

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

Presidents Message:

As we launch 2011 we need to take a look at our organization and take stock in those things that we want for our future and invest in those initiatives that support that future. In this newsletter you will see our activities for 2010. In 2010 we began a new relationship with OMEA that is now beginning to take hold. We can have any of our members attend the conference and pay the same rate as if they were OMEA members. We were allowed to have more input in the state conference and sponsor 6 sessions that are of interest to our unique constituency and that means more string sessions in general. We ran a very successful solo competition that resulted in 3 individuals making it to the national final round of competition to be held in March at the ASTA Conference in Kansas City, we adopted a new logo, built a new web site, started some new programs, gave some awards to deserving teachers and we managed to get our finances back on track. But, it was also a year of challenge as the state budget for education was cut, many school levies did not pass, and many programs and colleges felt the sting of dwindling financial resources and programmatic cuts. It is times like these that often result in people looking inward and not reaching out. Unfortunately, our organization has felt this loss of energy. People are reluctant to come forward to become involved and this has taken its toll on what we have been able to do. It has required some to do too much and others to withdraw because they needed to focus on other things. As we look forward to this new year we need to turn our attention within and strengthen our executive board, build our general membership, and work to generate new and innovative ways to support string playing and teaching in Ohio. Now is the best time to become involved in OSTA. We are our future. Our investment of time and energy will give us momentum and help us all find the support we need to weather this current storm. Each one of us has something unique and special to offer and by sharing our talents, ideas, and energy with others we get energy back. This year we want everyone to do one thing to support one other member of the organization. Take a small amount of time to help a colleague and they can do the same for you, support a new teacher, or find a student who needs a boost and offer some constructive comments. Isolation is the battle we are all fighting so making connections with others will give us perspective, lighten the load, and help us to find the energy to keep going. With this thought in mind our theme for 2011 is "Connect." Come to the OSTA Breakfast Meeting on Friday January 28, 2011 at the Cincinnati Convention Center in the Junior Ballroom B and talk to others who are like-minded and want to find support and collegiality. See the list of string sessions and performances at OMEA and attend one to get an idea of how you can contribute, learn, and share. Volunteer to serve on the board so that you can benefit from the synergy of the group or support someone who you know can contribute to make the commitment to share with the rest of us. Our collective thoughts, ideas, and energy can spirit us through this year and propel us into new territory. If we come together, we can reshape our future! Let's CONNECT!

OSTA 2010 in Review

Our New Logo:



Award Winners: OSTA Recognizes 2009-10 Award Winners

Stacy Lemke of Delaware City Schools was recognized as the OSTA Public School Teacher of the Year, and Daniel Heim of Cleveland Heights Public Schools received the award for OSTA Young Teacher of the Year. Additionally, Past President Beth Hankins was recognized for her service to OSTA, and Dan Clark of Stanton's Sheet Music presented each teacher award winner with a \$100 gift certificate to Stanton's. The presentation took place January 28, 2010 at the OSTA Winter Board Meeting held during the OMEA Professional Conference in Cincinnati.

Stacy Lemke is the head orchestra director in the Delaware City School District, where she is chair of the high school music department and directs the Rutherford B. Hayes High School Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. She also directs the 7th/8th Grade String Orchestra and assists with the 5th/6th grade Strings. She also teaches violin in the after-school Suzuki Enrichment Program, and directs the pit orchestra for the high school musical each year.

A string specialist in Delaware since 1984, Lemke took the reins of the growing high school program in 1999. Under her direction, the Delaware school orchestras have established a long-standing reputation for excellence. Her high school and middle school orchestras consistently receive top ratings at Ohio Music Education Association State Adjudicated Events. Ms. Lemke is also a string events adjudicator for the Ohio Music Education Association.

