

W I N T E R 2 0 1 0

the

BRIDGE

The Ohio String Teachers Association News Journal

Mission Statement

The Ohio String Teachers Association is dedicated to promoting, supporting and sustaining string and orchestra education in Ohio by:

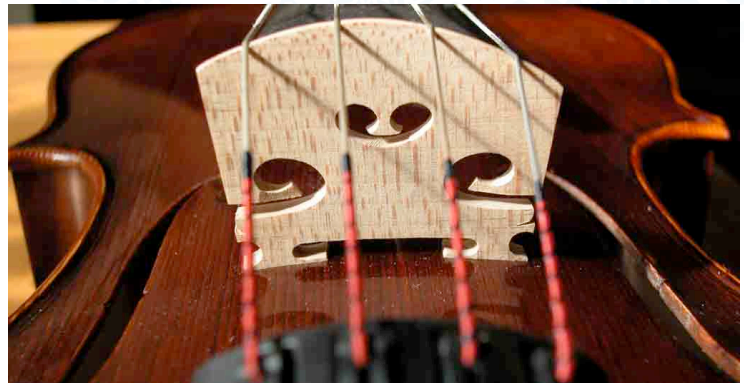
Developing and sponsoring workshops and conferences for string and orchestra students and educators

Publishing and disseminating education and informational materials to its members

Providing communication and networking services that serve and respond to the needs and concerns of the educational/professional string and orchestral community

Providing leadership and visibility for the string and orchestral community resulting in an active and positive image statewide

Promoting within the state educational community recognition of the need for a well-balanced music program in which the study of strings is made available to all of Ohio's youth



In this issue:

1. President, Kathleen Horvath's Message which includes "The 7 Initiatives for OSTA's Future: "Plan 2010 – Strings Unite"
2. A very brief Treasurer's Report
3. The minutes from September's Meeting
4. Information about O.M.E.A.'s Professional Conference in Cincinnati, January 28 – 30, 2010
An OSTA Registration Form for the Conference
A List of Orchestra Related Clinics and Concerts
5. Brief information about O.M.E.A.'s Adjudicated Events and Strings/Orchestra

Save the Date!

JANUARY 28-30

CINCINNATI, OH

Don't miss out on this year's O.M.E.A. Professional Conference, especially Thursday evening's O.S.T.A. gathering!



Adjudications Information from Gayley Hautzenroeder, AE Instrumental Advisor

It is with great excitement that we produce our first issue of “*The Bridge*”! I am pleased to be a part of it. I am also pleased to be “bridging” OSTA with OMEA through Adjudicated Events. Your AE Committee works hard throughout the year to provide directors and teachers with as much accessible information as possible and answer any questions you may have. Remember, the OMEA Adjudicated Event Rules and Regulations AND Required Large Group, Solos, and Ensemble Lists are now available, completely on line at the OMEA website!

For our Harp Teachers, and Orchestra directors with harpists: I have been revising (with the assistance of Michelle Gwynne and Cynthia McFarlane) the Harp Solo List. This will include literature for **both Lever and Pedal Harps!** It is long overdue. This will be available for the 2011 S & E Events.

For directors submitting entries for Solo and Ensemble Events, **you MUST use the Data Entry Program 2010! Make sure your program has been updated and adhere to application deadlines!**

Great News! In 2011, you will NOT need the program disks. The entire entry process will be done **on line!** All Adjudicated Event sites are also listed on line. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at hautzie@one.net I will do my best to help you with your questions and problems.

Treasurer’s Report:

As of December 1, Treasurer, Elizabeth Hankins reports a balance of: \$ 2,759.92. This is prior to the December 5th Chamber Ensemble Competition.

President's Message – Kathleen Horvath, Ph.D.

Dear OSTA Members,

As we reach the end of the first decade of the 21st century we have much to be positive about. As I transitioned in to the office of President I took some time to reflect back on the past 6 years of my service and feel quite privileged that you have placed your faith in me. Thinking ahead to the new year it is easy to sidetracked by all of our current national and economic circumstances and lose sight of the things that are really important. As a person who was born in the great state of Ohio I think we all need to take minute and reflect on what our fair state has to offer us and our students.

