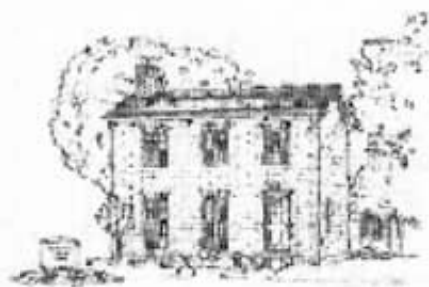
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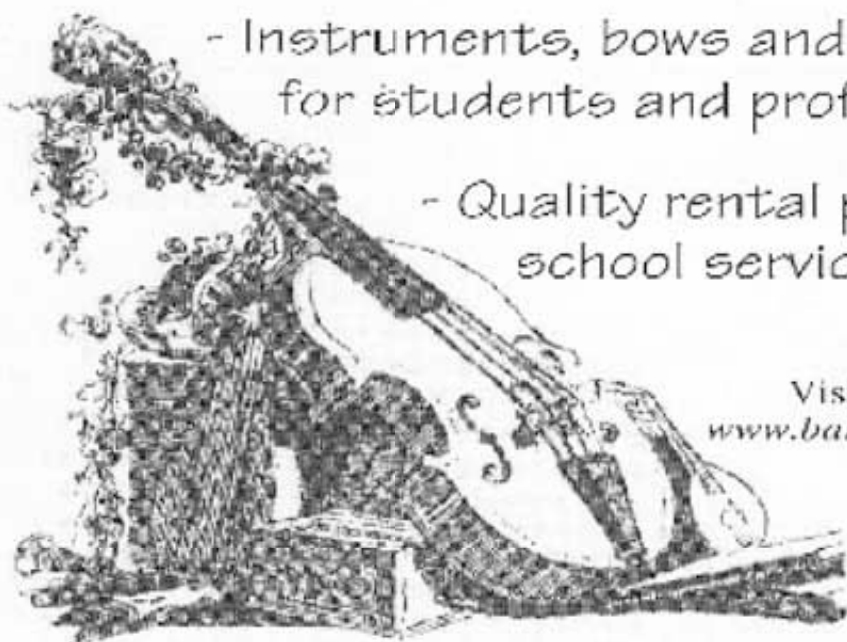
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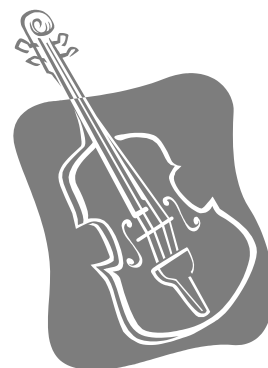
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MASTA Music Camps



A Closer Look at the Elementary and Junior High String Camps

	Elementary String Camp	Junior High String Camp
Date of Camp, 2007	Camp 1: June 17-19 Camp 2: June 20-22	June 24-June 30
Length	3 days, 2 nights	7 days, 6 nights
Location	Howell Nature Center	Howell Nature Center
Age Eligibility	Currently in 4 th - 6 th grade	Currently in 6 th - 9 th grade
Playing Eligibility	At least one year of instruction. Can read music on the A and D strings.	At least three years of instruction (for 6 th graders). Can read music on all strings.
Number of Orchestras	Two orchestras of different levels	Two orchestras of different levels that rehearse twice daily.
Other Music Instruction	<p><i>Rote Class:</i> 2-5 students of same instrument and level of playing.</p> <p><i>Rhythms Class:</i> Learning rhythms in a fun Way without string instruments (e.g. drum ensembles, boom wackers, lummi sticks)</p> <p><i>General Music Class:</i> A deeper understanding of music principals without string instruments. Many music games and activities.</p> <p><i>Sectionals:</i> Practice orchestra music with other members of your section.</p>	<p><i>Chamber Music:</i> Students participate in daily rehearsals of no more than 9 students per group. Each rehearsal is coached the camp's faculty and counselors.</p> <p><i>Sectionals:</i> Practice Orchestra music with other members of your section.</p> <p><i>Orff Class:</i> A deeper understanding of music principals without string instruments. Students play percussion instruments and compose their own music. Many music games and activities.</p>
Other Camp Activities	Swimming, hiking, tours of the animal preserve, archery, obstacle course, arts and crafts, board games, live concerts, field games (e.g. soccer, volleyball, basketball, etc.), and more!	Swimming, hiking, tours of the animal preserve, archery, obstacle course, live concerts, field games (e.g. soccer, volleyball, basketball, etc.), a dance and more!

For students currently in sixth grade!

You have the option of attending either camp, or possibly, both! If you can only attend one camp and are having trouble deciding, we recommend:

MASTA Elementary Camp: If this is your first camp experience or if you've only played for one year in school.

MASTA Junior High Camp: If you have played for many years and can read music on all four strings comfortably and if you have attended an overnight camp before.

Questions? Please contact a camp director.

Elementary Camp
Dan Scott
musicians@astamichigan.org
(616) 856-1657

Junior High Camp
Wendy Stuart
wrstuart@mac.com
(248) 686.2708

MASTA Elementary String Camp

American String Teachers Association -Michigan Unit
www.astamichigan.org

2007 Camp Dates

Camp 1: June 17-19

Camp 2: June 20-22



We hope to see you
this summer!

MASTA Elementary String Camp

Howell Nature Center, Howell, MI

www.howellnaturecenter.org

Music Activities: Orchestra, rote class, general music, rhythms class, sectionals, and a concert.

