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Publication of the American String Teachers Association, Michigan Chapter



Spring 2011

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Michigan Chapter, American String Teachers Association

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010-2011

SEPTEMBER 2010

1 MASTA Outreach Grants deadline
11 MSBOA Music Education Workshop
18 MASTA Fall Board Meeting
18 MSBOA String Orchestra Reading Session
24 MSBOA Mid-level String Clinic Application deadline

OCTOBER 2010

1 Michigan Solo Competition application deadline
1 MSBOA All-State B & O Audition Application deadline
15 MSBOA All-State Audition Schedule posted
16 & 23 Mid-level String Clinics
23 Michigan Solo Competition
30 & 31 MSBOA All-State B & O Auditions
31 MASTA TOY & AOY Nominations due

NOVEMBER 2010

1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
5-6 36th Annual Okemos Suzuki Workshop
5-6 MSBOA Survival Camp

DECEMBER 2010

1 MSBOA All-State Orchestra Acceptance deadline & fees due
11 MSBOA Adjudicator Workshop (S & E)
13 TOY and AOY Ballots due
15-18 Midwest Clinic, Chicago

JANUARY 2011

1 MASTA Outreach Grants deadline
7 MSBOA String Committee Meeting
8 MSBOA Music Ed Workshop
20 MASTA Winter Board Meeting
20-22 Michigan Music Conference, Grand Rapids
22 MASTA General Membership Meeting & Annual Luncheon

FEBRUARY 2011

14 MASTA Newsletter Deadline
25 UP Chamber Music Festival, Marquette

MARCH 2011

7 MASTA Chamber Music Festival, MSU
17-19 ASTA National Conference, Kansas City
26 MSBOA State S & E Festival

APRIL 2011

1 MASTA Outreach Grants deadline
15 MSBOA Youth Arts Solo Competition, CMU
28-30 MSBOA State B & O Festival

MAY 2011

5-7 MSBOA State B & O Festival
7 Troy Suzuki and Bass Workshops
12-14 Michigan Youth Arts Festival, WMU
14 MASTA Spring Full Board Meeting

JUNE 2011

15-26 Blue Lake Suzuki Camps
18-20 MASTA String Camps, Session I
21-25 MASTA String Camps, Session II
26 - 2 July MASTA String Camps, Session III

JULY 2011

TBA MASTA Board Retreat

AUGUST 2011

1 MASTA Newsletter Deadline

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"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!"

Northern Michigan Initiative

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Spring 2011 President's Message

Larry Dittmar

Greetings MASTA Members:

I write you now having just returned from Kenya where a team of MASTA members joined me to start a String Program as many of you already know. We left for our return home in 94 degree temperatures but our shock came when the pilot on the Amsterdam-to-Detroit flight announced the temperature at our destination was -4 degrees with a wind-chill of -13. A big groan was heard throughout our cabin. More about that later.

The comments that I have heard all seem to indicate that our Michigan Music Conference was quite successful this past month. Val Palmieri

continues to do a terrific job for us in working out all the details that help to make our part of the conference run so smoothly. The conductors of the four selected orchestras that performed so superbly are Marijean Quigley-Young, Alan MacNair, Aaron Tenney and Kathleen Griffith. We certainly congratulate them for a job well done! It's hard to imagine the high quality results that our All-State Orchestras achieve but in the hands of master teacher/conductors like Marilyn Kesler and Gary Lewis, the bar has been raised even higher this year. Bravo to the conductors and musicians. These are programs that indeed touched our musical souls and will remain in our memories for a long time. We also heard from fine presenters who gave us much to think about and many ideas for us to take back to our class rooms. One in particular should be mentioned here. Geri Arnold will be leaving us after twenty-one years of service on our board and a superb Suzuki teacher/trainer. Thanks Geri and best wishes to you as you make new friends and students in North Carolina.

Most of you know that we lost a dear friend and devoted string teacher-mentor with the passing of John Kendall. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 23rd at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road starting at 2:00pm. If you plan to attend, you are asked to RSVP at ss.ck@sbcglobal.net. John's legacy lives on in the hands of the many teachers he has mentored.

We welcome to a leadership position on our board, Karen Viele who will complete the term of our Treasurer Lynn Brosnan, whose resignation was effective as of January 23rd. Thanks for your dedicated work Lynn and best wishes to you from all of us.

Now, some comments about the group of teachers that joined me in Meru, Kenya. We left the day after the MMC finished and just returned on February 10th. Marilyn Kesler, Ann Schoelles, Geri Arnold, Andrea Yun, Anne Ogren and Bill Tennant made up this terrific team. Shar Music generously provided 50 violins and Alfred Publishing provided the Suzuki Books. We expected to have 100 students to start but ended up with 135. The team also included three of Geri's private students who both performed and helped with the teaching. By the end of our five hour classes each day, every team member was tired. But it was all worth it when the students played a concert on our last day there. The parents and school teachers were most surprised by how well they looked and performed and the entire audience rose with great applause and excitement. The Kenyan teacher who is now running this program even played a violin solo that he had just learned. We all agreed that these 135 violinists are off to a great start. Now we'll see where they take it as this year goes on.

Please remember that our ASTA National Conference is coming up in Kansas City, Missouri. The dates are March 17 - 19, 2011. I hope we will have a good representation from Michigan and you can still register for it if you have not done so yet.

