

MASTA NOTES

Publication of the American String Teachers Association, Michigan Chapter

Spring 2009

***MASTA
Camps***

***Michigan
Youth
Arts***

***Annual MASTA
Awards***

***Student
MASTA
Chapters***

***News from
“Up North”***

***String
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MASTA NOTES

Spring 2009

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American String Teachers Association
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008-2009
www.astamichigan.org

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SEPTEMBER 2008

- 1 Deadline for MASTA Outreach Grants
- 13 MSBOA Music Education Workshop
- 20 MASTA Fall Board Meeting & MSBOA String Orchestra Reading Session

OCTOBER 2008

- 1 MSBOA All-State Audition Applications Due
- 4 MSBOA Elementary/MS Workshop
- 18 Biannual Solo Competition
- 18 & 25 MSBOA Middle Level String Clinics

NOVEMBER 2008

- 1 *MASTA Notes* Submission Deadline
- 1-2 MSBOA All State Orchestra Auditions
- 8 MSBOA Music Ed Survival Camp, *CMU*
- 8 34th Annual Okemos Suzuki Workshop

DECEMBER 2008

- 1 Nominations for MASTA Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year Due
- 13 MSBOA Band & Orchestra Adjudicator Workshop
- 16-20 Mid-West Music Conference, *Chicago, IL*

JANUARY 2009

- 1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
- 10 MSBOA Music Education Workshop
- 15 MASTA Teacher of the Year and Administrator of the Year Ballots Due
- 22-24 Michigan Music Conference, *Grand Rapids*
- 22 MASTA Winter Board Meeting
- 24 MASTA General Membership Meeting and Annual Luncheon

FEBRUARY 2009

- 15 *MASTA Notes* Submission Deadline

MARCH 2009

- 9 MASTA Chamber Music Festival, *MSU*
- 18-21 National ASTA Conference, *Atlanta, GA*
- 28 MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival

APRIL 2009

- 1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
- 17 MSBOA Youth Arts Soloist Audition, *CMU*
- 18 Troy Suzuki Workshop/Bass Workshop
- 23-25, 30 MSBOA State Band & Orchestra Festival

MAY 2009

- 1-2 MSBOA State Band & Orchestra Festival
- 7-9 Michigan Youth Arts Festival, *WMU*
- 9 MASTA Spring Full Board Meeting, *WMU*

JUNE 2009

- 10-21 Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp for Strings & Piano
- 21-23 MASTA String Camp Session I
Howell Nature Center
- 24-26 MASTA String Camp Session II
Howell Nature Center
- 28-July 4 MASTA String Camp Session III
Howell Nature Center

JULY 2009

- TBA MASTA Board Retreat

AUGUST 2009

- 1 *MASTA Notes* Submission Deadline

***MASTA Notes* is the triennial 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 (8" x 10"), half-page (8" x 5"), and quarter page (4" x 5"). 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 Pages (.pages) documents.

Windows operating systems: Microsoft Word documents (.doc)

Other program files may be converted to a format usable by *MASTA Notes*; please contact the editor.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – FEBRUARY 12, 2009

Like many of you, I attended the Michigan Music Conference this past January and I was very impressed with the level of musicianship and educational expertise that we have in Michigan. Thanks to all of you that contributed to the sharing and learning that took place in Grand Rapids. A extra big thank you to Val Palmieri, our MMC coordinator, for spending countless hours organizing the conference. She has already started working on next year's conference so if you have an idea to share, please don't hesitate in logging on to the MMC website (www.michiganmusicconference.org), and fill out an application to present or perform. Furthermore, the ASTA National Conference will be held March 19-21, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia. So if you'd like to get out from under Michigan's grey skies and cold weather, consider attending this year's national conference. You'll pick up a bunch of great ideas and have some terrific experiences.

Fresh off the presidential inaugural, I'd like to encourage you to be involved in some "hope and change" for arts education. Quincy Jones has started a petition to ask President-Elect Obama to appoint a Secretary of the Arts in his administration. While many other countries have a Minister of Art or Culture, the United States has never created such a position. The benefit of such a cabinet position to artists and arts teachers would be great. Please go to www.petitiononline.com, find the "Secretary of Arts" link, and join the over 230,000 of people that have already signed the petition.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra has recently worked with the Yamaha Corporation of America to develop a set of resources to help instrumental music educators in the important work they do. The Dream Out Loud program has developed materials that feature four members of the CSO, one member from each instrument family. Included in the materials is a set of beautiful posters and printed profiles telling each musician's story. There is also a five-minute video profile of each musician available by going to www.cso.org/DreamOutLoud.

We are always trying to get more string teachers to join MASTA. If you know of any string teachers who are not members, please encourage them to join but also give their name and contact information to Nancy Koski, our Studio Teacher chair and/or Linda Trotter, our Membership chair. We would like to add names and contact information to our growing database. Conversely, as a member of MASTA, I would encourage you to also consider becoming a member of one or all of the following: Music Educators National Conference (MENC), Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA), and the Suzuki Association of America (SAA). They all have great members, resources, and publications that can aid you in your teaching and help you network with more colleagues.

You have read in recent newsletters about MASTA's Northern Michigan Initiative. MASTA needs to reach across all of Michigan if it is to truly serve all of the state's string teachers and students. If you would like to help reach teachers and students in the northern areas of our state, please contact our Northern Michigan Representative, Janis Peterson.

While winter is still going on, it is also the start of the registration process for our spring activities and summer camps. Applications have been mailed to all members, but you can also download and print a copy of any application by going to the MASTA website. These are great events and you'll want to get your students involved.

With great admiration for all that you do,

*Mark Kotchenruther
MASTA President*



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2009 MASTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR JED FRITZMEIER

Jed Fritzemeier, the 2009 MASTA Teacher of the Year, is the Orchestra Director of the Chelsea Public Schools. He is the Michigan State Band and Orchestra Association District 12 Teacher of the Year for 2007-08. Jed has also been nominated for MSBOA State Orchestra Director of the Year for 2008-09. In 2007, Jed was inducted into the Lincoln High School Hall of Fame, his alma mater.



2009 MASTA Teacher of the Year
Jed Fritzmeier, *left*, with MASTA
President Mark Kotchenruther

Joining the Chelsea staff in 1985, Jed inherited a string program with a total of 59 musicians. After setting up a recruiting process, Jed left the program in 1989 with 130 musicians, 115 in the middle school orchestras. From 1989-1995, Jed worked in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Waukesha, Wisconsin and Roseville, Minnesota. In Waukesha, Jed was voted North High School Teacher of the Year by the National Honor Society. Jed was also the founding artistic director of the Wisconsin American String Teacher's Elementary String Camp. In Minnesota, Jed founded an eclectic music ensemble in conjunction with Roseville High School called "The Morning Show," performing a variety of folk, jazz and classical music. Jed was also assistant coach of the North High School State Champion track team in 1993. Jed returned to Chelsea in 1995.

