

# MASTA NOTES

*Publication of the American String Teachers Association, Michigan Chapter*

**Summer 2009**



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## MASTA NOTES *Summer 2009*

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**Michigan Chapter**  
**American String Teachers Association**  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009-2010  
www.astamichigan.org

**SEPTEMBER 2009**

- 1 Deadline for MASTA Outreach Grants
- 12 MSBOA Music Education Workshop
- 19 MASTA Fall Board Meeting  
MSBOA String Orchestra Reading Session

**OCTOBER 2009**

- 1 MSBOA All-State Audition  
Applications Due
- 3 MSBOA Elementary/MS Workshop
- 16 MSBOA All-State Orchestra audition  
schedule posted on MSBOA website
- 17 & 24 MSBOA Middle Level String Clinics
- 29 MSBOA All State Orchestra Auditions
- 31 TOY and AOY Nominations due

**NOVEMBER 2009**

- 1 MSBOA All State Orchestra Auditions
- 1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
- 7 MSBOA Music Ed Survival Camp, *CMU*
- 6-7 34th Annual Okemos Suzuki Workshop

**DECEMBER 2009**

- 1 MSBOA All-State Orchestra acceptance  
deadline and fees due
- 12 MSBOA Band & Orchestra Adjudicator  
Workshop
- 14 TOY and AOY Ballots due
- 15-19 Mid-West Music Conference, *Chicago*

**JANUARY 2010**

- 1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
- 9 MSBOA Music Education Workshop
- 15 MASTA Teacher of the Year and  
Administrator of the Year Ballots Due
- 21 MASTA Winter Board Meeting
- 22-23 Michigan Music Conference, *Grand Rapids*
- 23 MASTA General Membership Meeting and  
Annual Luncheon

**FEBRUARY 2010**

- 15 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
- 17-20 National ASTA Conference,  
*Santa Clara, CA*

**MARCH 2010**

- 8 MASTA Chamber Music Festival, *MSU*
- 27 MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival

**APRIL 2010**

- 1 Outreach Grant Application Deadline
- 16 MSBOA Youth Arts Soloist Audition, *CMU*
- TBA Troy Suzuki Workshop/Bass Workshop
- 22-24 MSBOA State Orchestra Festival
- 29-30 MSBOA State Orchestra Festival

**MAY 2010**

- 1 MSBOA State Orchestra Festival
- 13-15 Michigan Youth Arts Festival, *WMU*
- 15 MASTA Spring Full Board Meeting, *WMU*

**JUNE 2010**

- 16-27 Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp for Strings  
& Piano
- 18-20 MASTA String Camp Session I  
*Howell Nature Center*
- 21-25 MASTA String Camp Session II  
*Howell Nature Center*
- 27-7/3 MASTA String Camp Session III  
*Howell Nature Center*

**JULY 2010**

- TBA MASTA Board Retreat

**AUGUST 2010**

- 1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline

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*MASTA Notes is the triennial publication of the*  
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**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:

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*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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## **Summer 2009 President's Message**

*Mark Kotchenruther*

*I hope you have had a great summer either teaching or re-charging for this upcoming school year. Every teacher has his or her own way of spending their summer months, ranging from the busy to the relaxed. I try to do a little of both.*

*There are many events to look forward to in the 2009-2010 school year, including: the National ASTA conference and National High School Honors Orchestra (both in sunny Santa Clara, California), the Fifth Annual*

*Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids, our Troy and Okemos Suzuki Workshops, and our Chamber Music Festival at MSU. If you have missed experiencing any one of these, please make a personal pledge this year to attend one of these great events. Check the calendar in this newsletter and start making plans soon.*

*I would like to welcome David Rosin (East Lansing PS) to our board. He will serve with long-time coordinator Valerie Palmieri as additional member of our Michigan Music Conference planning team. As our state music conference has grown we have found the need to add another member to help plan and organize the string education sessions for the MMC.*

*Thank you again to Dan Scott and Wendy Stuart who have again organized and led our string camps this past summer. Thanks also to all of you who participated as teachers and counselors, or by encouraging students to attend. For those of you who have sent students to these camps, I know you are aware of the high quality of instruction and the fun experiences that the students get by attending our MASTA camps.*

*Finally, we continue to make strides to increase the quality and scope of MASTA. If you are interested in assisting our board in their efforts to increase membership or with our various outreach activities, please do not hesitate: GET INVOLVED! Our organization will be stronger with your help.*

*Best wishes for a great year!*

*Mark Kotchenruther*  
*MASTA President*



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**MASTA Spring Board Meeting**  
**Saturday, May 9, 2009**  
**Executive Board: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Full Board: 11:00 a.m.**  
**Dalton Center, WMU**  
**Kalamazoo, MI**

**Call to Order** (Kotchenruther): at 10:10 a.m. Members present: Mark Kotchenruther, Wendy Stuart, Val Palmieri, Geri Arnold, Kelly DeRose, Dan Scott, Larry Dittmar, Diane Winder.