Ohio, the Buckeye State, was founded as the 17th state in the Union on March 1st, in 1803. We are home to approximately 11 million people. We have great diversity in our state both in terms of population and geography. We have 20 State Forests, 74 State Parks, and a National Park. We have 20 lakes and reservoirs including a great lake. We contributed 8 presidents in US history, more than any other state. We have 68 private colleges and Universities, 15 State Universities, and we have a large number of community schools. In terms of cultural institutions we have 19 major Art Museums, 13 Science and Nature Museums and other smaller historic and landmark sites. In terms of the musical arts we have Cincinnati Conservatory, the Cleveland Institute of Music and Oberlin Conservatory. We have a world class orchestras in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Toledo. Our state and private colleges and Universities also have some very fine music programs. We also have vibrant community music school and Suzuki programs. Additionally, we have 4 amusement parks, 5 zoos, and a number of professional sports teams. So, when you look across the country and compare us with other locations, we should all be pleased at depth of resources in our state. Moving forward we need to work harder to integrate our state treasures and resources into the work that we do.

As you all are aware the past few years our state chapter has been consumed with the gargantuan task of transforming ourselves from a Professional Association to a Not for Profit Corporation. This change essentially required a massive effort and reevaluation. The very nature of who we are and how we do business came into question. This process was not entirely without merit because it forced us to reconsider those critical questions. Who we are, what we do, and who we serve are at the very center of this organization. It also challenged us to restructure how we do business. Now that we are almost finished with the entire process I believe that we are poised to move forward as a more effective, streamlined, and efficient organization. We have to thank Elizabeth Hankins, our now Past President and Treasurer for laying the groundwork, making those tough initial decisions, and starting a process that brought us to where we are now. With our new 11 member Board of Directors, freshly minted Articles of Incorporation, and a new organizational structure, we are starting 2010 with renewed vigor. (continued pg. 4)

We have made a conscious decision to view the most recent economic and national trends as opportunities rather than liabilities and see them as a mandate for change. Times like these require creativity, resilience, and faith. We are eager to face these challenges.

While the process of incorporation was difficult, the lessons that we learned have been very valuable. In our old guise we did a number of activities, but learned that because we were not officially “Incorporated,” any board member could be held personally accountable, financially or otherwise, for any sort of accident or terrible situation. We learned that while ASTA does allow us the privilege of getting some degree of insurance, it is not enough for such activities like our summer camp and we essentially ran those activities for a year or so without adequate insurance coverage. Had something untoward happened, the consequences would have been dire. Given this situation we decided, like many other states, to stop certain activities so that we could re-evaluate our programmatic offerings, study other successful models, and determine the best course of action to take as we move forward. That being said, the board collectively decided that in the short term we would suspend the overnight camp until we can figure out a way to make it profitable enough to support our programmatic goals as well as insurance costs. We also looked at our budget structure, the journal, and all of our other activities to see how they fit and supported our central mission. Lastly, we did a survey of our members that provided us with valuable information about who we are and what things our constituency defines as important.

Several things emerged from this “self-study” process that we are pleased to bring to the general membership our plan for the future entitled “*Plan 2010 Strings Unite*”, and hope that as we move forward into 2010 and beyond more of our members will make an effort to re-connect with the organization, avail themselves of what we have to offer, and volunteer their talent, ideas, and energy. Our mission is to be the organization in the state of Ohio that is the voice and represents all things strings. That means performers (of any age and situation), teachers (in any guise or situation), composers, conductors, administrators, and merchants.



Plan 2010 Strings Unite – Initiatives for Our Future

As of January 2010 we are launching a new set of 7 initiatives to revitalize OSTA and better serve our professional and student constituency. These goals, phased in over the next year or so, will provide a structure and the means to achieve our mission.

Initiative 1: Partnership with OMEA

Over the summer we, the Board, began a new relationship with OMEA. The new formal relationship yielded a number of new things. First, OSTA will have a greater role in planning the annual OMEA conference. We will assist in the decision process with regard to string and orchestra sessions. We will help recruit clinicians and provide some assistance to bring those individuals to the conference. That means that OSTA will have “sponsored” sessions and the ability to craft those sessions to our unique and specialized population. The other major component of this agreement is that our members will be able to attend the OMEA conference and pay the member rate even if they are NOT members of OMEA. This includes conference sessions, concerts, exhibits, and lectures. We see this as a tremendous opportunity to many of our OSTA colleagues who may not be OMEA members because now they can avail themselves of the resources of this conference. Collegiate applied faculty can now come and recruit and meet orchestra directors and teachers from around the state. Suzuki teachers can come and engage with other string teachers. Composers who want to see the level of performance and talk to string teachers can now freely attend. This also means that we can have a greater cross section of our OSTA population at the annual membership meeting. We encourage all of you to attend this year and see what this conference has to offer.