2009 MASTA CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE LAURA SIAS

MASTA is proud to celebrate the career of Laura Sias, the 2009 MASTA Career Achievement Award honoree. The Award was presented to Laura at the MASTA Luncheon and General Board Meeting, held in January at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids.

Laura's performing career began during World War II, when she was a member of Ada Leonard's All-American Girl Orchestra, a USO ensemble stationed in Italy. After returning from Europe and finishing a degree in Bass Performance from the Eastman School of Music, Laura has performed with the San Antonio, Rochester (NY), and Grant Park Orchestras.

In Michigan, she has performed with the Michigan Opera, the Detroit Women's Symphony, and many of the Detroit-area regional and community orchestras.

As an educator, Laura served many years as an orchestra teacher in the Royal Oak Schools. While there, she was invited to become involved with MASTA, and eventually held all of the positions of our Executive Board. Laura was a founder of what is now our Troy Suzuki Workshop, and has been on the faculty of the MASTA Camps.

Laura is also very involved with the Suzuki method, having travelled to Japan in the early '70s to study in the presence of Dr. Suzuki. Having retired from public school teaching and performing, Laura continues to teach over 40 private string students out of her home in Rochester.



2009 MASTA Career Achievement Award
Honoree Laura Sias, with nominating member
Rick Dapprich and MASTA President
Mark Kotchenruther

STRING CONNECTIONS IN MICHIGAN

submitted by MASTA member Marilyn Kesler

String education in the state of Michigan is unique, in that many of the music associations are interrelated. These associations include the Suzuki Association of the Americas, Michigan American String Teacher Association, and the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association.

Through the cooperative efforts of string teachers, all of these organizations have become partners in the development of string education in the state of Michigan. These teachers include private, public school, and university instructors. The ground work for this cooperative effort began over forty years ago with the support of a few string educators.

In the mid-sixties, interest in the Suzuki method and philosophy was in its early stages; two events helped develop this interest. First, through the help of John Kendall, then a professor at Southern Illinois University, Dr. Suzuki came to Flint, Michigan as a guest clinician. Dr Suzuki's demonstration group was a beginning string class from a public school in Michigan. Seeing Dr. Suzuki work with public school students was a motivating experience for the public school string teachers in attendance. Secondly, John Kendall came to Okemos, and worked with young Suzuki students from Ann Arbor and Okemos in a workshop setting. After the students' lessons, Mr. Kendall worked with all the string teachers, which included both private and public school teachers.

Many music educators became enthusiastic about the possibilities the Suzuki ideas presented for excellence in string education in both the private studios and the public schools. Volunteers from the Michigan Chapter of ASTA worked to foster and develop the Suzuki philosophy and method in their home situation, whether it was private teaching or public school.

The Okemos Workshop, celebrating its 40th year, became an annual event sponsored by MASTA. The Troy, Michigan Suzuki Workshop, in its 30th year, is also sponsored by MASTA. In both of these events, held in public schools, Suzuki students are taught by master Suzuki teachers. Proceeds from the events go to MASTA. These and other Suzuki activities are promoted in the MASTA Journal and web page.

Soon after Dr. Suzuki's first visit to Michigan, the Talent Education Tour Group came and performed in Michigan. It became evident that teacher training was important for Michigan teachers. Gerald Bartlett, (a former public school string teacher), Camp Director for the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, saw the need for Suzuki teacher education and began offering weekend teacher training sessions on the camp grounds. MASTA and MSBOA organizations welcomed and supported the training.

Soon after, in the early '70's Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp hosted the first Suzuki Family Camp. It has grown from a small four day camp to three, four day sessions held in late June. Hundreds of Suzuki string and piano students attend along with their families. Teacher training is also offered during the camp sessions. The MASTA board supports the Blue Lake Suzuki Camp through its publications.

Each January, all music associations participate in the Michigan Music Conference. The Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association, the largest organization in the state, has always given financial support in order to bring guest clinicians to the conference. The clinicians are chosen by MASTA. Very often, the guest clinician is a master Suzuki teacher. Also, for the past several years, the Every Child Can, Suzuki course, has been offered at the Conference.

Because of its setting, teachers from all backgrounds have been given their first glimpse into the Suzuki world. Many Suzuki programs have been the guest performers at the conference.

We are fortunate to have John Kendall, now in his ninth decade, move to the state of Michigan. He gives master class lessons once a month for all interested string teachers in the state. The fee for these lessons goes to MASTA to support a Suzuki teacher training scholarship and student scholarships for Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp. He was recently awarded "Teacher of the Year" by the MASTA membership.

The purpose of this article has been to show the cooperation between the music education associations and the Michigan string teachers. The Suzuki method is used in the Michigan schools and in the private studios with much support and success.

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Grand Valley State University Department of Music

announces the appointment of

MingHuan Xu, violin

Assistant Professor of Music

Violinist MingHuan Xu has delighted audiences with her passion, incredible technique, sensitivity, and charisma. She has performed extensively as a concerto soloist, duo-recitalist and chamber musician, across China, Europe, North America, and South America. At the age of six, MingHuan made her recital debut in Beijing and at the age of eleven, she won 1st Prize at the Beijing Young Artists competition. MingHuan's latest recital and chamber music performances have brought her to Carnegie-Weill Hall, Merkin Hall, Symphony Space, and the Smithsonian Institute.

MingHuan's studies were at the Curtis Institute of Music and Northwestern University. Her principal teachers were Julia Bushkova, Victor Danchenko, Almita Vamos, and Roland Vamos. Currently she is completing her doctoral work at Stony Brook University where she has worked with Pamela Frank, Ani Kavafian, and Phil Setzer.

2008-09 Audition Dates

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“SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE” A MEMBERSHIP STORY OF MASTA

submitted by MASTA Suzuki Liaison Geri Tata Arnold

“Slightly Unstrung”, were words my mother used to joke about our family life at home. My father Romeo Tata was Professor of Violin at MSU, first violinist of the Beaumont Quartet and Conductor of the MSU and Lansing Orchestras, and this is just a small list of the amount of things he did.

Needless to say, I had a wonderful musical upbringing. I'm happy to say that I am still very involved in several musical activities as I complete my 36 years of being a Suzuki Violin Teacher here in Michigan. I became involved with MASTA as a young college student, finishing up my masters at the University of Michigan. A good friend of mine was riding with me up to play a concert in Flint and she started telling me about what MASTA meant to her and her family and how inspiring it was to be with so many wonderful teachers. So I decided that I should join. I really took note to MASTA when the first Okemos Suzuki Workshop was held where and Marilyn Kesler brought John Kendall to teach.