**Minutes** (Stuart)- Minutes from the January meeting passed with a motion from Arnold, which was seconded by Palmieri with understanding that several corrections will be added before publication.

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

Beginning Net Worth	\$48,379.69
Beginning Balance:	\$15,784.04
Deposits:	\$0.00
Disbursements:	\$7,689.12
Ending Balance:	\$8,094.92
Satellite Accts.	\$38,047.38
Net Surplus (LOSS)	(\$7,689.12)
Net Worth	\$46,142.30 (- \$2,237.39)

Report was accepted following a motion made by Arnold, seconded by Palmieri.

**President's Report** (Kotchenruther): We have three board members who have been honored nationally this year: Dan Long, Medal of Honor from the Midwest Clinic, Steve Reed, Elizabeth A.H. Green School Educator Award, and Rick Dapprich, "Best Website" by National ASTA. MASTA's educational programs continue to run well in tough economic times, and while certain adjustments may be necessary, we continue to offer outstanding programs for students and teachers in Michigan. We are continuing the Northern Michigan Initiative with the help of Janis Peterson and Nancy Koski. We need to encourage members to register as MASTA members when registering for the MMC to generate needed funds for MASTA. We also need to continue adding members (while maintaining the present membership), particularly professional musicians who also teach and MSBOA string teachers who are not MASTA members.

**Member-at-Large Report** (Flower): No report. Flower would like ideas to get more interest in having her go out to schools to help out.

**Past President Report** (S. Reed): No report. Reed tried to get student chapter updates, but students were busy with final exams, graduation, etc.

**President Elect Report** (Dittmar): Dittmar is working to get MASTA elections online to save postage and copying costs. He will also be on a panel at the MMC with Dan Long and John Whitwell to honor the memory of Elizabeth A.H. Green. The session will be very instructive, especially to young teachers. He is still spending a lot of time with Kotchenruther in the planning of the MMC and wishes to continue to explore ideas that will result in better membership attendance at the MMC.

### **Committee Reports**

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

**B. Chamber Music Festival** (Kearney-Looman): No report.

**C. Membership** (Trotter): There are 445 members (3 student chapter, 14 dual, 4 institutional, 12 life, 14 non-paying dual, 225 professional, 8 string industry council, 16 school library subscription, 53 senior, and 96 student memberships). 50 renewal reminder letters will be sent later this month.

**D. Michigan Music Conference** (Palmieri): Planning for next year is well under way. Most sessions are already lined up. Kotchenruther would like Palmieri to have an assistant in planning sessions for the MMC. There continues to be issues involved with the company hired to run the conference.

**E. MSBOA Liaison** (Trotter): The String Reading Clinic will be held on Saturday, September 19th at Plymouth-Canton Schools. The fall 2009 Mid Level Clinics are being finalized. They will be held on October 17th (Chippewa MS, South Haven, Grand Rapids City) and 24th (Mona Shores, Portage, TBA).

**F. Newsletter** (Dapprich): Due to the increased costs of production and mailing with the proximity of the first issue's capital outlays, Dapprich is requesting the seed money of MASTA Notes be increased to \$2000. He would not need actual funds from MASTA (he has the funds in his account). Advertising invoices are billed post-production and there could be a situation, without the increase, where the production costs could not be met. Scott seconded Dapprich's motion, which passed. Dittmar moved to accept Dapprich's Budget Proposal A, Palmieri seconded and motion passed.

**G. Northern Michigan Initiative** (Peterson): Some highlights of musical events in Northern Michigan include: Negaunee HS Orchestra attended MSBOA District 14 B&O Festival with Marquette HS and Bothwell MS Orchestras. It was Negaunee's first festival experience in over 10 years. Ishpeming received an "Excellence in Education" grant to purchase instruments

to boost their after-school string program of 30 students. Bob Ritsema spent two days in the Marquette schools, through an outreach grant from the Marquette Symphony, to work with 6th-12th grade cello students. The Viridian String Quartet (student group from Lawrence Conservatory) held a series of workshops and sectionals with Marquette students, and presented a recital for the community. The UP directors are interested in the "Power Shot for Orchestra" activity- plans to have them in May or June and the fall. There is interest in scheduling a Student Chapter meeting (so far it hasn't happened due to spring breaks, concerts, and the Upper Peninsula Youth Orchestra).

**H. Okemos Suzuki** (Rebeck): No report.

**I. Outreach/National Honors Orchestra** (DeRose):

Scott, seconded by Palmieri, passed new request #1 with a motion. New requests #2 and 3 were denied. Professional Development grant for Diane Winder was approved with a motion from Scott, seconded by Dittmar. A motion was made by Arnold that requires next year's camp scholarship applications to include first three pages of family's IRS tax forms (with social security numbers blacked out), seconded by Palmieri. Motion Passed. There is some confusion regarding National Honors Orchestra application deadlines. The new deadline is June 15th, which is reflected on our website.