Initiative 2: Clinician on the Go

Facing our current economic climate has really impacted the flexibility of many music programs to do things like travel and go to clinics. So, in an effort to keep things affordable for students we are offering a program where we provide a clinician to you for a reasonable fee that can come to your facility and work with you and your students. We are in the process of getting things on the web-site for a launch at OMEA. This program seeks to match qualified teachers, conductors, and clinicians with schools, studios, and other situations where funds may preclude students participating in outside events. We believe that this program will get more of our experienced members who have so much to offer students in touch with the very population that needs them.

Initiative 3: New Journal Structure, Schedule, and Logo

As we move into 2010 we need to be ever more conscious of our impact on the environment. We want to be GREEN. So, our News Journal will now be exclusively Online. We are adopting this new format to make information more accessible and up to date. We will consolidate to 3 issues annually and adopt a new format so that information is presented at various junctures of the year and that we make more routine of our annual and reoccurring activities. This will allow teachers the information they need to plan, our

advertisers the opportunity to bring their wares to the membership, and provide a more transparent structure. At the January General Membership meeting we are going to vote on some new looks, an official OSTA state logo, and a permanent new name for our journal. We look forward to having a new look in 2010.

Initiative 4: Web-site Expansion

Pairing with our new journal look and logo, we want to expand what we offer to our membership through the web-site. We are working to update our information as well as develop a number of resources and tools that OSTA members can take advantage of throughout the year. We will be able to post OSTA related information, get you in touch with instrument suppliers, repair shops and allow you to connect with others in the state. For example, we are going to have a classified ad section where members can advertise instruments for sale, lesson services, and other things. We want to create a section where folks can post events like performances and clinics so that interested individuals can attend. We also are working to automate many of things that we currently do with paper so that we eliminate the need for postage and cut down on our carbon footprint. As we work through this expansion we hope that OSTA members will put our link in their Bookmark bar and check this site often.

Initiative 5: Expanding our Membership and connection with other music colleagues

With our touch economic situation, now is the time where we need to connect with our colleagues in other areas of music and across the state. Our partnership with OMEA had begun this process, but we want to expand it even more. We are looking to develop other partnerships with other allied organizations such as ACDA or CBDNA etc., to create alliances for our mutual support as well as provide our members with information that will be helpful in the string teaching/performing situation.

Initiative 6: Renewed Commitment to Regular activities (Chamber Music Competition, Solo Competition, Orchestra Festival, etc . . .)

As we embarked on the “self-study” process we were able to look critically at what we are currently offering our constituency and see how we can have greater impact. It is our wish to keep our annual and reoccurring activities, but make them more efficient and of a higher quality. In this regard, we have developed some new planning mechanisms that will give us more lead time to plan events, designate a qualified chairperson, and provide that person with the organizational support necessary to keep these vital functions running and contributing to the education of our students.

Initiative 7: Initiation of New or Revitalized Activities

Working through the Incorporation process we had to make some very tough decisions and activities like the summer camp were discontinued. But, as with Initiative 6, we have begun to make our activities more efficient and this will allow us to reconsider the summer camp and open the door to adding new activities. We will be asking for volunteers to assist us with developing new activities and taking on the responsibility of “pilot testing” them in the next year or so. Even in these tough economic times we can use our creativity to generate activities and programs that teach and serve our members.

As we begin 2010 we do have much to be pleased about. We live in a great state and despite the trying economic times I know that we possess the brainpower, the creativity, and the desire to contribute to the betterment of our profession. Music allows us the freedom to express, create, participate, and enjoy what we do. If we can think past our liabilities we can make a positive impact on string playing and teaching in the state of Ohio.

I encourage everyone to attend the OMEA conference general membership meeting and bring a friend as all are welcome. Our reception and meeting should be a place to collaborate, so feel free to bring a colleague who is not an OSTA member. I am confident that if we put our energies to work the results will be extraordinary. And, if for some reason you cannot attend this meeting, keep in touch through the web site so that you don't miss vital and important information.

Previous Meeting Minutes: (Submitted by Sherry Ellis, OSTA Secretary)

Secretary's Report

Ohio String Teachers Association

Abridged Minutes: September 26, 2009 6:30 PM

Meeting was held via teleconference service

Board members in attendance: Sherry Ellis, Beth Hankins, Kathleen Horvath, Penny Kruse, Sue Larson, Bob Monroe, David Smarelli, Allicia Tremmel

Affiliation Agreement

The affiliation agreement with ASTA was signed and returned in August. OSTA will revisit the affiliation on an annual basis. OSTA now has about \$10,000 in legal bills. KH and BH will pursue approaching ASTA to get \$5,000 that was promised to OSTA for the reimbursement of the legal fees.