I honestly have MASTA to thank for my introduction to many key teachers that helped me with my career as a Suzuki Method teacher. Very soon after, I became involved with the new SAA (Suzuki Association of the Americas), serving on their boards, helping formulate the first teacher training units, teaching numerous workshops both for children and teachers. One of the committees I served on for SAA back in the late 70's was one called “State Association”. SAA was trying to do what ASTA had done by asking each state to establish a state unit for SAA. Well, as I looked at what all MASTA does for us with Suzuki workshops, Okemos, Troy, Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp, before the MMC (Michigan Music Conference), there was the Midwestern Conference, bringing in famous teachers to give talks or demonstrations. Now we offer the ECC (Every Child Can) course at the MMC. When I told my SAA friends about all that was available in my state, I can honestly say that they were envious of our situation here in Michigan! One only needs to connect and so much help is available! I told SAA that Michigan did not need to duplicate what MASTA already does for us.

So in the mid 80's I became a MASTA board member, helping with the string portion of the Midwestern Music Conference and now I act as the Suzuki Liaison for the board. While serving for the Midwestern Music Conference, Dan Long mentioned that he had been doing some MASTA historical detective work and found out that my Dad had been the first President of MASTA back in 1947, 1951 and 1952! I did not even know about this! Well, we were slightly unstrung! In fact, part of the reason for the gap in his Presidency was because of me being born.

A few years later, the Midwest Conference was celebrating its 50th anniversary and MASTA was honoring Maurice Riley, Elizabeth Green, and Louis Potter. I had some lovely conversations with all three of them about the earlier years of ASTA. One very moving talk was with Louis Potter about when he was with a few string friends at a National Music Educators Convention down in Cincinnati Ohio and they were commenting on how tight the band fellows were and why didn't we have a string group? So one threw a few dollars down on the bed and said “Here is my dues to start our group up”, and everyone else in the room did the same and that is how ASTA started!!

I am reading over some notes my Dad had from February 1947... “The purpose of ASTA is an obvious one and that is to stimulate interest and promote the study of stringed instruments. Together with this, the organization can sponsor research and study all phases of string playing, and string teaching. Promote and establish a standard in string playing, can encourage the composition, arrangement and publication of representative music.”

He ends with... “It is our responsibility to support and encourage the promotion and development of our string resources. It is our personal responsibility to keep this objective in mind and spare no effort in doing your part in the realization of this aim.”

The words “Support and Encourage” were at the beginning of the ASTA Membership form one filled out to be a new member. Duane Haskell said in the 1951 journal that these words signified your willingness to serve ASTA. How fun for me to learn about all the ASTA history!

I am really honored to be an ASTA member! The colleagues and friends that we connect with in ASTA are just incredible! The brain storming and new ideas that come out of the MASTA board meetings are so exciting. Everyone adds so much to our state organization.

Our fairly new Michigan Music Conference is so inspiring; the growth of it from the previous Midwestern Music Conference is phenomenal. There are so many good sessions given primarily by our own Michigan members! Sharing all their knowledge of whatever interest you might have.

The new national ASTA conventions are very exciting for me. I love the variety of sessions and performances. I love that I can watch the solo competition in progress. The alternative music sessions are mind boggling-all that can be done with a string instrument, jazz, Celtic, fiddling, rock& roll! Wow!

If you are new to the idea of ASTA, I certainly would like to encourage you to think about joining your fellow Michigan string friends here in MASTA. We are one of the leading states in the country for string playing! Suzuki friends, you should be part of ASTA too in addition to SAA! All the Michigan Suzuki workshops you and your students benefit from are because of MASTA. We are so fortunate to live in Michigan! Let everyone “Support and Encourage”!

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Audition dates for 2009-10 admission:
November 7, 2008
February 6, 2009
March 6, 2009 (scholarship deadline)

NEWS FROM UP NORTH

submitted by MASTA Northern Michigan Initiative Representative Janis Peterson

Upper Peninsula string teachers are collaborating to make things HAPPEN for string students in the area. All of the public school string programs, along with the NMU Orchestra, presented a concert in the Marquette Bothwell Middle School Gym last October which included ten minute performances from each group followed by a combined finale. There were orchestras from Crystal Falls, Escanaba, Marquette and Negaunee.

We are in the planning stages of a fun activity called "Power Shot for Orchestras" where a quartet of teachers would visit a cluster of schools to provide sectionals in preparation for a concert or festival. Marquette string students recently had a visit from a quartet of performance majors from Lawrence Conservatory. They performed a selection and provided a thirty minute sectional for each group. The Lawrence students travelled to Marquette to play in a Marquette Symphony concert so their housing and transportation were provided. It was a WIN-WIN because the quartet got valuable performing and teaching experience and the middle/high school students got better at playing their concert music along with inspiration to keep them motivated. Now that we know how well this works, we will be scheduling another event for other UP programs. If you are interested in either side of this project, please contact: janispeterson@hotmail.com. The quartet of teachers need not perform!

Private instructors continue to be needed in the Upper Peninsula. Several studio teachers travel once or twice a week to accommodate students in various communities. One of the solutions has been to group students of like ability into duets, trios and quartets. Area string teachers would like to develop a chamber music festival which would include coaching sessions along with a final recital for participating groups.

A UP-MASTA student chapter is in the planning stages with high school students from Escanaba, Houghton, Marquette and Negaunee along with students from Northern Michigan University. The energy and enthusiasm of the youth fuels the fire for veteran teachers!



July 12-18, 2009

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.....

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What last summer's participants say:

"I can say without hesitation, that coming to this workshop has been one of the best professional decisions I have ever made!"

"I had heard that this workshop would change my life, and the rumors were right. I feel inspired and equipped to be a more effective string teacher thanks to this week!"

"Every session I attended gave me more information than I could possibly apply."

"I am such a better teacher because of the three summers that I have participated in this workshop!"



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UNIVERSITY STUDENT CHAPTERS IN MICHIGAN

submitted by MASTA Past-President and Student Chapter Coordinator Steven L. Reed

It is my distinct pleasure as Past-President to report on the activities of our Michigan University Student ASTA Chapters. This fall we invited the 7 University chapters in Michigan : University of Michigan, Brian Kolk and Joel Schut Co-Presidents (Bob Culver, faculty sponsor) Michigan State University, Erin Little, chair (Judy Palac, faculty sponsor) Western Michigan University, Jim Van Eizenga, representative (Bruce Uchimura, faculty sponsor) Central Michigan University, Bridgette Cripe, representative (James Fiste, faculty sponsor) Eastern Michigan University, (Kevin Miller, faculty sponsor), Hope College (Mihai Craioveanu, faculty sponsor), and Grand Valley State University, to the Plymouth MSBOA/MASTA Reading and MASTA Board Meeting on September 20. These young MASTA members are a very creative, energetic pool of talent and we look forward to working with them. With graduating student leadership and changes in faculty positions, some chapters are able to be more active than others at this time of year. Here's a glimpse at what most of these ambitious groups have in mind for the year:

MSU ASTA

Events/Outreach Projects in 2008

MSU ASTA Volunteers: Erin Little, Kristen Terreri, Jessica DeZess, Alex Machi, Matt Nix, and Caitlin Mihalko

Gardner Middle School (Lansing, MI): Members of MSU ASTA (Erin Little, Eli Bender, Kelly Pond, and Nate Bliton) presented a hands-on interactive workshop on Alternative String Styles, including jazz and fiddling for 6th-8th grade orchestra students at Gardner Middle School.