Lemke received her Master's degree in Education from Ashland University and her Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. An active violinist, she has performed with the Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra, the Ohio Wesleyan University Chamber Orchestra, and in opera and musical productions at Otterbein University as well as in chamber music ensembles. In addition to her school duties she also serves as conductor for the Central Ohio Symphony Orchestra's Young Strings Program.

Ms. Lemke is a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas, Music Educator's National Conference, and the American String Teacher's Association. Ms. Lemke was inducted to the Delaware Musicians' Hall of Fame in 2009.

One colleague said of Lemke's work in Delaware: "Ms. Lemke's success with her orchestra does not stem from an overly wealthy community, nor with the help of large numbers of students taking private lessons. She takes special care to cultivate her student's skills through carefully planned pedagogy and technique training. As the department chairperson, she is passionate in her advocacy of the program in the school district, and has developed community partnerships that help with this cause. Most of all, Ms. Lemke has devoted her entire life towards making sure her students pursue excellence and develop a love for music. I just hope that I can be as fine a teacher some day."



Daniel Heim is orchestra director at Cleveland Heights High School. One colleague describes him as "a unique combination of skill and experience," citing his work as an active chamber musician, conductor, orchestral player, and teacher throughout his career. He received performance degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the Musikhochschule Lübeck, and his principal viola teachers have included James Dunham, Martha Katz, and Barbara Westphal. Heim's chamber music study included intensive work with members of the Cleveland Quartet as well as further studies with members of the Emerson, Juilliard, LaSalle, and Takacs String Quartets. He has also completed Suzuki teacher training with Kimberly Meier-Sims at the Cleveland Institute of Music's Sato Center for Suzuki Studies, and in 2008 he earned a dual-credential master of arts plus licensure in music education from Case Western Reserve University.

Heim has taught and conducted orchestras at all levels in the Akron Public Schools, Beachwood City Schools, and Strongsville City Schools. He has also served as an adjunct viola instructor to the Musikhochschule Lübeck, taught in the St. Ann School Suzuki Program in Cleveland Heights, and maintained a private violin and viola studio for many years. In recognition of his teaching achievements at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, he was honored by his colleagues as the 2009 Teacher of the Year.

Heim has performed as a professional violist with the NDR [North German Radio] Symphony Hamburg, Lübeck Philharmonic, Kiel Philharmonic, Hamburg State Opera, Apollo's Fire, Blossom Festival, and Cleveland Pops Orchestras. Mr. Heim has also performed chamber music throughout the United States, Europe, and South America with numerous groups, including the Barrault Quartet, the Phoenix Ensemble, and Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble.

As a teacher and performer who first received instrumental music instruction in public elementary school orchestra, Heim is proud to serve as an instrumental music director at Cleveland Heights High School. His teaching responsibilities currently include the Heights High Symphony, Concert Orchestra, AP Music Theory, Concert Band, and the Chamber Ensemble Program, and he also serves as the advisor to Heights High's chapter of Tri-M Music Honor Society. He resides in South Euclid with his wife Gail.

Dr. Kathleen Horvath, music education professor at Case Western Reserve University, said: "During his 3 years on campus he excelled in working with the orchestra and honed his conducting skills on such pieces as Schubert's Unfinished Symphony, Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture, Smetana's Moldau, and Debussy's Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun. Upon graduation in 2008 he went to Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron Ohio where after one year he was voted Teacher of The Year. His students excelled and the program did well under his supervision... Dan is only in his second year of teaching and is already making a big difference in the lives of the students of Cleveland Heights."



Solo Competition:

This fall on Saturday October 16, 2010 we sponsored the solo competition at Denison University in Granville Ohio. We had 5 entrants:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Instrument</u>
Benjamin Fryxell	Junior	Cello
Julie Clancy	Senior	Viola
Jessica Pasternak	Junior	Viola
Grace (Yue) Guo	Senior	Harp
Dmitri Yevstifeev	Junior	Viola

Judged by Debbie Price, Steven Huang, and Jude Mollenahuer all were passed on the next round. The results of the semi-final tape round have Julie Clancy, Jessica Pasternak, and Grace (Yue) Guo being invited to the final round at the ASTA Conference in March, in Kansas City. We wish them luck.