I hope your year continues to go along smoothly and we count on you asking if you need any help.

Sincerely,
Larry Dittmar, President

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Session 1
June 29-July 10

Session 2
July 13-July 24

Session 3
July 27-August 7

Session 4
August 10-August 21

2011

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MASTA Student Chapter Report

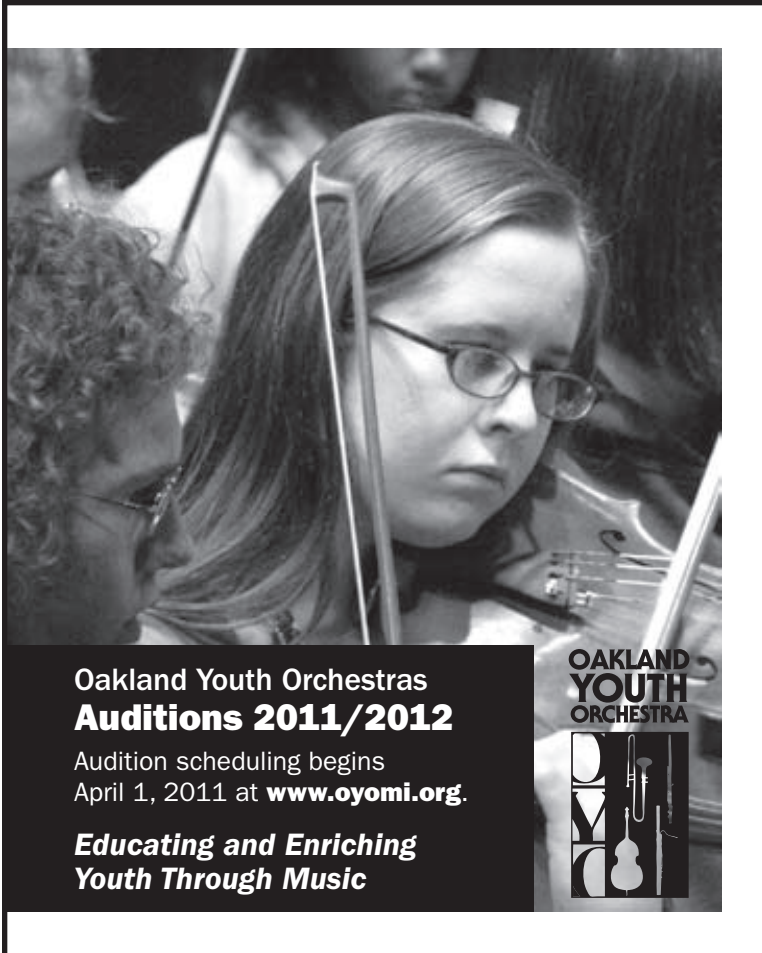
Mark Kotchenruther, Past-President & Student Chapter Coordinator

WE HAVE GREAT NEWS . . .

The Western Michigan University ASTA Student Chapter has been awarded the Most Outstanding Student Chapter Award for 2011! The award will be presented at the national American String Teachers Association Convention in Kansas City, MO this March. These students really deserve the award for all of their efforts to keep music and string playing alive and well in schools and communities in Michigan. Some of their more recent activities have included: a welcome cook-out to attract new members (which attracted a large group of freshmen); a trip to J.W. Pepper in Grand Rapids where students received a lecture on copyright law; the formation of chamber music ensembles which played carols for local nursing homes before the holidays; and service as sectional coaches by several members in Walled Lake Public Schools for their annual "Day for Strings" in early January. As you can see, the WMU chapter is very busy and we should be very proud of them and their substantial accomplishments.

These are particularly strong years for our state ASTA chapters. They are among the most active in the country. Here's what is going on elsewhere in the state:

Central Michigan University's MASTA Chapter has become an official registered student organization on campus. This makes the chapter eligible for grants and scholarships from the University. The chapter also held a workshop for string students in the fall semester, and the response from the students was very positive. In the coming months, the chapter will be working with Delta Omicron, the music fraternity at CMU, to set up a strings-only competition with an endowment fund.



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At Eastern Michigan University, the entire chapter (26 members strong) attended the Michigan Music Conference. Their advisor, Kevin Miller, has been using the chapter as a lab ensemble/class for methods students. He hopes to get them involved in some service and outreach activities during the second semester.

On February 10th, Michigan State University chapter members went to Cornerstone School in Detroit to work with the students in the music classes. They will also be going back April 8th and 9th to participate and help with a workshop lead by Roberto Guasperi, creator of the East Harlem Violin Program, in which the movie *Music of the Heart* was based. The chapter is also developing fundraising activities and organizing a community outreach activity with a music program in Lansing.

Bravo to all of our student chapters and their members for their hard and important work!

Where Are They Now?

E. Daniel Long, MASTA Solo Competition Director

[This is the first in a planned series of reports from previous winners of our MASTA Solo Competition -Ed.]

“When words fail, music speaks.” When I read this quote by Hans Christian Anderson it felt as if I unwrapped a gift from someone who had known me forever. As a three-year-old Suzuki violin student my vocabulary was limited, but my Twinkle Variations delighted my audiences. And during middle and high school it was a challenge to convince friends that hours of violin practice took precedence over socializing. Only after they heard me perform Glazunov and Mendelssohn concertos with local orchestras did they understand what I had been trying to say. I love communicating as a musician. Playing violin allows me to converse with my audience on a deeper level than words ever could, taking them on a unique and emotional journey.