Camp Activities: Swimming, obstacle course, crafts, archery, nature walks, relays, volleyball, soccer, board games, and more!

Eligibility: For students *currently* in 4th - 6th grade with at least one year of instruction. Students need to be able to read music on at least their A and D strings.

Fee: Total fees: \$195. This includes instruction, recreation, and room and board. Please make checks payable to:

Michigan A.S.T.A.

Scholarships: Limited financial need scholarships are granted through the Michigan A.S.T.A. Outreach Program. Scholarship applications are available online at www.astamichigan.org. Application must be postmarked by April 15th.

String Camp Application Form

Name _____ Instrument _____

Parents'/Guardians' Names _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Age _____ Grade _____ Gender _____

School District _____ Orchestra Teacher _____

Number of Years Studied _____ Private Teacher _____

Camp Date Preference: June 17-19 June 20-22

Roommate Request: _____

Teacher Recommendation: "I recommend the above student as a member in good standing of our school string program. This student has received at least one year of instruction and can read music on the A and D strings."

Teacher's Signature: _____

Please send this completed application form with the \$75 deposit by April 15 to:

MASTA
5274 Sutton Road
Britton, MI 49229

THE PURPOSE: Our camp provides a positive, non-competitive atmosphere in which Junior High String Students are encouraged and stimulated to develop their skills and enthusiasm as musicians. The camp has been serving young musicians in Michigan for over 30 years and is licensed by the State of Michigan.

CAMP FEATURES: Each day includes two orchestra rehearsals, chamber music, a sectional rehearsal, Off/general music, sports, recreation, and social activities. Recreation highlights include swimming, volleyball, an environmental education program, a bonfire, a dance and a staff concert. A final performance for families will be held on Saturday morning, June 30th.

ELIGIBILITY: Camp is open to string instrument playing students presently in **grades six, seven, eight and nine**, who are recommended by their school Orchestra Director or private instructor. Sixth Grade campers should have three years experience and be able to play/read music on all four strings.

HOW TO APPLY: Students wishing to participate must send the attached application postmarked by **April 15, 2007 with a \$100.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit**. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Camper packets containing detailed information will be sent upon acceptance.

CAMP FEES: The total fee for the camp is \$400. This includes instruction, room and board, recreation, camp T-shirt, and snacks. Checks should be made payable to **MASTA**. The balance (\$300 after the initial \$100 deposit) is due by June 1st. Please send in your application soon. Waitlists will be kept after the camp fills its available places.

DRESS: Campers should bring casual clothes for warm and cool weather, rain gear, and swim attire. Camp T-shirts will be worn for the Saturday morning closing concert.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Limited scholarships granted for financial need are available through the Michigan ASTA Outreach Program.

Contact Carl Gippert for scholarship applications. The scholarship application must be postmarked by April 1, 2007.

Carl Gippert
1226 Thompson Ave
Port Huron, MI 48060
248.417.0391
cgippert@sbcglobal.net

An additional scholarship will be available through the Central Michigan University MASTA Student Chapter. Contact Erich Hudson at Hudso1ea@cmich.edu for an application by April 1, 2007.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Wendy Stuart, Camp Director, with any questions. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to contact the director.

Wendy Stuart
wstuart@mac.com
248.686.2708

A printable application and additional information are available at www.astamichigan.org.

Camp Application Form

Please Print Using Black or Blue Ink

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Have you been to MASTA Camp before? _____

Current Year in school: _____

Instrument: _____

Years played: _____

Do you study privately? _____

If yes, teacher's name: _____

If yes, for how long? _____

School District: _____

School: _____

Orchestra Director: _____

The student listed above is a member in good standing in our school Orchestra: Yes No

Signature of Director: _____

Roommate Request: _____

Shirt Size (adult sizes)

Small Large
 Medium Extra-Large

Send application and \$100 deposit to:
MASTA Junior High Camp
c/o Wendy Stuart
2231 Kolomyia Ct
West Bloomfield, MI 48324
Checks payable to "MASTA"

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, 1226 Thompson Ave, Port Huron, MI 48060. 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, 1226 Thompson Ave, Port Huron, MI 48060 (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, 1226 Thompson Ave, Port Huron, MI! 48060. 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.

Advertiser's Index

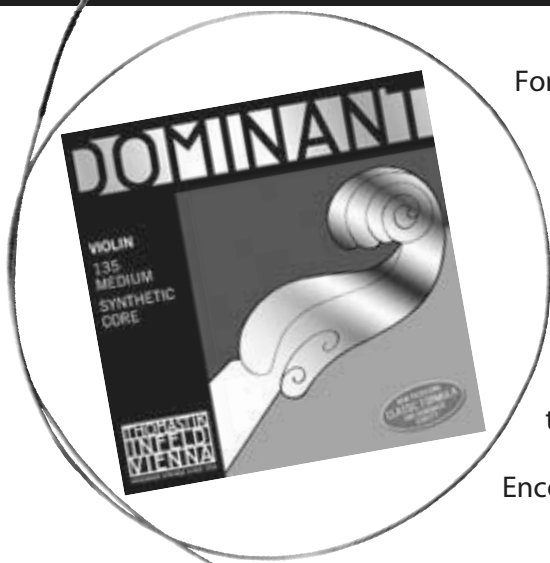
2 Yamaha Corporation of America	14 Luck's Music Library	25 OSU String Teacher Workshop
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MASTA Notes
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