**J. Solo Competition** (Long): No report.

**K. String Camps** (Scott/Stuart): Sessions I and II are still low enrollment. Discussion will take place during summer retreat to develop ideas regarding the reconfiguration of the sessions. Session III is full with a large wait-list.

**L. Studio Teaching** (Koski): No report.

**M. Suzuki Liaison** (Arnold): Tuesdays with John ended for this school year on May 5th. Classes will begin in October next school year. Scholarships were awarded for a teacher and a student. Arnold requests that two more partial scholarships be awarded. Scott made a motion that the Kendall Institute increases its scholarship amount by \$400 this year only. Dittmar seconded and the motion passed. The ECC course was offered at MSU with Mark Mutter. It will be offered again on June 6th at Shar, taught by Wendy Azrak (sponsored by Gabe Bolkosky's Violin Studio in Ann Arbor). The following teacher training is being offered in MI: Violin Bk 1 at Blue Lake (Azzrak), Violin Bks 2 and 3 at Blue Lake (Sandrok) and Violin Bk 4 at Suzuki Royal Oak in June (Mutter). Guitar Training will be available at the Suzuki Guitar Workshop in June, Ann Arbor.

**N. Troy Suzuki Workshop** (Charboneau/Trainees): No Report.

**O. Website** (Dapprich): Website won National ASTA's "Best Website" award.

**P. Youth Arts Festival** (Winder): This year's MASTA quartet was last year's MSBOA's group and the violist

is in this year's MSBOA group. Steve Reed's Chamber Orchestra is featured. MYAF is going really well but the organization is financially in the red. Past donors are still giving but no new organizations are sponsoring the event. The board of MYAA is going national for NEA and multi-state grants. Attendance is up and everyone is very positive about the organization, but financially, there is trouble. Advocacy is being pushed hard by administration.

#### **Old Business:**

A. African Program Fundraiser is in progress. There will be a string program added. The H.S. program has risen from nothing to 3rd in Kenya. Shar will be underwriting string program.

#### **New Business:**

A. Summer Retreat: Kotchenruther will send out dates soon.

#### **XI. Adjournment** (Kotchenruther): 2:05 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted, Wendy Stuart*

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## 2009 Chamber Music Festival

*submitted by Anne Kearney-Looman, director*

The seventeenth annual Chamber Music Festival was a marvelous event. It was held on March 9 at Michigan State University. In residence for the day was the Alexander Trio from Eastern Michigan University. Twenty-one student ensembles attended from Detroit, Fremont, Ann Arbor and many places in between. Each ensemble was coached by a member of the Alexander Trio or one of our outstanding guest coaches, Pat Smith, Dalia Garcia, Ed Fedewa, Sarah Tyriver and Carrie Pierce. All of the participants explored some mostly-unfamiliar literature in sessions with the very energetic Cesar Suarez. For many participants this was their first experience with a viola quintet. Everyone attended a chamber music master class and a performance by the Alexander Trio.

Eleven ensembles participated in this year's competition. The outstanding ensemble selected from the competition was from Okemos High School. Members of the quartet are Hannah Linz, violin, Sebastian Kwon, violin, Nishan Harichandran, viola, and Andrew Campbell, cello. This outstanding ensemble was coached by Patricia Smith. These talented young musicians represented MASTA at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May, and received a \$200 award.

The Chamber Music Festival was honored to have Laurie Psarianos present at the competition. For several years Psarianos Violins Ltd. has underwritten this festival in honor of Nathan Osterbur.

Congratulations to all the coaches who sent well-prepared ensembles: Karen Viele, Pat Smith, Ella Villa, Wendy Stuart, Marc Haas, Gabriel Bolkosky, Andrea Cowper, Alesia Byrd, Sara Cumming, Caroline Coade, Janice Sanders, Ann Ogren, Susan Gould, and Linda Gregorian.

The 2010 festival will be held on Monday, March 8. The guest ensemble will be the Phoenix Quartet from Ann Arbor.

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## Are YOU a Member of ASTA [MASTA]?

*submitted by Linda D. Williams Trotter, Membership Chair and MSBOA Liaison*

While talking to a friend recently about teaching string techniques, I asked her if she was a member of ASTA [MASTA]. I was shocked to learn that her answer was no. She then went on to tell me that she did not see any benefits to being a member. I had to disagree with her. There is so much that our organization does to benefit string teachers, directors and students. Who else would continuously advocate for string teachers/musicians if not ASTA? Where else could one go to get and ask for help from the leading educators in our state and country?

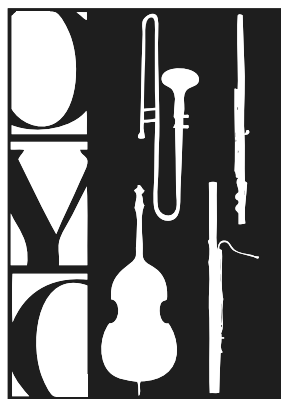
Did you know that we have a yearly conference dedicated on bringing the best string educators, clinicians and performers together help keep us abreast on the current trends in string education, alternative styles, pedagogy, instruments and supplies? Did you know that being a member of ASTA affords you the opportunity to receive the American String Teachers magazine which has articles from our outstanding string musicians and educators? You will also be able to access the ASTA website which holds a vast amount of information that can help string educators.