My success as a musician is the result of both strong family support and many wonderful violin instructors, whose teaching styles were combined so effectively that for me, practicing every day and going to weekly lessons felt as natural as brushing my teeth. I accepted new musical challenges with enthusiasm, as my teachers wisely involved me in many creative decisions. I still remain close to these teachers, proudly demonstrating their influence each time I play. I can choose a piece of music written over 100 years ago, and with all the advice from teachers at my disposal, create a powerful and passionate performance. This is what music means to me, and this is why I love playing the violin.

I am currently in my second year as a sophomore at the Juilliard School. Every day I am inspired to become a better musician, whether it is from an orchestra rehearsal with guest conductor Alan Gilbert or from attending an open rehearsal of the Juilliard String Quartet. This is exactly the environment I've been waiting for, and it's exciting to know I'll be a part of it for the next two years.

On winning the Shar Grand Prize--I vividly remember preparing for this competition. Not only was it a test of my technical proficiency, it also showcased my musical stamina. I learned to change styles quickly, as I had to play Bach, then Svendsen, and finally Glazunov. Performing these pieces together gave me a glimpse of the professional concert artist's world. I appreciated the difficulty of performing different repertoire each night on minimal practice time!

Winning the prize was very exciting--not only had I won a statewide competition; I also had confirmation that I was on the right track musically. All the hours I spent in preparation paid!

Andrea Jarrett, 2009 Junior Division Grand Prize Winner,
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Michigan Youth Arts In Action

Diane Winder, MASTA President-Elect and Liaison to MYA

Destination: MYA Festival

For true inspiration, a spring treat, attend the 49th annual Michigan Youth Arts Festival, May 12-14 on the campus of Western Michigan University. You owe it to yourself and your students to experience this one-of-a-kind event!!!

High school student artists from 10 disciplines - from dance or Poetry Out Loud to instrumental music - 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. Featured as this year's guest orchestra accompanying MSBOA concerto soloists is the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony with conductor John Varineau. Another highlight, MYA Honors Orchestra, highlights conductor Kypros Markou, faculty from Wayne State, assisted by MSBOA Orchestra Educator of the Year Tim Staudacher from Muskegon's Mona Shores High School.

In fact, come and enjoy all the events below yourself - all free and open to the public - across disciplines. Note especially the MASTA Honors Ensemble premier performance on Saturday, May 14 as part of the Collage Concert from 10am to noon in the Dalton Recital Hall (in the music building at WMU). MASTA selects the Honors Ensemble as part of the annual Chamber Music Festival and Competition, this year held Monday, March 7, 2011 at Michigan State with the Merling Trio as featured guest ensemble and adjudicators. To apply go to <http://www.astamichigan.org/events/events/cmf.html>.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Visual Arts Exhibit presented by the College for Creative Studies

Opening Reception, Richmond Center Student Gallery

In association with the Michigan Art Education Association & VSA Michigan

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Welcoming Celebration, Miller Auditorium

9:00pm – 10:00pm

Theatre Performance, Miller Auditorium

In association with the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association

9:30pm – 10:30pm

Theatre Showcase, Shaw Theatre

In association with the Michigan Educational Theatre Association

FRIDAY, MAY 13

9:00am – 7:00pm

Visual Arts Exhibit presented by the College for Creative Studies

Richmond Center Student Gallery

In association with the Michigan Art Education Association & VSA Michigan

9:00am – 11:30am

Vocal Solo & Ensemble Recital presented by J.W. Pepper

Dalton Center Recital Hall

In association with the Michigan School Vocal Music Association

10:30am – 12:30pm

College Fair, Miller Auditorium Grand Tier Lobby

1:00pm – 3:30pm

Vocal Solo & Ensemble Recital presented by J.W. Pepper

Dalton Center Recital Hall

In association with the Michigan School Vocal Music Association

4:30pm – 5:30pm

Film Festival presented by the College for Creative Studies

Brown Hall, Room 1025

In association with Digital Arts, Film & Television

7:00pm – 9:00pm

Gala Concert, Miller Auditorium

Brass fanfare; Choral performances; Educators of the Year;

Outstanding Soloists

SATURDAY, MAY 14

9:00am – 3:00pm

Visual Arts Exhibit presented by the College for Creative Studies

Richmond Center Student Gallery

In association with the Michigan Art Education Association & VSA Michigan

10:00am – 12:00 p.m

Instrumental Collage presented by J.W. Pepper

Dalton Center Recital Hall

In association with MSBOA and MASTA

10:00am – 12:00pm

Dance Showcase, Shaw Theatre

In association with the Michigan Dance Council

9:30am – 11:00am

Film Festival presented by the College for Creative Studies

Brown Hall, Room 1025

In association with Digital Arts, Film & Television

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Theatre Showcase, Shaw Theatre

In association with the Michigan Educational Theatre Association

2:30pm – 5:00pm

Honors Concert, Miller Auditorium

In association with MSBOA and the MSVMA

Need directions to Western, want to view details of the

2011 Festival or want recommendations for a lodging?

Find all this and more at <http://www.michiganyoutharts.org/Education-Awards.html>

MYA - Your Partner In Arts Advocacy

Michigan Youth Arts is positioned in our state to offer leadership in arts education across disciplines. It 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.