Cornerstone Schools (Detroit, MI): Rhonda Buckley, Associate Dean for College of Music Outreach and Engagement, teamed up with Dr. Judy Palac and members of MSU ASTA to present interactive string education workshops at Cornerstone Schools in Detroit, MI. The workshops were presented on April 11th, 2008 and most recently, on November 21st, 2008. Fundamentals of string playing and basic technique/posture were emphasized in both workshops.

Future Events/Outreach Projects for 2009

MSU ASTA is seeking to collaborate with music educators in the Lansing School District, to provide educational outreach and engagement for students enrolled in orchestra. Details TBA.

Baroque Dance Workshop: MSU ASTA is planning on presenting an interactive workshop on baroque dancing. Guest lecturer and workshop date are TBA.

Reading Session: MSU ASTA is planning a string music reading session for current/future music teachers. The reading session will provide participants the opportunity to read through new string music repertoire. Opportunities for conducting various pieces at the reading session are also a possibility.

WMU MASTA

Members: Jim Van Eizenga, Angelica Kalasz, Jordan Proctor, Sean Brennan, Emily Kenney, Ann Vornsand, Joanna Bozin, Sara Sulecki, Sara Saarela, Justin Waalkes, Mark Mehringer, Olivia Morton, Erin Zuchniewicz, Charlotte Munn-Wood, Ishtar Hernandez, Robert Squiers, Phillip Oja, Mark Kleyn, Andrea Alert; Total: 19

Events/Outreach 2008-09

Our upcoming events for our chapter include sectionals at local high schools and middle schools and having Kalamazoo based Luthier Scott Tribby guest speak on instrument care and maintenance as well as what we can and can't do ourselves.

Our future plans include String Day for area middle schoolers as well as the underserved Gaylord Youth Orchestra, to take place in Feb. 09. We also plan on attending both the MMC and National ASTA conferences. We are also looking forward to continue to work more closely with the Kalamazoo and Portage area music teachers.

U-M MASTA

Members: Joel Schut, violin, Bryan Kolk, bass, Stephanie Kirwan, viola, Paul Trapkus, violin, Taryn Wood, violin Zerrin Agabigum, viola, Kiana Weber, violin, Diana Ladio, viola, Dan Blumenthal, violin, Zoe Aqua, violin, Kristen Pellegrino, violin (PhDMusEd)

Events/Outreach 2008-09

The U-M ASTA student chapter began our semester this summer by scheduling meetings throughout the semester. We

hosted our first event on September 23 with DSO violist Caroline Coade who presented a session on how to market yourself as a musician. She edited resumes, talked about writing cover letters, and how to make a cold call. We had a good showing of both education and performance majors from many instruments and backgrounds. Another recent ASTA undertaking was running the Michigan ASTA Solo Competition. The event was held on October 18 at the UM School of Music, Theater and Dance organized by Dan Long. Many ASTA members gave up their day to assist the event. We are currently waiting for final confirmation for future events this semester but are working to bring in violinist Gabe Bolkosky to present a session on “how to set up a successful private studio” as well as Jonathan Glawe, newly appointed at Ann Arbor Pioneer HS to present a session on “Jazz Strings”. Additionally, we are working to have a junk instrument bonfire with Prof. Culver at his home.

In addition to our future events with Gabe Bolkosky and Jonathan Glawe we are having informal “instrument lesson swap” sessions for practice on secondary instruments.

CMU MASTA

Bridgette Cripe –Chapter President

CMU Asta hosted a high school string workshop in October involving 4 high schools totaling 120 students. We also did a t-shirt fundraiser towards the end of last semester. This semester we are going to tackle survival skills for the beginning teacher, as well as another high school string workshop.

EMU MASTA

Kevin Miller – advisor

Currently under reorganization – events being planned as we go to print

HOPE COLLEGE MASTA

Currently under reorganization

GRAND VALLEY STATE MASTA

Currently under reorganization

GRADUATION PRESENTS FOR UNIVERSITY GRADS FROM MASTA!

MASTA would like to remind student chapter members that MASTA has graduation gifts you if you stay in Michigan!

1. We will pay for your 1st year adult membership in ASTA. Simply fill out the application and your check, make copies of both, mail the originals to the National Office and the copies to me along with your address. We will submit them to our treasurer, Robert Reed and he will cut you a reimbursement check.
2. We will also cover the cost of the Every Child Can Course (mandatory introduction course for Suzuki training). This class is held on Thursday of the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids at the Amway Grand Hotel. Our state resident Suzuki teacher-trainer, Geri Arnold leads this 6 hour training session. Again, you register for the conference and the training and make a copy of the paperwork and payment and send it to me. Robert Reed will, again, cut you a reimbursement check. My address is listed on the Board Directory of this issue of *MASTA Notes*.

And finally, if I've missed mentioning any public school or University Chapters in Michigan, please let me know right away. It's my job to “spread the word” on your behalf. Keep up the good work! The world needs more string teachers and string players!

Student membership is open to any full-time student attending a public, private or parochial school, college or university. Membership in ASTA can be a very meaningful and rewarding experience. As a student member you receive our quarterly journal, American String Teacher; have networking opportunities through our e-communities and MySpace page; receive recognition through our journal, website and awards program; are eligible to attend conferences and workshops sponsored by ASTA at a special student rate; and may take advantage of all the national member programs that ASTA has to offer.

Membership as an individual student has many advantages, but membership in a student chapter adds strength through unity in order to become a strong voice for string music education. Through student membership you can show your support for the improvement of string education and performance. You can help ASTA work for you and your goals; most important, you can be actively involved in making things happen.

Any question concerning student chapters should be directed to:

Kari Hahn, Director of Membership; kari@astaweb.com; (703) 279-2113 ext 14

SNAPSHOT: MICHIGAN YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL (It's Not Just For Kids!)

Diane L. Winder, MASTA Liaison to MYAA

Free concerts and events presented at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival, on Thursday through Saturday, May 7-9, 2009, run the gamut from the visual arts, dance and theatre to vocal in instrumental music. Here, on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, students in grades 9-12 participate in over 50 interactive, hands-on educational rehearsals, workshops and master classes taught by distinguished working professionals in the arts. Nearly 20 performances and exhibitions are also an integral part of the Festival experience. The level of talent is extraordinary. Students are challenged and inspired not only by MYAF's educational programming, but also by opportunities for interaction with other artistically gifted peers. Please join us in experiencing the exceptional talent of the Festival. See Festival website (<http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/Festival-2009.html>) for a roster of accommodations in the area, registration information, pictures from previous Festivals, and more!