Here are some of the reasons why educators, musicians and students have joined ATSA:

- Conferences dedicated to bringing clinicians to keep string educators and performers abreast of the current trends
- Advocacy and Outreach programs to promote and protect the interests of string education and performances
- State Chapter Membership [MASTA] where our organization helps to bring educational events to the Michigan Music Conference, a string music camp, etc.
- Receive our local MASTA newsletter that let you know what is happening here in
- Online Discussion Groups where you can talk to people around the country/world about string related issues
- American String Teacher Journal that contains articles for the teacher, performer and student
- You can apply to the National Foundation to Promote String Teaching and Playing for Grants for string projects
- Comprehensive Website at <http://www.astaweb.com> where you can find information for string teachers and performers
- Michigan Access to String Employment Opportunities
- Member Discounts with String Industry Council Members

In conclusion, there is only one question left to ask; are YOU a member of ASTA? If not, take the time to join (see the Membership application in this publication). If you are a member, don't forget to renew your membership and take the time to share with others the many reasons they should join ASTA.

## OAKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA



### 2009/2010 Season

Announcing the new  
*Studio String Orchestra.*

Auditions for all orchestras Sept. 1.

For more information, please go to  
[www.oyomi.org](http://www.oyomi.org).

## Michigan Youth Arts Association on the Move

*Diane L. Winder, MASTA Liaison to MYA*

Michigan Youth Arts now features something for everyone you know from the Youth Arts Festival, to targeted advocacy across our state, and a FUNrasier, FUNdraiser – the inaugural 5 K run. Read on and get involved!

### Michigan Youth Arts Festival

Since three of the members are graduating, this is the final year for the Presto Quartet, the MASTA Honors Ensemble that performed May 7-9, 2009 during the Michigan Youth Arts Festival on the campus of Western Michigan University. Last year the quartet, coached by Patricia Smith, also appeared at MYAF, as the MSBOA String Quartet. Featuring Sebastian Kwon and Hannah Linz, sharing first and second violin parts, Nishan Harichandran, viola, and Andrew Campbell, cello, the group was heard at four events during MYAF. In addition to lighter music for the Educator of the Year dinner, for the final MSBOA and MASTA Instrumental College on Saturday morning, the ensemble chose: *Allegro ma non troppo* from Quartet No. 6 (“American”) by Dvorak; *Adagio ma non troppo* from Quartet Op. 18, No. 6 by Beethoven, and *Allegro sostenuto* from Quartet No. 2 by Prokofiev. Immediately following this rousing performance, Hannah drove to straight for a dress rehearsal with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra where she appeared as soloist the next day! The quartet received coaching during the MYA by Renata Knific, Prof. of Violin at WMU.



### NEW! Advocacy

MYA is positioned in our State to offer leadership in arts education across all disciplines. MYA offers statewide arts education programming, strengthens arts and culture by establishing and facilitating partnerships between arts education organizations, increases the visibility of quality arts education in Michigan schools, nurtures the creative talents of Michigan’s youth, encourages their present and future participation in the arts, and provides them with opportunities to explore careers in the arts. MYA continues its commitment to furthering arts education by assuming a leadership role in arts education advocacy and establishing arts education policy in Michigan. MYA is uniquely qualified to lead advocacy efforts as it is comprised of members from sixteen statewide arts organizations who come together to provide a common and unified voice. An advocacy agenda is in keeping with MYA’s mission which champions quality arts education.

MYA and its member organizations shall:

- Advocate for statewide policies and funding to ensure that every student from preschool through college benefits from an arts education.
- Facilitate a statewide education information network.
- Educate administrators, educators, and parent organizations about arts as integral to a complete education.
- Recognize student achievement in the arts and promote arts education excellence in Michigan schools.
- Create resources and support for professional development for pre and in-service teachers.
- Assist secondary schools in curriculum development to satisfy the arts requirement of the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
- Initiate collaboration with local, state, and national arts and education agencies to develop programs and resources.
- Increase community arts and arts organization involvement in education.

We stand together as a unified voice across all disciplines as we actively expand our advocacy efforts in MI.

## **EVEN NEWER!! Policy Forum Update**

Interlochen Center for the Arts, in partnership with Michigan Youth Arts, will host the first Policy Forum at DeRoy Center for Film Studies on August 4, 2009. "The 2009 Policy Forum is the beginning of a collaborative conversation for strengthening arts education for all students," said Kim Dabbs, Executive Director of MYA. "This will mobilize our efforts and is a launching point for our advocacy and policy efforts in Michigan for 2010 and beyond."

The Forum will include representatives from leading arts education associations including: ArtServe Michigan, Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association, Michigan School Vocal Music Association, VSA Arts of Michigan, Michigan Music Educators Association, Michigan Art Education Association, Michigan Dance Council and many more.