2011 Michigan Arts Education Census

Michigan Youth Arts, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Michigan Department of Education are pleased to announce the launch of the 2011 Michigan Arts Education Census - a statewide survey intended to assess the status and condition of arts education in K-12 schools in Michigan.

Michigan's statewide arts education advocates have teamed with Quadrant Arts Education Research to develop and implement a survey targeting public and private schools, in all districts, and reaching 1.6 million students. The project will produce baseline data about arts education access, equity and quantity in K-12 schools in Michigan.

The project is designed to create the compilation of a never-before-available picture of arts education in Michigan and the institution of baseline information for tracking and measuring progress in arts education in the future. This report will provide the data to drive future educational policy. It will also identify schools that meet a mutually agreed upon set of criteria as "Model Schools." These schools will be the basis for further research to identify the attributes of successful programs as guides for other schools.

The project will be conducted during the 2010/2011 school year with the findings released in December of 2011. Watch for it soon via an MASTA email.

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Recreation

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Small Ensembles

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Meals

Meals are age-appropriate and plentiful. Students have hot menu items for every meal and choices are offered for vegetarians and other dietary needs. All dietary concerns can be accommodated.

Camp Life

The MASTA Camps are held at the beautiful Howell Nature Center in Howell, MI. Students stay in barracks style cabins with attached bathroom facilities and showers. Cabins are air-conditioned so students can get the rest they need while in their cabins. Counselors are all musicians themselves giving students a connection to a musical and social mentor while at camp.

Check out our website:
www.astamichigan.org

Session I

This 3-day-session is designed for young string players in their 1st or 2nd year of playing their instrument or of younger ages. Students in 6th grade or younger will be successful at camp. This session is also a great first time camp experience.

Session II

This 5-day-session is designed for students in their 2nd or 3rd year of experience in 6th or 7th grade. A more in-depth and longer experience than Session I.

Session III

Our week long session is designed for the middle-school age student currently in grades 7-9. In addition to orchestra, students will be assigned to a chamber music ensemble. There is a brief audition at the start of camp for students at this camp.



Camp Application Form

Please Print Using Black or Blue Ink

Camp Choice (check one):

Session I (June 18 - 20)
\$220

Session I is for 6th grade or younger students in their 1st or 2nd year of playing. A great 1st Camp experience.

Session II (June 21 - 25)
\$340

Session II is for 5th through 7th grade students with at least 2 school years of playing experience.

Session III (June 26 - July 2)
\$440

Session III is for students completing 7th thru 9th grade. A full camp experience with chamber music & orchestral opportunities.

Name:					
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:					
For string teacher only: I recommend the student listed above for the MASTA String Camps:				Yes	No
Signature of Teacher:					
Roommate Request:					
T-Shirt Size: (child sizes) Small Medium Large			(adult sizes) Small Medium Large X-Large		
- T-shirts are included for all sessions					
<p>Send Application and \$100 deposit to: MASTA String Camps 29940 Northbrook Farmington Hills , MI 48334 Make Checks Payable to "MASTA Camp" Apply early as camps do fill - Applications accepted until sessions are full</p>					

www.astamichigan.org



**MICHIGAN CHAPTER
AMERICAN STRING TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
WITH
NATIONAL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION**

Summer Camp Scholarship
(Please print clearly)

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Instrument _____ Number of years played _____

Are you taking private lessons? Yes No If Yes, number of years of study _____

Private Teacher _____

Student's School _____

School String Teacher _____

Parents Name _____

Address _____

Primary Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Gross Annual Household Income \$ _____ Number supported _____

Camp Attending: Session I (June 18-20) Session II (June 21-25) Session III (June 26-July 2)

Have you ever received a MASTA Scholarship? Yes No

If yes, what kind? _____

Please include a brief statement explaining why you are applying for a scholarship. Also, include copies of the first three pages of your family's 2010-1040 Federal Tax form. Please mark out all private, personal information, such as social security numbers. All information will be kept confidential. Keep in mind that scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need. If you have any questions, contact Kelly De Rose by phone: 231.759.3277 or email: derosek@monashores.net. Scholarship applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2011, to be considered. Your camp application and deposit must be received before a scholarship can be awarded.

Please send scholarship applications to:

Kelly De Rose
1476 Cornell Road

2011 MASTA Awards

Diane Winder, MASTA President-Elect and Liaison to MYA

During the recent MASTA membership meeting during the Michigan Music Conference, three awards acknowledged important contributions to string education in our state. First, internationally recognized educator and recently retired University of Michigan professor Robert Culver received the Career Achievement Award. In addition, MASTA honored the 2011 Teacher-of-the-Year David Reed, from the Bloomfield Hills Schools, as well as Administrator-of-the-Year Blake Prewitt nominated from the West Bloomfield district. Please join me in congratulating these exemplary string citizens! Congratulations, also, to our other outstanding nominees Mark Kotchenruther and Aaron Tenney for Teacher-of-the-Year, as well as James H. Hofman for Administrator-of-the-Year.