OSTA Partnership with OMEA

A two-year agreement was signed in which OSTA and OMEA would become partner organizations. OSTA will help find clinicians who will come to the OMEA conference. All four clinic proposals from OSTA were accepted for the 2010 OMEA conference.

Treasurer's Report

OSTA organization account = \$1,388.27

Student activities account = \$1,258.21

Total assets: \$2, 646.48

Two years of outstanding checks have not yet been received from the Rock On Summer Camp and Classical Academy. These will total about \$2,000.

Insurance Update

D & O Insurance policy will renew October 15, 2009. SL is checking on the rates of the Booster organization's insurance company. Once the information is obtained, the OSTA Board will vote on which policy to accept.

Journal: "The Bridge"

Assistance is needed with getting the journal out. SL will help with advertising, SE will handle state information, and PK will help find people to write articles. Gayley Hautzenroeder was named as someone who could help with advertising and possibly oversee the journal. BM will talk to her about this.

Reactivation of the Ohio Orchestra Directors Association

The purpose of OODA is the focus on schools. Shirley Mullens and Edna Hanson were named as people who may help in the formation of OODA. KH will approach Edna Hanson and ask her if she is interested.

Activities

The Chamber Music Competition will be held at Otterbein on December 5, 2009.

The "Clinician on the Go Program" will possibly launch in the spring of 2010.

The OSTA Middle School Orchestra Festival will possibly be up and running in 2010. Locations are needed for the festival.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50

O.M.E.A. Professional Conference Information for Orchestra and String Teachers:

Attached at the end of *"The Bridge"* you will find a registration form for the 2010 OMEA Professional Conference being held in Cincinnati, January 28 – 30. Listed are most sessions which should be useful for the O.S.T.A. membership. Remember, the OSTA reception, meeting and reading session is at **6:30 P.M. at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom, EFG, on Thursday, January 28.**

Concert and Session Listings:

Thursday, January 28, 2010

12:15 – Paul Bartel – "How to Make the Most of Your Orchestra Repair Budget" – Hyatt - Wolverine Rm.

12:15 – Dr. Andrew Dabczynski – "Basic *Fiddler's Philharmonic* – Fiddling in the First Year" – Hyatt – Bluegrass AB

12:15 Concert: Trista Emmons – Princeton Community Middle School Concert Orchestra Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

1:30 – Kathleen Horvath – "Getting a Superior Rating at Festival: The 3 P's: Programming, Preparation, and Presentation" - Hyatt Bluegrass AB

2:45 – Alice Ann O'Neill – "Cello Sitting Balance – Teaching Posture to Cellist with Alexander Technique Principles" – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

4:00 Concert : Steven Huang – Ohio University Symphony Orchestra – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

5:15 – Pamela Thiel and Gayley Hautzenroeder – "You Be the Judge – What are string Adjudicators Hoping to Hear?" (Counts as Adjudications Session for Judges) – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

6:15 – Kathleen Horvath and Beth Hankins – O.S.T.A. Annual Reception, Meeting, and New Music Reading Session – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

Friday, January 29, 2010

8:30 A.M. – Dr. Andrew Dabczynski – "Sight Read it: Developing Music Reading Skills in the Orchestra Class" – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

8:30 – Sherry Ellis – "Introduction to the ASTACAP Program: A Private Lesson Course of Study for All String Teachers" – Hyatt – Wolverine AB

9:45 – Dr. Robert Gillespe – "Reel 'em in and Ratchet'em Down" Recruiting and Retaining Students in School String Programs – Hyatt – Bluegrass AB

9:45 Concert : Jonathan Welch – Anderson High School Orchestra – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

11:00 – Bill Thomas – "Adjudicated Events and the New Teacher" – CCC 250

11:00 Concert: Mark Gibson – CCM Philharmonia Orchestra – Millennium – Grand Ballroom

12:15 Concert: Gayle Castle and Student Conductors – E.H. Green Intermediate School Advanced 5th & 6th Grade String Orchestra – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

2:45 – Ray Walczuk – AE Creative Events – "Encourage your Students to Submit Original Compositions" CCC 252

2:45 – Richard Blatti – "As Interpreters, We Need to be Better Musicians – Often We Learn the Music At the Expense of our Ensemble" – CCC Junior Ballroom CD

4:00 – Timothy Russel – "Mindful Music Making: An Introduction – The Search for Success. Where is it Leading You?" – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

Don't forget the ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA CONCERT in the Evening with the General Session in the Convention Center Ballroom!