Look for an announcement about the group's findings and next steps in the next issue of this newsletter. Subscribe to the MYA Policy Forum Update newsletter from the MYA website: <http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/Advocacy.html>

## **THE NEWEST!!! Michigan Youth Arts In Motion 5K**

Family-friendly and suitable for both runners and walkers, MYA's inaugural 5k event will raise money to support arts education in Michigan's schools. More than just a race, the day will be a celebration of the arts – featuring live performances, on-site installations, and the opportunity for team participation and fundraising.

Sunday, October 11, 2009 at Starr Jaycee Park, Royal Oak (13 mile just east of Crooks)

at 10:00 a.m. is the time and place for this 5k run and fun run/walk with a Children's Fun Mile beginning at 9:30 a.m. The cost is:

\$30 through September 27, \$35 thereafter with a Self-timed 5k Fun Run or Walk

\$25 through September 27, \$30 thereafter.

All 5k participants will receive a long-sleeved shirt. Chip-timed runners will start in front of the walkers and fun-runners.

The only wheels allowed on the course are baby joggers, in the fun run/walk only. Pick up packets in advance on Saturday, October 10 from the Michigan Youth Arts office, 988 S. Adams, Suite 207, Birmingham, MI 48009 between 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On race day, packet pickup is at Starr Jaycee Park, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. The course will wind through the tree-lined neighborhoods of Royal Oak. To register and for more info, see: <http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/5k.html>

## **NOT NEW, BUT NEEDED!!!!**

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. OR, to donate online, visit: <http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/Friends-Fund.html>.

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- Phoenix Quartet in residence 2009-2010



# TUESDAYS WITH JOHN



Tuesday teacher workshops with John Kendall 2009-2010. Starting this fall on October 6th, 2009 in Ann Arbor. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM at the Northside Community Church. 929 Barton Dr, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

## Come join us for the John Kendall workshops!

All string teachers are welcome to join this study group. The format for this year will be to watch Mr. Kendall teach 3 to 4 string students in a master class. The length of the repertoire will determine how many students will play. We meet the first Tuesday of October,

November, December, February, March and May. Cost is a one time donation of \$100 for all 6 classes. Visiting teachers that can only come to a few classes would pay \$20 per class. Demonstration students are of a Book 4 level on up in repertoire. The

teachers that sign up for the full year nominate their students for the classes.

Please contact Wendy Azrak or Geri Arnold for more details

e-mail: [wendyazrak@hotmail.com](mailto:wendyazrak@hotmail.com)  
telephone: 1-(734)-213-5917  
e-mail: [drarnold2@aol.com](mailto:drarnold2@aol.com)  
telephone: 1-(734)-663-2228



## MASTA String Camp, Sessions I and II Report

*Submitted by Dan Scott, director*

Session I and II of the MASTA String Camps (formerly known as the Elementary String Camp) had another outstanding year of music making and fun. 140+ students from all over the state of Michigan, including two from the Upper Peninsula joined a fabulous staff of instructors for 3 days of string playing, music instruction, and exciting camp activities.

Amazingly, all of our staff members except one were returning members to our staff. Several members of our staff have achieved double-digit years of service to our camps and most of the remaining staff have more than 5 years of service. Music Directors Tracy Ryan and Sara Jaeger joined our teaching staff of Ali Haraburda, Diana Ladio, Jenny Koll, Anna Brown, Kiana Weber, Leslie Ziegler, Reid Smith, Ted MacDonald, Eric Hudson, and Brian Barber. Peter Conniff and Diane Scott were our rhythms and theory teachers along with Assistant Director Amy Marr.

Students participated in 3 hours a day of orchestra rehearsals in addition to sectionals and our very popular rote technique classes.

Students learned fun tunes by ear focused on improving their individual technique and posture. In addition to these times with their instrument their daily rhythm and movement class is a fun class geared toward developing a stronger sense of pulse and subdivisions. Theory class with Mrs. Scott was focused on form this year in addition to conducting. Every student conducted a recording of Brahms Hungarian Dance No. 5 before camp was done.

Of course camp is not camp without the fun activities. Daily activities included time at the archery range, obstacle course, or the Howell Nature Center Nature Preserve where students can see animals from all over Michigan. Additionally there were daily relays and other cabin activities and the lake was a refreshing break from the 90 degree heat.



Camp meals are particularly fun when music is played throughout the meal and many students and staff can be seen putting down their food to join in a large dance around the mess hall. Its also not unlikely to see a student serenaded by one of the fun counselors or even the camp director!

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all the teachers who send students to these camps. They are a wonderful way for your students to develop their technique a little further and work with some wonderful and motivating teachers and a fun setting. Watch for next years application and start telling your students about the camp as soon as possible. Better yet, ask your students that went how much fun they had at camp - and see if they'll share it with your classes.