We need to thank Debbie Price and Susan Larson for their help organizing the competition and coordinating efforts with Denison University. We also thank Denison University for providing the facilities and opening their campus to us. And, lastly we thank Debbie Price, Steven Huang, and Jude Mollenahuer for judging the competition. Ohio is well represented and we will report the results in our next newsletter.

New Program: Clinicians on the Go

How many times have you wished you could have some assistance in preparing your student groups and individuals for concerts, adjudicated events, or just getting another performance perspective? Perhaps you have the need of someone to do an orchestra clinic, sectional, coaching, etc. OSTA is starting up a new program for helping Ohio's string teachers and orchestra directors with our "Clinicians on the Go Program".

We have many retired string teachers who have a great deal of experience in the classroom, on the podium, and working with individuals. We are calling for them to sign up to continue sharing their talents by enlisting as a part of this program. Our goal is to **recruit our experienced string/orchestra people**, and encourage them to be a part of our "Clinicians on the Go Program", and provide an affordable assistance for local string and orchestra educators.

Interested Clinicians will apply by sending a letter of interest, and indicate the kinds of clinician serves they can provide. We would also like to have a resume or vita. Once we have received these, The OSTA Board will make sure each clinician is properly vetted and include the names on our Clinicians List. Finally, we will be able to list them on the web-site listing their credentials and clinic services they are willing to provide.

This is a WIN-WIN situation for everyone! Plus, with the OSTA Mini-Grants available, the costs can be reduced for the classroom teacher. Once we have a list of clinician's names, email addresses, and their specialties, we will compile a list of people willing to help our Ohio String Teachers! To register as a clinician just send an e-mail request to Kathleen Horvath at kah24@case and she will get you on the clinicians list and then in touch with people in your area who need your services. If you are a teacher and need a clinician put in a request to Joanne Erwin via e-mail at joerwin@oberlin.edu and she will facilitate getting you a clinician. Let's make this program work for Ohio's String Teachers and Orchestra Directors!

The following is a suggested payment schedule for the clinicians:

Winter 2011

1. Orchestra Clinic/Workshop or Adjudication per Clinician

Time of Event	Total Fee	Honorarium to Clinician	Facilitation Fee to OSTA
1 Hour	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
2 Hours	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$50.00
3 Hours	\$300.00	\$225.00	\$75.00
4 Hours	\$375.00	\$285.00	\$90.00
5 Hours	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$100.00
6 Hours	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$100.00
7 Hours	\$575.00	\$450.00	\$125.00
8 Hours	\$600.00	\$475.00	\$125.00

2. Chamber Music Clinic/Coaching

Time of Event	Total Fee	Honorarium to Clinician	Facilitation Fee to OSTA
1 Hour	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
2 Hours	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$50.00
3 Hours	\$300.00	\$225.00	\$75.00
4 Hours	\$375.00	\$285.00	\$90.00
5 Hours	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$100.00
6 Hours	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$100.00
7 Hours	\$575.00	\$450.00	\$125.00
8 Hours	\$600.00	\$475.00	\$125.00

3. Sectionals

Time of Event	Total Fee	Honorarium to Clinician	Facilitation Fee to OSTA
1 Hour	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
2 Hours	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$50.00
3 Hours	\$300.00	\$225.00	\$75.00
4 Hours	\$375.00	\$285.00	\$90.00
5 Hours	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$100.00
6 Hours	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$100.00
7 Hours	\$575.00	\$450.00	\$125.00
8 Hours	\$600.00	\$475.00	\$125.00