The MASTA Honors Chamber Ensemble performs at four events throughout the Festival including: 1) The Welcoming Celebration, Thursday evening, 2) reception music before the Educator-of-the-Year dinner on Friday, 3) as part of the Honors Small Ensemble Performances throughout Miller Auditorium before Friday's Gala Concert, and 4) a full program as part of the Instrumental Collage, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall, Saturday morning. See full program information below.

Note that MYAF is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization, and contributions may be tax deductible. For more information about making a contribution, please call MYAA at 248-649-8888. Contributions may be mailed to Michigan Youth Arts Association, 988 S. Adams, Suite 207, Birmingham, MI 48009. To donate online, visit: <http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/Friends-Fund.html>.

Be at MYAF in May!! Concerts/Events Open to the Public:

THURSDAY, MAY 7

5:30-6:30pm Visual Arts Exhibit Opening, Richmond Center Student Gallery

Presented by the Michigan Art Education Association and VSA arts of Michigan

7:00-9:30pm Welcoming Celebration, Miller Auditorium

FRIDAY, MAY 8

9:00-11:30 am Solo and Vocal Ensemble Performances, Dalton Center Recital Hall

Presented by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association

10:00am-5:00pm Visual Arts Exhibit, Richmond Center Student Gallery

Presented by the Michigan Art Education Association and VSA arts of Michigan

10:00am-12:00pm 2009 Michigan Student Film & Video Festival Showcase, Richmond Center

Presented by Digital Arts, Film & Television

1:00-3:00pm 2009 Michigan Student Film & Video Festival Showcase and Creative Writing Performances, Richmond Center

Presented by Digital Arts, Film & Television and the Michigan Council of Teachers of English

1:00-3:30 pm Solo and Vocal Ensemble Performances, Dalton Center Recital Hall

Presented by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association

2:00-3:00pm Theatre Performance, Shaw Theatre

Presented by the Michigan Educational Theatre Association

6:30-6:55pm Honors Small Ensemble Performances throughout Miller Auditorium

Presented by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association

7:00-9:00pm Gala Concert, Miller Auditorium

Fanfare by Combined Brass Sections from Honors Band, Orchestra and Jazz

Selected Choral Performances

Educators of the Year recognition

Outstanding Soloists

SATURDAY, MAY 9

9:00am-3:00pm Visual Arts Exhibit, Richmond Center Student Gallery

Presented by the Michigan Art Education Association and VSA arts of Michigan

10:00-11:30am Piano Master Class, Dalton Center
Lecture Hall

Presented by the Michigan Music Teachers Association

10:00am-12:00pm MSBOA and MASTA
Instrumental Collage, Dalton Center Recital Hall

*Presented by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra
Association and the Michigan Unit of the American String
Teachers Association*

10:30am-12:00pm Dance Showcase Concert, Shaw
Theatre

Presented by Michigan Dance Council

1:00-2:00pm Theatre Performance, Shaw Theatre

Presented by the Michigan Educational Theatre Association

2:30-5:00pm MSVMA All-Michigan Honors Choir
and MSBOA All-Michigan Jazz Band, Band,
and Orchestra Concert, Miller Auditorium

*Presented by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra
Association & the Michigan School Vocal Music Association*

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STRINGS



1st prize \$1,000 and a featured performance with the Marquette Symphony Orchestra February, 2010

2nd prize \$500

3rd prize \$250

Winners will be selected via submission of a video recording of a concerto, and will be notified by November 1, 2009

Competition audition requirements:

- 1) Applicants must be string players and 30 years of age or younger on January 1, 2010.
- 2) Please submit a resume and video recording (including accompaniment) of a complete concerto. Letters of recommendation are optional.
- 3) Enclose a check or money order for a \$25 application fee made payable to the Marquette Symphony Orchestra.
- 4) Send video and application fee to the address below by **October 1, 2009**.


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30TH ANNUAL TROY SUZUKI WORKSHOP

Sponsored by MASTA and the Troy School District

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Troy Athens High School, Troy Michigan

Saturday 9:00A.M. – 3:30 P.M. All levels of violin, viola and cello will be taught, from pre-twinkle to the most advanced books. Each student will have 4 scheduled classes during this time: a repertoire class, a technique class, alternative styles class and either orchestra or general music, depending on age and level.

Saturday Workshop Schedule

8:00 AM Information Desk Opens (Late applicants, Lunch & T-shirt Pick-Up)

9:00 AM – 2:00 AM Assigned Lessons and other planned activities

(schedules will be sent out one week prior to the workshop)

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM LUNCH (purchase in advance or bring your own)

2:00 PM Finale Concert for all participants

Please direct all questions to:

Jon Traines (Violin, Viola, Cello) – (248) 543-7435

jtraines@comcast.net

Larry Hutchinson (Bass) – (248) 474-9361

marhut2@earthlink.net

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MASTA STRING CAMP, SESSION III UPDATE

submitted by MASTA Secretary and Director of MASTA Camp Session III Wendy Stuart

The MASTA String Camp, Session III is accepting applications for the 2009 camp. The Camp dates are June 28 - July 4, 2009, at the Howell Conference and Nature Center. Applications for the 2009 camp began arriving in December. We are looking forward to another great summer at the MASTA String Camp, Session III.

The MASTA String Camps offer an unparalleled experience for young string players. The atmosphere is positive, encouraging, challenging, non-competitive and fun! The camp staff is made up of dedicated and talented musicians and teachers that go out of their way to make the camp experience unforgettable. Campers often return year after year until no longer eligible due to age constraints.

Hiring has begun for this year's camp with many excellent teachers and counselors from years past committing to return this summer. There are still positions open for camp this summer. Those interested in being part of our dynamic, talented and dedicated staff should contact me at mastajrcamp@mac.com, or through the MASTA Website.

I'm sorry to report that Dan Scott is stepping down as Music Director after years of memorable rehearsals and concerts at Session III and the former Junior High String Camp. We are grateful and appreciative of Dan's years at camp. He has been a truly outstanding Music Director who has given so much to the success of camp. He will be missed.

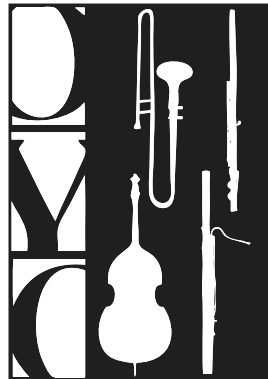
I am pleased to introduce Tony Krempa as our new Music Director for the 2009 Camp. He is in his twelfth year of teaching strings for the Birmingham Public School system, serving as the Director of Orchestra and Choir for Seaholm High School. Mr. Krempa is also a private violin and viola instructor, as well as a clinician and guest conductor.