With a national reputation for outstanding academics combined with an unwavering Christian grounding, Calvin goes beyond the traditional notions of what a faith-based college is all about. Through 100 academic options, over 20 off-campus programs, hundreds of internships and service-learning opportunities, and dozens of co-curricular activities, Calvin students and faculty are exploring God's call to make a difference in the world.

# Music at Calvin



## **STRINGS AT CALVIN**

The String Program at Calvin combines excellent musical opportunities with the support of Christian community. Faculty include graduates of the Curtis Institute of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Michigan. Calvin's String Program prepares graduates to succeed in many professional areas. Alumni of the program include Susan Belliel (Grand Rapids Symphony and country band "Branded"), Laurie Boomers (high school orchestra director) and Cornelius Plantinga Jr. (theologian and author).

[www.calvin.edu/go/strings](http://www.calvin.edu/go/strings)

## **STRING SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship auditions for a variety of financial awards or the use of a professional-caliber string instrument will be held on *February 12 & 13, 2010*.

[www.calvin.edu/music/scholars](http://www.calvin.edu/music/scholars)



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## MASTA String Camp, Session III Report

*Submitted by Wendy Stuart, director*

Session Three of the MASTA String Camps was held at the Howell Nature and Conference Center from June 28 through July 4, 2009.

This year's camp continued our tradition of offering a great camp experience for our campers and staff. The staff was fantastic, the campers were great, the weather (mostly) cooperated and everything went very smoothly. All the performances went very well and the response from campers and parents since camp has been overwhelmingly positive. Special thanks to all the members of the 2009 staff, all teachers who recommended our camp to their students and the families that sent their campers.

Enrollment was excellent for Session III. We hosted 135 campers and 32 staff members. We carried a waiting list of those who applied after camp filled. We were able to accommodate some of those campers, but regretfully there wasn't room for all interested campers.

Next year's camp is currently scheduled for June 27-July 3, 2009 at the Howell Conference and Nature Center. Applications will be sent to the membership and will be available online by January (applications should be available earlier at our website). We hope to see your students at camp next year!



### 2009 Camp Staff

Wendy Stuart (Camp Director), Bryan Marr (Assistant Camp Director), Tony Krempe (Music Director), BettyAnne Gottlieb (Chamber Music Director), Rachel Cabanilla (Assistant Chamber Music Director), Becky Ventura (Orff Director), Brian Barber (Recreation Director), Julia Whitmore (Health Officer), Matt Briere, Amy Marr, Ji Hyun Kim, and Jacqueline Nutting (Violin Coaches), Sean Sinnett and Nichole Vasu (Viola Coaches), Eric Hudson and Reid Smith (Cello Coaches), Rick Dapprich (Bass Coach), Ann Armbruster, Laura Barlow, Brigitte Cripe, Bethany Erhardt, Chelsea Grab, Jackie Hiteshew, Emily Kenney, Maggie Hasspacher, Kristi Luckritz, Caitlin Mihalko, Ted McDonald, Mark Kleyn, Nick McFadden-Keesling, and Shawn Welling (Counselors) and Rachael Whitmore (Counselor in Training).



# Teacher Appreciation Contest



Teachers! Win a Trip for 2 to either Vienna or New York.  
Students! Win a \$699 Presto bow or a \$500 Thomastik-Infeld Gift Certificate



## Grand Prize

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- Hotel for 5 nights
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## First Prize

**Visit New York City** and the New York Philharmonic

This trip includes:

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- Hotel for 2 nights
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- 2 tickets to the New York Philharmonic
- Meet the concertmaster
- \$500 spending money from Thomastik-Infeld

Full Details on How to Enter

Pages 2-3

The Shar Fall Catalog!

or Visit [stringcommunity.com](http://stringcommunity.com)



# It's Easy To Enter!

Ends 2-28-2010



① Students vote for their teacher at [stringcommunity.com](http://stringcommunity.com) and get a chance to win a \$500 Thomastik-Infeld gift certificate



② Students can write a 100 word essay to give another vote and win a \$699 Presto bow for themselves



③ Every regular price purchase of Thomastik-Infeld strings from Shar earns another vote, or ask for a free entry form - (self addressed stamped envelope required).



**An Introduction to Suzuki Education  
Suzuki Association of the Americas  
Led by SAA Teacher Trainer Geri Arnold**



*Thursday, January 21, 2010*

*9:00 AM – 4:00 PM*

*Hosted by MASTA and the Michigan Music Conference  
Amway Grand Plaza Hotel  
Grand Rapids, Michigan*

Every Child Can (ECC) is a six-hour introduction to Dr. Suzuki's philosophy and its application to Suzuki education as created and implemented by the Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA). Are you a skilled, well-trained musician who would like to teach your instrument and work with young children? Do you have a genuine affection for children and an interest in helping them develop as human beings through the study of music? Are you interested in working in a cooperative atmosphere with children, parents and colleagues?

If so, you may be interested in investigating the Suzuki approach to music education. Many musicians who use the Suzuki Method have found that it provides a unique avenue for helping children and families as well as providing opportunities for their own growth as musicians, teachers, parents, and human beings.