4. Audition or Solo Coaching (All-State, Solo Festival, etc . . .)

Time of Event	Total Fee	Honorarium to Clinician	Facilitation Fee to OSTA
1 Hour	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$25.00
2 Hours	\$200.00	\$150.00	\$50.00
3 Hours	\$300.00	\$225.00	\$75.00
4 Hours	\$375.00	\$285.00	\$90.00
5 Hours	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$100.00
6 Hours	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$100.00
7 Hours	\$575.00	\$450.00	\$125.00
8 Hours	\$600.00	\$475.00	\$125.00

The Business of 2011

Call to Connet:

Now is the time to re-connect with colleagues and make a difference for the string programs in Ohio. Everyone has something to contribute and no contribution is too small. Please consider running for a place on the board, volunteering to take on a project such as the web-site or newsletter, or becoming a Clinician on the Go. And, if you know qualified, energetic people who you know will make a difference then pass their names on to Kathleen Horvath so we can get them connected. Now, more than ever, we need you to get involved. Forms are posted on the web-site and will be at the Membership Meeting at OMEA, please get involved today !!!

Ohio Music Education Association Annual Conference January 27 – 29, 2011 Cincinnati Ohio Schedule of String Sessions, Meetings, and Performances

Clinic Sessions and Meeting:

Thursday, January 27

12:15 – *“What Do You Mean, Strings are Not Important?”* – Dr. Robert Gillespe – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

1:30 – *“Top Ten Tips for Teaching Middle School Strings”* – Dr. Bob Phillips – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

4:00 – *“Wired for Sound: Understanding and Teaching Generation Net”* – Dr. Bob Phillips – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

5:15 – *“O.S.T.A. Sight Reading Session”* – Dan Clark, Kathleen Horvath, Stanton’s – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

Friday, January 28

8:00 – *O.S.T.A. Meeting and Breakfast* – Kathleen Horvath – CCC – Junior Ballroom B

11:00 – *AE Orchestra Affairs- “The Whole Package”* – Pam Thiel, Ray Walczuk – Hyatt Regency Ballroom, EFG

“Tune-ups for your String Instruments” – Paul Bartel – Hayatt Bluegrass AB

Winter 2011

12:15 – *“Rehearsal Techniques for Middle and High School Orchestras”* – Eddie Chiudioni & Dr. Kathleen Horvath – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

1:30 – *“Top Ten Tips for Teaching Elementary Strings”* – Dr. Bob Phillips – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

2:45 – *“Using Ensemble Music to Teach Musicianship in Beginning and Intermediate Strings”* – Dr. Pamela Hayes – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

“From Concept to Teaching Tool – How Do I Do It?” – Dr. Brenda Mitchell – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

4:00 – *“Setting your Beginning Violinists and Violists Up Right”* – Sherry Ellis – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

Saturday, January 29

8:30 – *“Efficient and Effective Conductor”* – Dr. Robert McCashin (All-State Orchestra Director) – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

9:45 – *“Unlocking the Mystery of the Bow Hold”* – O’Neill – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

12:45 – *“Sisters – The Cello and the Bass Play the Same Part Right?”* – Dr. Joanne Erwin – Hyatt Bluegrass AB

Concerts

Thursday, January 27

4:00 – Toledo Youth Symphony – Millennium Grand Ballroom AB

7:45 – Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra – Paavo Jarvi, Conductor – CCC – Grand Ballroom B

Friday, January 28

9:45 – Westlake High School Orchestra – Ray Walczuk, Director – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

1:30 – Miller South String Orchestra – Hyatt Regency EFG

2:45 – University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music Philharmonia Orchestra – Millennium Grand Ballroom AB

8:00 – O.M.E.A. All-State Orchestra – Dr. Robert McCashin, Director – CCC – Grand Ballroom B

Saturday, January 28

9:45 – Cincinnati Youth Symphony – Millennium Grand Ballroom AB

11:00 – Sycamore Junior High Strings – David Smarelli, Director – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG

12:15 – Wright State University String Quartet – Hyatt Regency Ballroom EFG