David Reed has been teaching in the Bloomfield Hills Schools since 1984. He has a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Michigan State University and a Master of Music in Violin Performance from the University of Michigan. He has performed with a number of Detroit area orchestras and continues to perform locally as a soloist and in numerous string quartets. While at U-M, David Reed was chosen to perform as a concerto competition winner



*David Reed, 2011 MASTA Teacher of the Year,
with Larry Dittmar, MASTA President*

in 1983. Mr. Reed has served the Michigan Chapter of the American String Teacher's Association as Secretary, President and Past President. Mr. Reed serves MSBOA extensively as the current Vice President of Orchestral Activities (and MASTA Liaison), as the Chair of the New Music Reading Session, and is on the Music Selection Committee. He also serves as an adjudicator both for solo and ensemble festivals as well as band and orchestra festivals and serves as an orchestral and violin clinician throughout the state. David was voted the 2003 MSBOA Teacher of the Year and has been nominated for the Oakland Schools Teacher of the Year and for Michigan String Teacher of the Year by the American String Teacher's Association. Dave is also a former Vice President for Festival Workers of the MSBOA District 4. He has presented sessions and performances at the Midwestern Conference on School Vocal and Instrumental Music and the Michigan Music Conference. His orchestras are consistently in demand and have been awarded Division I ratings every year during his tenure

at Andover High School. The Andover Orchestra has performed at concerts and festivals in Edinburgh, Scotland; London, England; Chicago, Orlando and most recently at Carnegie Hall in New York City. David has conducted at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp and the Middle Level String Clinics, has taught at the Michigan State Suzuki Program, the Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp, the Capital University Suzuki Institute and the Kalamazoo Suzuki and Chamber Music programs. He has also served as a guest lecturer at Oakland University teaching a string methods class has given guest lectures at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University Schools of Music and adjudicated at the University of Illinois Orchestra Symposium. Mr. Reed's latest venture has been into the world of arranging music for string orchestra and both Tempo Press and Alfred Music have published his works. David lives in West Bloomfield with his wife Amy.

While Administrator-of-the-Year Blake Prewitt was unable to celebrate at MMC in person, his award for TOY was accepted by nominators Linda Trotter and Lynn Brosnan. Now Co-Principal of West Bloomfield High School (former Asst. Principal and Fine Arts Coordinator), Mr. Prewitt remains a true advocate for the Orchestra program and has been relentless in making certain that the Strings/Orchestra program is given equality in the Fine Arts Department.

Mr. Prewitt attends the orchestra concerts and is always willing to assist at the concerts, in any manner. Last school year, he assisted the string teachers in achieving the goal of creating and implementing the first annual All City Orchestra Concert. A few years ago, the district was on the verge of losing the beginning fifth grade instrumental program and Mr. Prewitt began the process to assist the teachers in explaining to the central office administration the need to keep this program. He developed several proposals demonstrating how the district could keep the program.

Though no longer the Fine Arts Coordinator due to his promotion to Co-Principal, Mr. Prewitt remains a vocal advocate and supporter of West Bloomfield's Orchestra program.

Nominator and MASTA Past-President Mark Kotchenruther presented this tribute to Bob Culver during the MASTA luncheon celebration: "Since re-establishing the MASTA Career Achievement Award a few years ago, MASTA can think of no one this award better fits than Robert Culver. Bob Culver is a teacher with an unparalleled career in education and the arts.

Born, raised and educated in Oregon, Bob's teaching career began in 1959. After several successful years teaching, Bob enrolled at the Eastman School of Music and earned his Masters in Viola Performance. Upon graduation, he was hired by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. After a few years as a professional musician, Bob was offered a studio teaching position at The Ohio State University; a position that also involved teaching string methods. During his 11 years at OSU, Bob founded the Columbus Symphony Cadet Orchestra, the Ohio Music Camps, and the OSU Summer String Workshop. In addition, he also started several string programs and placed many graduates in string jobs. Then Michigan called.



*Larry Dittmar with Administrator of the Year Nominators
Lynn Brosnan and Linda Trotter*



*Bob Culver, Career Achievement Recipient, and
Mark Kotchenruther, MASTA Past President*

While at the University of Michigan, Bob's fame and influence as an educator became worldwide. He has presented clinics in 15 countries and 47 states; he has conducted All-State Orchestras in 42 states and, too-numerous-to-count, regional and district orchestras. Bob has also produced a great number of string teachers and performers that have made an impact across the country. In addition to all of these achievements, Bob has been a passionate and active member of ASTA. Bob served as national ASTA president, and six of his former students have gone on to serve ASTA in that same role. Nearly one year ago, ASTA awarded Bob its Distinguished Service Award.

Bob Culver's impact on string teaching in Michigan, and his influence on MASTA in particular has also been enormous. He has encouraged a multitude of musicians to join the American String Teachers Association. And by doing so, they have gained so much from this important professional organization. Past graduates of his have gone on to serve as state chapter board members and project directors, thereby shaping the future of state chapters, their members and students. Bob has also left a legacy behind in the programs that he inspired and created here in Michigan. The numbers of students and future teachers that have benefited from these programs have been many (myself included). Although Bob has now retired from professional life, I believe his influence will remain active and ongoing.

We all have had people in our lives that have shaped us as musicians and teachers. We can revel in the artistry of Carlos Kleiber conducting a Beethoven overture and Henryk Szeryng playing a Bach sonata. But for so many of us within and outside of this room, Bob Culver was the one that showed us there could be equal artistry in the act of teaching. Once more, he was able to unlock the secrets behind that artistry. It is indeed a great honor and pleasure to present to Robert Culver the 2011 MASTA Career Achievement Award."