This six hour course is for parents, teachers, prospective teachers, and other interested people, and it provides an inspiring, in-depth look at the Suzuki approach to teaching and learning. *For prospective teachers*, ECC is the required first course in the SAA teacher developmental program. *Parents* interested in Suzuki Method learn that this is more than a way of introducing music to their children; it is a pathway to understanding their children and helping them to become happy and responsible individuals. *Musicians and teachers* can discover effective ways to direct their teaching and find a sense of personal fulfillment as a result of embracing the Suzuki approach in bringing music to the lives of families and children.

In addition to exploring the elements of the Suzuki approach and its far-reaching goals, it includes an introduction to learning styles, history of the development of Suzuki education, the role of parents, the importance of Suzuki pedagogical training and an overview of the SAA's role in supporting teachers and parents. Class size is limited to 30 participants.

To secure your Registration contact the MMC office

**MMC**

*3300 Washtenaw Avenue*

*Ann Arbor, MI. 48104*

*Phone (734) 975-1297*

*[www.michiganmusicconference.org](http://www.michiganmusicconference.org)*

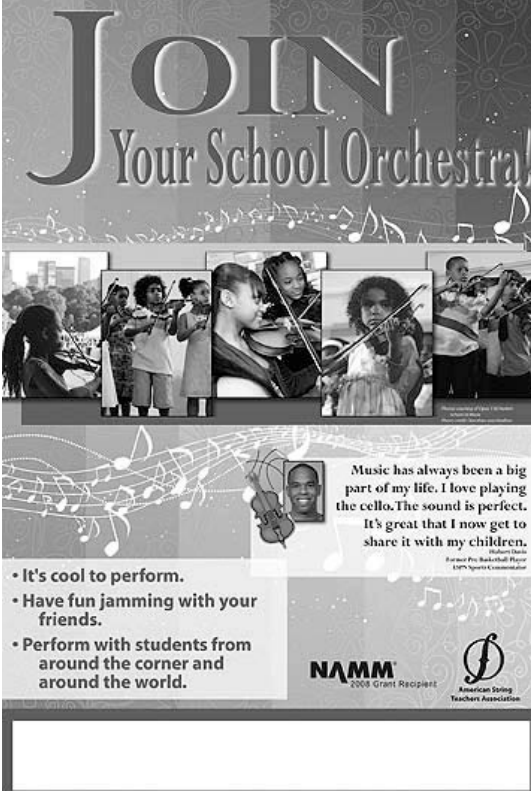
*[kay@MichiganMusicConference.org](mailto:kay@MichiganMusicConference.org)*

## ‘HELP’ - MASTA MEMBERS

It is a constant problem of locating new teachers around the State. In the past MSBOA has been most helpful when new membership comes in; however, that information is not available until the end of September.

If you as MASTA members know of any new teachers, or teachers who have transferred to another district, please contact me.

I would really enjoy making contact with or visiting with these new teachers.  
So, please help!! Send information to Jan Flower at [j\\_flower@comcast.net](mailto:j_flower@comcast.net).



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Having trouble recruiting students for orchestra? As part of the NAMM grant, Increasing Access to Strings, ASTA now has free posters available that target minority students. Order today by emailing [maryjane@astaweb.com](mailto:maryjane@astaweb.com). You will receive 10 posters to display throughout your school community.

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## MASTA Membership Directory

Member listings contained in this Directory are obtained from ASTA, and data is presented as supplied by the National office. Members wishing to change their listing or request that their information not be included in future Directories may do so only by contacting:  
Kelly Harris, Director of Membership  
via email: [kelly@astaweb.com](mailto:kelly@astaweb.com) or phone:  
703.279.2113 ext. 14

## MMC 2010 Preview

*submitted by MMC Coordinator Valerie Palmieri*

Mark your calendars! The 5th Annual Michigan Music Conference, January 21-23, 2010, is planned and waiting for you. The conference will begin for many of you on Thursday with Geri Arnold's 6 hour intro course and certification for the ever popular Suzuki Training "Every Child Can".

This year's MASTA headliner is Bob Phillips. Bob Phillips, composer, pedagogue, and teacher trainer, is renowned as an innovator in string education. He brings a wealth of knowledge and a sense of humor to his clinics, drawn from his 27 years as a public school string teacher in Saline, MI. Currently he serves as string editor for Alfred Publishing. Bob and his wife, Pam continue their music education outreach via their presentations at national and state music conferences as well as their leadership roles in the American String Teachers Association. Bob will present sessions on Re-energizing the Beginning Instrumental Classroom and Creating Expressive Performance Through Repertoire. Pam, will present a sessions on "Copyright What Can I Do and What Can I Not Do?" as well as a session on "Do You Have a Vision and Do You Know How to Get There?"

New this year in the Thursday session is a fabulous 3 hour- hands-on-repair session "If It's Broke YOU can fix it!" presented by Paul Bartel and Robin Bloomberg. This popular session has been expanded due to it's popularity and demand by strings teachers to save their budgets! Also, the Thursday sessions will feature a 6 hour conducting session designed for strings teachers.