Mr. Krempa is an active performer in many area regional orchestras, and is a proponent of chamber music. He is the Civic Sinfonia and Academy Orchestras director for the Detroit Civic Ensembles, and the conductor of the Oakland Youth Orchestras' Philharmonia Orchestra.

Please take time to inform your students of the excellent opportunities the MASTA String Camps offer. Applications have been mailed to MASTA and MSBOA members as well as past campers. They are also available online at astamichigan.org. Last year Session III had a 19 camper wait-list. Please encourage your students to send applications soon to ensure their ability to take advantage of the outstanding musical and social opportunities our camp and outstanding staff provide.

Thank you for sending your students to the MASTA String Camps. We are consistently amazed by the talent and enthusiasm of the students you send to camp. The campers are a tribute to the music educators' of Michigan dedication and skill. We look forward to spending another exciting musical week with Michigan's string students again this summer.

OAKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA



Auditions 2009/2010

Auditions for all orchestras will take place on May 13, 15, 16 & 17, 2009.

For audition details, please go to www.oyomi.org.

MASTA STRING CAMPS: WWW.ASTAMICHIGAN.ORG



Orchestra

The MASTA Camp Orchestras are directed by leading teachers in Michigan and result in a high-quality musical experience for your students. Orchestras are ability based to guarantee success for each student.

Rhythm and Theory

Classes in rhythm, movement, and theory are designed to be fun and engaging with age-appropriate activities. Students do not use their primary instruments during these sessions.

Sectionals

Daily sectionals are lead by specialists on each instrument to give your student thorough instruction on their orchestra parts and technique.

Recreation

Many recreation opportunities are offered at camp which may include archery, an obstacle course, nature walks, swimming, crafts, and more. Evening activities include a campfire and a staff performance.

Small Ensembles

Daily small ensembles coached by high-quality teachers help your child develop techniques and skills. Students are grouped with others of similar playing ability. During Session III, each Chamber Music ensemble takes part in a recital on the final night of camp.

Meals

Meals are age-appropriate and the food is plentiful. Students have hot menu items for each meal and options are given for vegetarians. Special dietary concerns can be accommodated.

Camp Life

The MASTA String Camps are outstanding non-competitive music camp experiences for the young string player.

Students live in air conditioned barracks-style cabins with attached bathroom facilities and showers.

Counselors, who are all musicians, provide social and musical support for students while at camp. The counselors and staff supervise students at all times.

Session I and II

Session I and II are 3-day camps designed for string players up through the 6th Grade.

6th grade students with only one or two years of experience will be successful during Sessions I and II.

Sessions I and II are wonderful opportunities for students who have not yet gone away from home for an extended time.

Session III

Session III is a state-licensed week long camp designed for students currently enrolled in 6th - 9th grade. 6th graders who have played two years or more should attend Session III.

There is a brief audition (which determines Orchestra and Chamber Music placement) at the start of camp for students at this camp.

Camp will conclude around 11:00 am on July 4th after student performances.

MASTA String Camp Application

Please Print Using Black or Blue Ink

Camp Choice (check one):

Session I (June 21 - 23) Session II (June 24 - 26) Session III (June 28 - July 4)

Sessions I and II are for students up through 6th Grade (for 6th graders with one - two years experience). The Camp Fee is \$210.

Session III is for 6th (with two or more years experience) through 9th grade students. Camp Fee is \$425.

Campers are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Name:		Parents' Name(s):	
Address:			
City:		State/Zip	
E-mail:		Phone:	
Gender:	Male Female	Date of Birth:	Current Grade:
Instrument:	Violin Viola Cello Bass	Number of Years Played:	
Do You study Privately?	Yes No	If Yes, How Long?	
School District:		School:	
Orchestra Director:		Private Teacher:	
For string teacher only: The student listed above is a member in good standing in our school orchestra:		Yes	No
Signature of Teacher:			
Roommate Request:			
T-Shirt Size: (child sizes) Small Medium Large		(adult sizes) Small Medium Large X-Large	
Session III shirts are included in camp fee		Session I and II Shirts are \$10 each	
For Session I and II Send Application and \$100 deposit to: MASTA String Camps 5274 Sutton Road Britton , MI 49229		For Session III: Send Application and \$100 deposit to: MASTA String Camps 2231 Kolomyia Ct. West Bloomfield, MI 48324	
Make Checks Payable to "MASTA" Applications due on or before April 15, 2009			

MASTA Winter Meeting

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Executive Board: 4:00 p.m.; Full Board: 5:00 p.m.

Amway Grand Hotel, Pearl Room, Grand Rapids, MI

I. Call to Order (S. Reed): at 4:10 p.m. Members present: Steve Reed, Mark Kotchenruther, Robert Reed, Wendy Stuart, Val Palmieri, Anne Kearney-Looman, Geri Arnold, Kelly DeRose, Diane Winder, Jan Flower, Dan Scott, Linda Trotter, Claire Charboneau, Larry Dittmar, Jon Traines, Rick Dapprich, Nancy Koski, Janice Peterson, Dan Long, and guests Trudy Dittmar and Caitlin Mihalko.

II. Minutes (Stuart)- Minutes from the September meeting passed with a motion from Dittmar, which was seconded by S. Reed with understanding that several corrections will be added before publication.

III. Treasurer's Report (R. Reed):

First Quarter

Beginning Net Worth	\$96,138.97
Beginning Balance:	\$17,680.07
Deposits:	\$1,840.00
Disbursements:	\$8,548.70
Ending Balance:	\$10,971.37
Satellite Accts.	\$37,517.06
Net Surplus (LOSS)	(\$6,708.70)
Net Worth	\$48,488.43

Second Quarter:

Beginning Net Worth	\$48,488.43
Beginning Balance:	\$10,971.37
Deposits:	\$7,894.23
Disbursements:	\$3,081.46
Ending Balance:	\$15,784.14
Satellite Accts.	\$32,595.55
Net Surplus (LOSS)	\$4,812.77
Net Worth	\$48,379.69

The net worth changed a small amount and will be under the \$10,000 mark after the conference. Mileage continues to be a large factor contributing to the loss of revenues due to standard government rate being paid. A motion recommendation (for the full board consideration) was made by S. Reed to cap mileage at \$.40 per mile, seconded by Flower. Motion passed by full board.

IV. President's Report (Kotchenruther): Kotchenruther requests that all members go to <http://new.petitiononline.com/esnyc/petition.html> to ask President-Elect Obama to appoint a Secretary of Art or Culture. MASTA's Northern Michigan Initiative is a few months old. Janice Peterson is the NMI representative. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra has developed a set of resources to help instrumental music educators available at www.cso.org/DreamOutLoud. Please encourage non-ASTA member string teachers to join. Teachers should be encouraged to contact Nancy Koski or Linda Trotter. Consider becoming a member of MENC, MSBOA or SAA if you are not members already. The ASTA National Conference is held in Atlanta, GA March 19-21. Please consider attending. A motion was made by S. Reed to cover Wendy Stuart's \$59 registration fee to attend the leadership conference at the ASTA National Conference.