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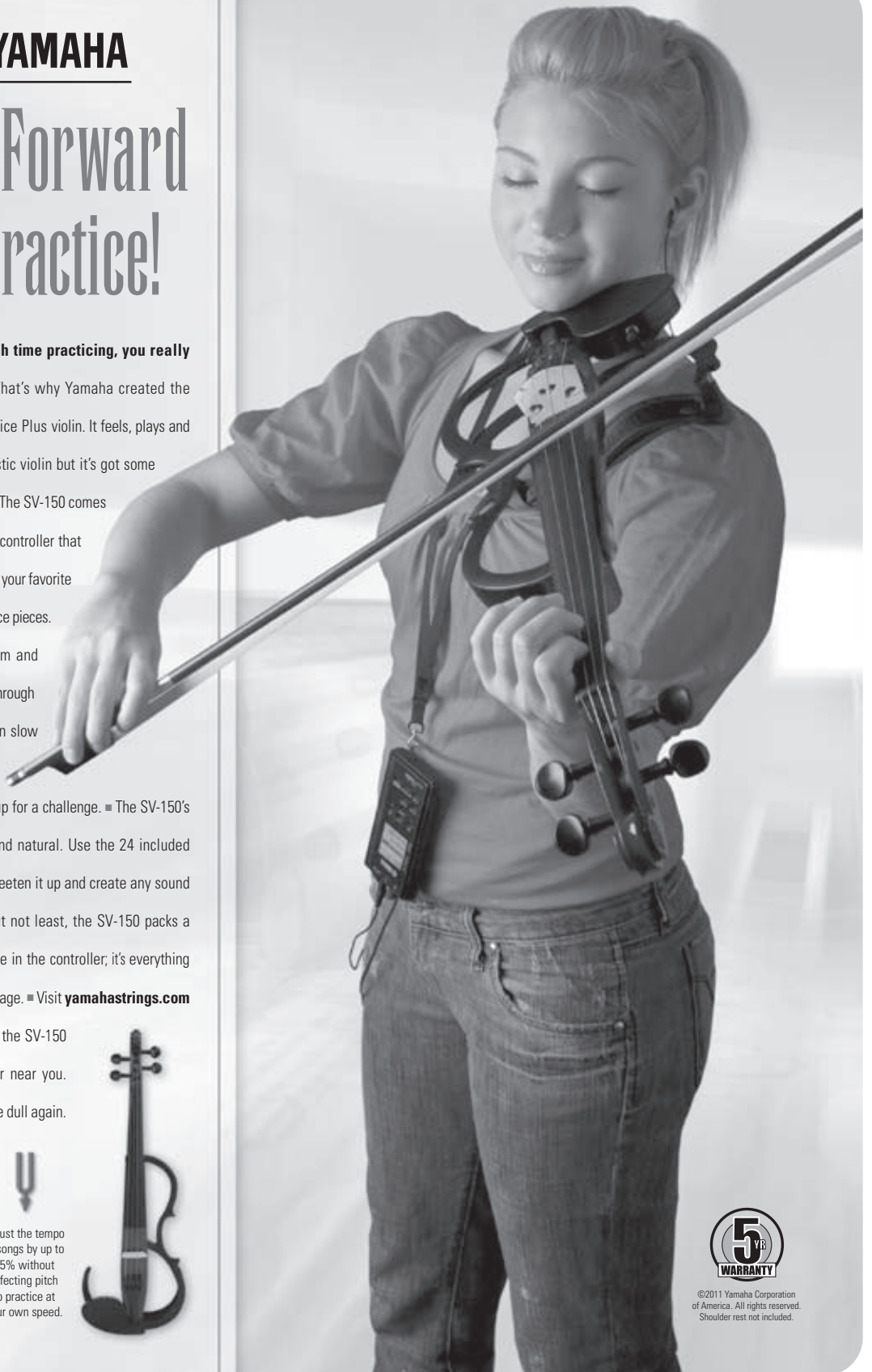
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2011 Michigan Music Conference Recap

Valerie Palmieri, MMC Coordinator

The 6th Annual Michigan Music Conference was held Thursday, January 20-Saturday, January 22, 2011 at the Amway Grand Hotel and DeVos, Hall in Grand Rapids. Over 2,000 educators from Michigan and out of state attended! Our State conference is designed to refresh, reenergize and reaffirm music education at all levels: public, private, university, studio and professional! Perhaps many of you recall the past history of this conference when it was in Ann Arbor – years ago, when I first coordinated this event there were 11 string sessions and 2 select orchestras, eventually that grew to 13 string sessions with 2 select orchestras. The past 6 years have brought us 33 sessions and at least 2 select orchestras plus, much, much more!

New this year was an EXTENDED SATURDAY. The 2011 conference was 3 full days ending at 5 p.m. on Saturday – that’s 3 full days! Sessions began Thursday with all day Pre-Suzuki Training presented by Geri Arnold as well as a full day conducting symposium with a deliberate focus on STRING Conductors lead by Dr. Kypros Markou and Wayne State’s String Orchestra in conjunction with MSBOA.