Saturday, January 30, 2010

8:30 A.M. – Richard Blatti – "Is That All There Is? To This is IT!" – CCC Junior Ballroom CD

8:30 – Henry Leck – "Laban Conducting Techniques" – Hyatt Regency Ballroom ABC

8:30 – Timothy Russell – "Mindful Music Making: Putting Theory into Practice" – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

9:45 – Shelley Jagow – "Driving an Ensemble with a Dirty Windshield?" – CCC Junior Ballroom CD

11:00 – Kathleen Horvath – "Why Music? Keys to Informed Advocacy for Music Education" – CCC 250

11:00 – Emily Freeman Brown – "The Way to a Dynamic Performance: The Conductor as Teacher and Artist" – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

11:00 – Max Trier – Seminar for Adjudicators – CCC 251

12:15 Concert: Christopher James Lees – Akron Youth Symphony Orchestra – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

For additional information, log on to: www.omea-ohio.org

Teacher of the Year

NOMINATION FORM

Each year O.S.T.A. recognizes outstanding string and orchestra teachers in Ohio by presenting an award to one or more teachers. The form below is used for nominations by the membership. The O.S.T.A. Board will select the award recipient(s) from the nominations submitted. We urge you to submit the name of a person or persons whom you believe to represent outstanding teaching.

If you wish to nominate more than one person, simply copy this page for additional nominations. You may nominate a teacher in a private studio, in a school, and/or a college/university instructor.

Send nominations to: Kathleen Horvath, kah24@case.edu

If you need additional information you may reach her by e-mail at kah24@case.edu or by phone at (216) 368-1613.

The award(s) will be presented at the O.S.T.A. membership meeting during the 2010 O.M.E.A. Conference in Cincinnati.

OSTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

NOMINEE'S NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

Please attach a short summary of the reasons for the nomination:

Person Submitting Form _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ / _____

Check the area(s) of teaching that applies to the nominee:

Private studio Schools College/University

Send electronically to Kathleen Horvath at: kah24@case.edu

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 1, 2010

Administrator of the Year

Nomination Form

Administrator Name _____
 Home Address _____
 City _____, Ohio Zip Code _____
 Home Phone (_____) _____ School Phone (_____) _____
 School Address _____
 City _____, Ohio Zip Code _____
 Nominee's Name _____
 Administrative Position _____

Rate your administrator 1 being the worst to 5 being the best.

Support of the Orchestra program in regards to:

Staffing 1 2 3 4 5

Financial 1 2 3 4 5

Scheduling 1 2 3 4 5

Attends Concerts 1 2 3 4 5

Attitude toward parents/students of this program 1 2 3 4 5

Additional Comments:

Send electronically to: Kathleen Horvath, kah24@case.edu

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 1, 2010

Young Teacher of the Year

Nomination Form

Again this year, O.S.T.A. will recognize an outstanding young string teacher in Ohio. The recipient will receive a half-tuition scholarship to the O.S.U. Summer String Workshop. The form below may be used for nominations by the membership. The O.S.T.A. Board will select the award recipient(s) from the nominations submitted. We urge you to submit the name of a person whom you believe to be an outstanding young teacher with four or less years of experience.

If you wish to nominate more than one person, simply copy this page for additional nominations.

Send nominations electronically to Kathleen Horvath at: kah24@case.edu

If you need additional information you may reach her by e-mail at kah24@case.edu or by phone at (216) 368-1613.

The award will be presented at the O.O.S.T.A. membership meeting during the 2009 O.M.E.A. Conference in Columbus.

YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

NOMINEE'S NAME _____
 SCHOOL _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please attach a short summary of the reasons for the nomination:

Person Submitting Form _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Send electronically to: kah24@case.edu

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 5, 2009

Mini Grant Application

U.S.T.A. MINI-Grant Criteria

- Mini-grants will be awarded for no more than two consecutive years for the same person for the same project.
- New projects will receive precedence.
- Projects involving groups of children will usually receive precedence over those that will only benefit a single student.
- Award recipients will be required to write a summary of their project and its results for publication in the fall journal.
- A budget proposal will be required as part of the application process.

Contact Person _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Title of Proposal _____

Purpose of Proposal _____

Please submit a brief proposal budget. Itemize expected income and expenses. How will grant funds be spent? How will any additional funds be provided? Reminder: Those who receive mini-grants are required to write a summary of their project and its results for publication in the O.S.T.A. Journal. Grant will be disbursed only after project summary is submitted.

Amount of Grant Request \$ _____ (Up to \$200)

Person/Organization to whom the check should be made payable: _____

Send electronically to: Kathleen Horvath, kah24@case.edu

DEADLINE: January 1, 2010