Trotter seconded, motion passed.

V. Member-at-Large Report (Flower): Flower compiled a list of new/transferred teachers in Michigan public schools. It is very difficult to get those names by September meeting. Flower encourages members to reach out to new teachers and to forward names to her.

VI. Past President Report (S. Reed): The MSU Student ASTA Chapter has been very active with community outreach projects at Gardner Middle School, Cornerstone Schools. They hope to provide more outreach in the Lansing area and will host a Baroque Dance Workshop and a string reading session. The WMU Student ASTA Chapter will include sectionals at local middle and high schools, a lecture by Luthier Scott Tribby on instrument care and maintenance. They also plan on a String Day for local and Gaylord area middle school students. The U-M Student ASTA Chapter hosted an event featuring marketing as a musician by DSO violist Caroline Coade. They also ran the MASTA Solo Competition. They hope to have sessions with Gabe Bolkosky and Jonathan Glawe. EMU's Student ASTA Chapter is currently under re-organization. The CMU Student ASTA Chapter hosted a high school string workshop in October for four high schools sending 120 students. They are planning on sessions aimed at survival skills for the beginning teacher and another high school string workshop.

VII. President Elect Report (Dittmar): Dittmar thanks the membership for the opportunity to serve as president-elect. There was no Administrator of the Year nominations this year. The Teacher of the Year nominees includes Ingrid Dykeman and Jed Fritzmeier. Dittmar would like to begin the nomination process earlier and look into online balloting to save on mailing costs. Dittmar has been working with Russ Reed, Dan Long and John Witwell to produce a video of Reed and Elizabeth A.H. Green onto DVD format. Motion was made by Stuart to increase gift basket budget to \$150. S. Reed seconded and motion passed. Included in gift basket is a \$50 Shar gift certificate (in addition to \$150 budget).

VIII. Committee Reports

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

B. Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman): The date of the Festival has been changed to March 9th due to MME testing. The event will be held at MSU and the Alexander Trio from EMU will be in residence.

C. Membership (Trotter): There are 457 members (24 dual, 4 institutional, 12 life, 17 non-paying dual, 232 professional, 7 string industry council, 16 school library subscription, 52 senior, and 110 student memberships). Renewal reminder letters will be sent later this month.

D. Michigan Music Conference (Palmieri): Planning for next year will start soon after the conference ends. Palmieri wants more Suzuki sessions, a University forum and more for private teachers. The board expressed dissatisfaction that a concert was scheduled opposite headliner Michael Allen (concert scheduling is not under our purview).

E. MSBOA Liaison (Trotter): District Orchestra Representatives will be meeting Friday, 1/23 where they will plan 2009 Mid-Level Clinics

(continued on next page)

and other topics effecting string/orchestra programs. Congratulations to Forest Hills (Kotchenruther) and Kettering (Beard) High Schools for their performances at MMC this week. Congratulations to student (and their teachers) participating in the All-State Ensembles this week under the direction of Steven Amundson and Gabriel Villasurda.

There is a need for adjudicators for S&E and Festival. There will be an S&E adjudicator workshop this fall. David Reed has been named as the MSBOA Exec board's choice of VP of Orchestral Activities for next year.

F. Newsletter (Dapprich): The deadline for the Spring '09 issue is 2/15. More articles are desired to expand the content presented in the newsletter.

G. Northern Michigan Initiative (Peterson): Peterson thanks Kotchenruther and the board for caring about string teaching and playing throughout the entire state. Some goals for the Initiative are the establishment of a UP Student Chapter, continue collaborative events (like the "Big String Concert" that included eight schools' orchestras), share resources (sectional coaches, private teachers, visiting artists), and to recruit new and returning members.

H. Okemos Suzuki (Rebeck): No report.

I. Outreach/National Honors Orchestra (DeRose): With Scott/Stuart's help, DeRose revised the camp scholarship form. Scott made a motion to accept Clarkston Schools' Workshop proposal.

S. Reed seconded, motion passed. S. Reed made a motion to approve (seconded by Flower) to Stuart and Dapprich's Professional Development grants.

J. Solo Competition (Long): The 15th Biennial Solo Competition took place at U-M, Ann Arbor on 10/15/08. Twenty-one contestants

entered the competition (17 junior division, 4 senior division).

The winners were Andrea Jarrett (Junior Division Grand Prize), Hannah Linz (Junior Division First Prize), Anna Skalova (Senior Division Grand Prize), Alexandru Hamzea (Senior Division First Prize). The following were selected to submit tapes to the National Screening Committee: Jacob Joyce (Coda Bow Winner), Sarah Shy, and Michael Bechtel. All honorees were violinists. Judges included Yuri Gandelsman (MSU) and Kevin Miller (EMU) judging Junior Division, and Diana Gannett (U-M) and Bruce Uchimura (WMU) judging the Senior Division. Anna Skalova and Jacob Joyce have been selected as National Finalists. The National Finals Competition will be held live at the ASTA National Conference in Atlanta, GA.

K. String Camps (Scott/Stuart): This year's camp dates Session I, June 21-23, Session II, June 24-26, and Session III, June 28-July 4 in Howell, MI. Scott and Stuart are in the process of hiring for the summer. Please show the video or check it out on Facebook or YouTube. Thanks to Scott for his years as Music Director of Session III (Junior High String Camp). Welcome to Tony Krempa as Session III's new Music Director. Please help spread the word about these great camps, especially to those who teach 4th-6th graders for Sessions I and II. Advise students to apply early to Session III to avoid a wait list.

L. Studio Teaching (Koski): Koski would like to get the list of teachers upon which corrections/additions were made in September.

M. Suzuki Liaison (Arnold): Tuesdays with John Workshops meet the first Tuesday of each month in Ann Arbor from 11:00-1:00.

Scholarships are available (violin teacher \$400 and violin student \$250). Get applications from Pat Smith in by April 24, 2009. The

revised violin books 1-4 are out. Mark Mutter is the new Teacher Trainer for violin in Michigan and offers long-term training at his Suzuki Royal Oak School. The EEC class was offered at the MMC Conference. 30 enrolled and 26 showed up (with one walk-in). EEC registration being separate from MMC enrollment is helpful.

N. Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau): Jon Traines is taking over the workshop. Budget for 2009 was approved with after a motion was made by R. Reed, and seconded by S. Reed.

O. Website (Dapprich): Dapprich requests more specific content for the website including board member pictures and bios (80 word bio), student chapter info, all programs and events.