Our MASTA headliner for 2011 was Dr. Robert Gillespie. He presented 4 sessions on varying aspects of string pedagogical development. Bob Gillespie, Professor of Music at Ohio State University, is responsible for string teacher training and has one of the largest and most extensive string pedagogy degree programs in the nation. Our own Bob Phillips presented 3 sessions on the way students learn and advocacy: Unleashing the Power of Sound Innovations, Wired for Sound: Teaching Generation Net Kids are Different! And Saving Your Music Program: Awareness, Advocacy and Action. Dr. Diane Winder presented Right Arm Or Magic Wand? and hosted the ever popular “Make and Take”. Our performing ensembles this year include Ann Arbor Huron High School under the direction of Mary Jean Quigley, Troy Boulan Park MS Orchestra under the direction of Kathy Griffith, the Troy High School Orchestra under the

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November 12, 2010
February 4, 2011
February 18, 2011
March 4, 2011*

** Talent scholarship deadline*

music.wayne.edu



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direction of Alan MacNair, the Grand Rapids Northpointe HS under the direction of Aaron Tenney and of course, our top students in both the All State Middle School and High School Orchestras. The Annual State MASTA Board Meeting and General Membership luncheon meeting took place immediately following this performance on Saturday and sessions continued on until 5 p.m. The annual meeting included 120 MASTA members for lunch and featured our National soloist; bassist Jonathan Hammond and his accompanist Xavier Suarez. Jonathan is a student of Diane Gannet. David Reed was named Teacher of the Year, and Bob Culver was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award

Thanks to our other terrific string specific sessions offered by national clinicians and our own state specialists including: 101 Tips and Tricks for Motivating Middle School Orchestra Students (Amy Marr), Mono-Tasking: The Key to High Achievement in String Teaching (Gabriel Villaurda), Guitar Class: Pick Guitar, Fill Fruit Jar, and Be Happy (George Rousseau), Solutions to the Mystery of Bowings (Henry Duitman), Success in the Urban Setting: Invigorating Your Instrumental Music Program (Kate R. Fitzpatrick), Standard Orchestral Literature Your Orchestra Can Play (Kevin Miller), An Intriguing African Adventure in Instrumental Music (Larry Dittmar), Extending Bow Arm Skills and Right Hand Flexibility (Leslie Wimsatt), Out of the Box Recruiting (Lisa M. Meyer), How to Successfully Recruit and Retain Instrumental Music Students (Marcia Neal), Teaching from the Bottom Up (Mark Mutter), Creativity and Free Improvisation in the String Classroom (Nancy Conley), Get 'Em Moving - Shifting in the Beginning Strings Classroom (Sarah K.-H. Maurice), Chinese Music for Strings (Terese Volk Tuohey), New Teacher Survival Kit and Tune It - or Die! Steps for Independent Tuning for Young Strings Students (Valerie Palmieri), Playing the Cello: 5 Common Issues, 50 Solutions (Dr. Andrea Yun).

NOW is the time to be thinking of presentations for the 7th Michigan Music Conference on January 19-21, 2012. Please go to www.michiganmusicconference.org and click on 2012 Proposal Application - submit your proposal to be a speaker. The deadline for 2011 is April 1, 2011. That's less than 2 months away! We look forward to your submissions!

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*GVSU Faculty String Trio:
Gregory Maytan, violin; Paul Swantek, viola;
Pablo Mahave-Veglia, cello.*

String Leadership Day 2012 is open to high school players, who are, or wish to become, leaders in their orchestra. Visit www.gvsu.edu/music for further information on this grand day of string playing.

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MASTA Winter General Membership Meeting

Saturday, January 22, 2011

Michigan Music Conference, Grand Rapids, MI

Meeting Called to Order (*Dittmar*) at noon

A Moment of Silence was offered in remembrance for John Kendall.

Introductions of all members, special guests and friends present were made.

Secretary's Report (*Trotter*): Minutes from the September Meetings were presented.

Treasurer's Report (*Brosnan*)

Second Quarter

Beginning Balance (10/1/2010) \$10,565.76

Deposits:

Chamber Music	\$256.29
Green Competition (entrants fees)	\$1,920.00
Total Deposits	\$2,176.29

Disbursements:

Potter Scholarship Winner (Ken Kubota)	(\$500.00)
Green Competition (Judging and award)	(\$1,500.00)
Michigan Youth Arts (membership fee)	(\$300.00)
Meetings/Mileage	(\$138.79)
ASTA (6 National Semi-finalists)	(\$450.00)
MASTA Notes (MMC Ad Fall 2010)	(\$120.00)
Treasurer Expenses (mileage & supplies)	(\$88.41)
Total Disbursements	(\$3,097.20)

Ending Balance (12/31/10)	\$9,644.85
Net Surplus (Loss)	(\$920.91)

President's Report (*Dittmar*)

1. Acknowledgement of the outstanding orchestras who performed at the 2011 MMC.: Ann Arbor Huron High School Symphony Orchestra (Marijean Quigley-Young, Director), Boulan Park Middle School Advanced Orchestra (Kathleen L. Griffith, Director), NorthPointe Christian High School Orchestra (Aaron Tenney, Director), Troy High School Symphony Orchestra (Alan McNair, Director), All-State Middle School String Orchestra (Marilyn Kesler, Director) and the All-State High School Orchestra (Gary Lewis, Director).
2. Announcement and recognition of service of the executive board members how are leaving the board: Rick Dapprich, Lynn Brosnan, Geri Arnold and Nancy Koski.
3. Acknowledgment of the National President-Elect Bob

Phillips. Bob Phillips was asked to speak on the upcoming National Convention. He also stated that ASTA was creating a coalition for advocacy.