Several new string method books will be presented in sessions by Composer Elliot Del Borgo "Foundations for Strings" and Dr. Joanne Erwin. New Directions® for Strings A Comprehensive Approach to String Music Education will be presented. In addition, a 90 minute block of time is put aside for a New Music Reading Session, by Kathleen Horvath.

We are also pleased to bring you the following performances: Jenison Middle School Orchestra under the direction of Carol Johnson and the Traverse City Central High School Orchestra under the direction of Ellen Boyer. Additional string sessions include:

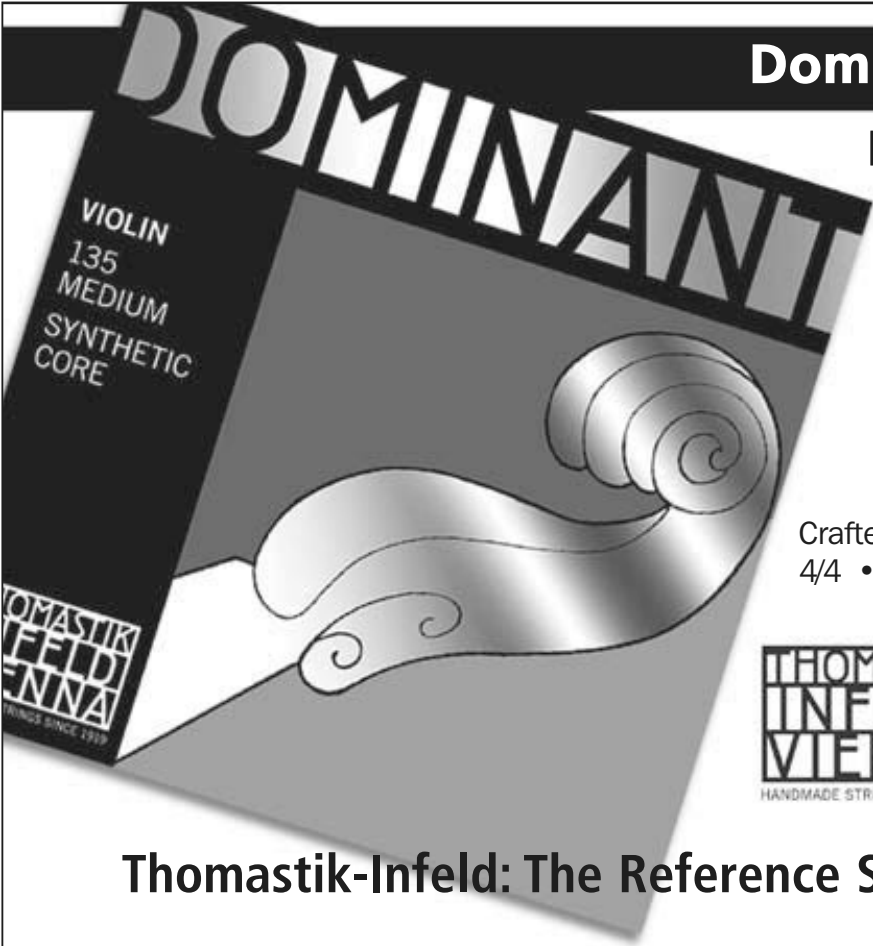
- "8 Fingers, 47 Strings Let's Harp on it!", Patricia Terry-Ross
- "What's New? Chamber Music Rehearsal and Performance Strategies for New Music" and "Just say NO to Performance Anxiety", Diane Winder, Eastern Michigan University
- "Scales are NOT just for fish! Fool proof, universal fingerings for all string instruments - 1,2,3 octave - Majors and minors", Valerie Palmieri
- "Behind the Scenes How to select quality literature for your performances", Carol Johnson
- "Fiddling for Fifth Graders (and Beyond)!", Amy Marr
- "New Teacher Survival Kit", Dan Scott
- "A Chance to Do Some Good, Service Learning in Orchestra Class", Diane Platte
- "Auditioning for College (string players)", Kypros Markou, Wayne State University
- "Fearless Improvisation: Strategies for the String Classroom" by Nancy Conley
- "Teaching vibrato to beginning and intermediate cellists", Jamie Fiste, Central Michigan University
- "Make and Take featuring the life of Elizabeth Green" by Larry Dittmar and Dan Long
- "How do Different Approaches to Bow Hold/ Bow Arm Affect Tone? a session on Demystifying Intonation Issues for String Players and Practical Suggestions and Insights for Coaching Student Chamber Ensembles", Kristen Pellegrino, University of Michigan

The above sessions, by no means is the entire conference – these are only highlights brought to you by MASTA sponsorship – over 60 other sessions will be offered! To register or find out more information about the Michigan Music Conference please go to: [www.michiganmusicconference.org](http://www.michiganmusicconference.org)



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