P. Youth Arts Festival (Winder): Astrid Giese, the new Associate Director will be attending the luncheon. YA partnered with a donor event at the Auto Show (featuring Cass Tech String Quartet, vocal ensemble from Detroit School of the Arts, a dance troupe from Cass Tech). Donations didn't come in this year as expected at the event so Ernest and Young paid the entire \$10,000 donation. New groups joining YA include Michigan Thespians, Educational Theatre Association and the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association. The MASTA Chamber Music Ensemble will be chosen at the Chamber Music Festival on March 9. Palmieri moved to present flowers (up to \$30) to Giese at the luncheon, which was seconded by Kearney-Looman. Motion passed.

IX. Old Business:

A. ASTA publication purchase tabled until spring.

X. New Business:

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm, Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart

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MASTA Winter General Meeting

Saturday, January 24, 2009

Luncheon, 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Amway Grand Hotel, Imperial Room, Grand Rapids, MI

I. Call to Order (S. Reed): at 12:09 p.m. Guest present: Michael Allen, Anna Skalova, Gabriel Villaurda, Astrid Giese, Laura Sias, Hans Anderson, Dmitri Vorobiev.

II. Minutes (Stuart): Minutes from the previous General Membership meeting passed with a motion from Diane Winder, which was seconded by Anne Kearney Looman.

III. Treasurer's Report (R. Reed): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd board meeting.

IV. President's Report (Kotchenruther): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 24th board meeting. Thanks to Valerie Palmieri for a great conference this year.

V. Member-at-Large Report (Flower): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

VI. Past President Report (S. Reed): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd board meeting. All luncheon tickets will have to be purchased in advance starting next year.

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

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Blue Lake Suzuki (Kesler): June 21-June 28 which includes teacher training for books 1-3.

B. Chamber Music Festival (Kearney-Looman): The date of the Festival has been changed to March 9th due to MME testing. Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

C. Membership (Trotter): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

D. Michigan Music Conference (Palmieri): Please submit proposed sessions online through the MMC website as soon as possible.

E. MSBOA Liaison (Trotter): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

F. Newsletter (Dapprich): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. Please support and thank advertisers and submit more content-based articles.

G. Northern Michigan Initiative (Peterson): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

H. Okemos Suzuki (Rebeck): No report. The workshop will be held during the first weekend in November.

I. Outreach/National Honors Orchestra (DeRose): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. Outreach grants and camp scholarships are available. The National Orchestra Festival will be held next year.

J. Solo Competition (Long): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

K. String Camps (Scott/Stuart): This year's camp dates Session I, June 21-23, Session II, June 24-26, and Session III, June 28-July 4 in Howell, MI. Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting.

L. Studio Teaching (Koski): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. Please get names of teachers to

Koski.

M. Suzuki Liaison (Arnold): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. There will be an online retreat in April.

N. Troy Suzuki Workshop (Charboneau): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. April 18th will mark the workshop's 30th Anniversary.

O. Website (Dapprich): Feedback is requested.

P. Youth Arts Festival (Winder): Details of report listed in the minutes from January 22nd Board meeting. Giese spoke to the membership about YA and her goal of eventual scholarships for all participants. This year's goal is \$25,000 (currently at \$20,000). Irving S. Gilbert is donating \$5000. This year all participants will receive a \$25 scholarship. The new name of the event is Michigan Youth Arts. Diane Winder is the current Vice President and will become President next year. The Festival will be held from May 7-9 this year at WMU.

IX. Old Business:

X. New Business:

A. 2009 Teacher of the Year: There were two excellent nominees for Teacher of the Year: Ingrid Dykeman and Jed Fritzmeier. The Teacher of the Year is Jed Fritzmeier. See details about the winners and the presentation of the awards in the Spring Edition of MASTA Notes.

B. 2009 Career Achievement Award: Laura Sias is this year's Career Achievement Award recipient, nominated and introduced by Rick Dapprich.

XI. Performance: Anna Skalova, accompanied by Dmitri Vorobiev, played the Bach A Minor Sonata, Andante, Paganini Caprice No. 19, and the Bartok Concerto No. 2, Movement 1.

Meeting ended at 2:00 p.m., Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart



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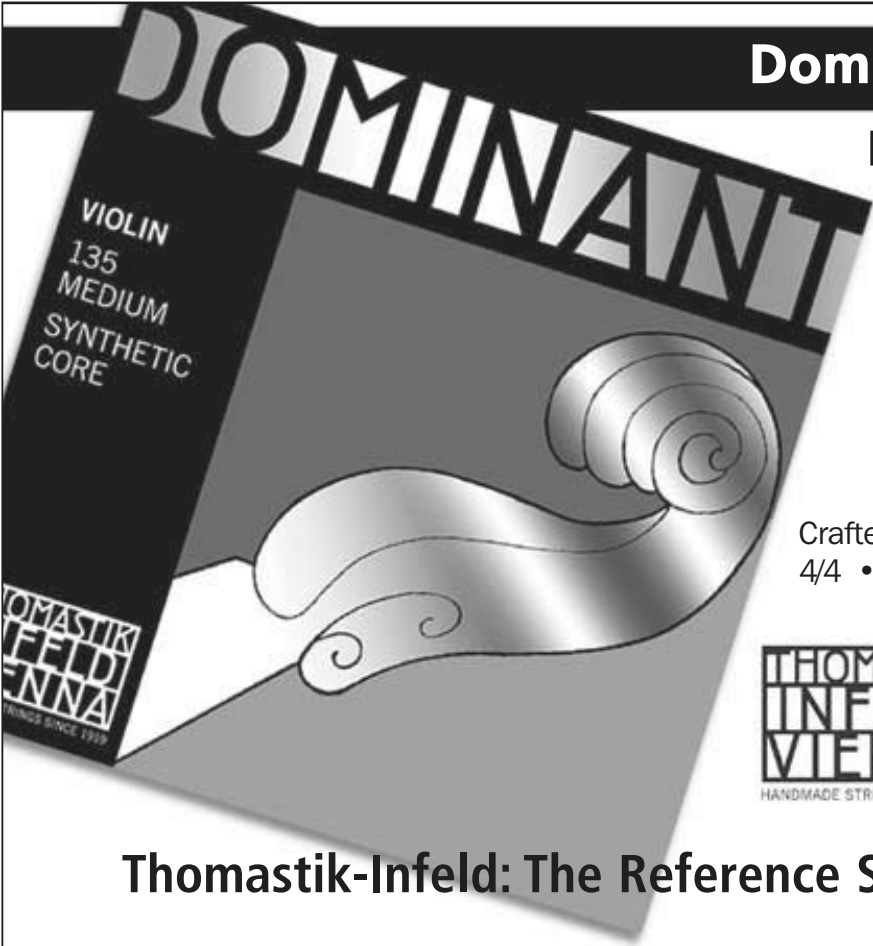


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