4. Amy Marr was recognized as the National Chair for Alternative Styles for ASTA.

President-Elect Report (*Winder*)

1. TOY and AOY – Election and Nomination solicitation will be moved up to allow for issues that arise. (Emails were not arriving to recipients)
2. AOY 2011 is Blake Prewitt (who unfortunately will not be able to attend).
3. TOY 2011 is TBA at the General Membership Meeting.
4. Gift basket planning for the National ASTA Conference has begun.

Member-at-Larger Report (*Villasurda*)

Gabe explained his role as the Member-at-large is to spearhead and assist new teachers in MI.

Student Chapter Report (*Kotchenruther*)

Mark explained that his role is to be a liaison to the student chapter at the various colleges/universities. He also recognized Western Michigan University's chapter as the National ASTA Outstanding student chapter.

Project Director Reports

A. Chamber Music Festival (*Kearney-Looman*): Reminder that the festival will be held on Monday, March 7th at Michigan State University.

B. MASTA Camps (*Scott*): Announcement that the 2011 camp applications are on line.

C. MASTA Notes Editor and Website (*Dapprich*): Reminder that all articles for the spring MASTA Notes are due by February 14th.

D. Membership Chair (*Stuart*): Membership is up (46 members), Dual Members - 19 (up 1), Life members – 14, Professional Members -196, Senior Members – 56 (down 1), Student members 94 (up 40), Institutional members -16, String industry members – 3; Total of 398 members

E. MMC Coordinator (*Palmieri*): Reminder to give her feedback on the conference for future planning.

F. Northern Michigan Initiative (*Peterson*): There are two up-coming events – Michigan Technological University will host an orchestra featuring a guest Russian violinist and the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra and they will provide master classes and private lessons for festival attendees. The Up Chamber Festival will be on February 25 featuring the Eclettico String quartet and master classes by De. Joe Neves. Janis also thanked Shar Music Products for their assistance.

G. Okemos Suzuki Workshop (*Rebeck*): No report

H. Studio Teaching (*Koski*): There are several goals that Nancy set forth for MASTA Studio Teaching are:

1. Pursue a larger representation of studio teachers in MASTA membership
2. Create and maintain a data base of studio teachers, organized by city
3. Add more MMC sessions focusing on studio teachings
4. Produce studio teaching articles for the MASTA Notes publication
5. Reminder, that adult of all ages and levels are participating in strings.

I. Troy Suzuki and bass Workshop (*Trainees*): This years' date is May 7, 2011

J. MSBOA Liaison (*Reed*): Explanation of the proposed new All-State Auditions Excerpts. Reminder that this changed must be voted on at the MSBOA spring general membership meeting and that string teachers need to be present for the vote.

K. State Solo Competition (*Long*): Carpe Deum String Quartet is willing to come any school, requesting schools need to submit a grant proposal. We have three national semi-finalists; they are: Jonathan Hammonds, Linnea Powell and Abigail Elder.

L. State String Outreach and National Honors Orchestra (*DeRose*):

1. The second was New Horizons Senior Strings Program – Cary Kocher, project director. Motion by David Reed and Koski seconded to approve the grant request pending the administrator or institution becoming a member or a receipt of a membership. – PASSED
2. Motion by DeRose, to accept the recommendation of approval for the Ingrid Dykeman, Kentwood Public Schools, grant request; seconded by Janis Peterson. - PASSED

M. Michigan Youth Arts (*Winder*): Explained the upcoming Arts Census and the need to complete and return it. This census is endorsed by the Michigan Board of Education. It's ideal is to pull information with data so that the Arts can advocate with data driven decision.

Program Affiliates:

Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp (*Kesler*): Recognized Pat Smith, the camp's registrar, for her undying work for the program and Geri Arnold starting this camp 34 years ago with Jerry Barlett.

SAA Liaison (*Arnold*): There is a new course "Suzuki Principles in Action" 'SPA' for teachers who have been teaching but need to be reinvigorated. The deadline for auditions is 8 weeks before one takes the course. Finally, scholarship deadline is February 4, 2011.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. President, Dittmar, announced the new treasurer, Karen Viele. He also acknowledged Shar Music and Haig Avsharian for the generous donation on 50 violins for the African Outreach Program. This year, Geri Arnold, Anne Ogren, Marilyn Kesler, Ann Schoelles, Bill Tennant, and Andrea Yun will embark to Africa to start the string program.
2. Past president, Mark Kotcheruther, presented Bob Culver with the Career Achievement Award.
3. President-Elect, Diane Winder, presented the Teacher of the Year to David Reed.
4. President-Elect Diane Winder, presented the Administrator of the Year to Blake Prewitt; accepting on his behalf, Lynn Brosnan and Linda Trotter.
5. State Solo Competition Director, Daniel E. Long, introduced this years' Solo competition Winner, Jonathan Hammond who performed for the membership.

Meeting Adjourned 2:00 PM (*Dittmar*)

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