

SCMEA Orchestra Division
February 10, 2007

Sarah Fitzgerald, orchestra division president, brought the meeting to order at 3:00pm in Charleston, SC at the South Carolina Music Educator's Conference.

Greetings

- Thanks to Chris Selby for an awesome conference! Our first All-State auditions went smoothly. Thanks to Gail Barnes, Chris Selby, and Paul Buyer for all of their hard work. Thanks to all of our performing groups at conference: EL Wright 8th Grade, Lexington High School, Governor's School Of The Arts, and Charleston Fine Arts. Thank you to all of our presenters this year! Thank you to Susan Baier for all of her support. Thank you to all of our board member for heading up all of our state events.
- Please sign in!
- Richard Wagner: He has a sheet that was distributed about placement of foreign exchange music students with host families. Please get this information home to your students' parents. Place it in a newsletter or e-mail.

Officer Reports

- *Approval of Minutes (Amy Strahm)*: The printed minutes are missing the e-mail addresses. These addresses can be found online at our web-site. Dottie Hanlin motioned to approve the minutes. Brian Gencarelli seconded.
- *Treasurer's Report (Sharon Doyle)*: We are still receiving money for All-State. Convention, Conference, and Solo and Ensemble. We currently have \$44,595.35. Please DO NOT staple you checks. Sealed envelopes are sufficient. It takes hours to get a staple out without ruining a check. Some S/E dates are not consistent around the state. There has been some confusion with paperwork deadlines. Sharon will take this into consideration. If you need to get a bill, send a PO to Sharon with the paperwork and she will send you what you need. Send everything to Sharon's house. Please do not fax. Freddie Grace motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Susan Baier seconded.
- *President Elect (Chris Selby)*: Conference went very smoothly. We are looking at having business meetings Friday morning to create unity with committees. We will also have a regular reading session. He enjoyed putting conference together!
- *Concert Festival (Ginger Greer)*: Expect to see a schedule the last week of February or the first week of March. The Region chairs are frustrated with timing demands. Please be patient and flexible. The chairs have not received all their forms yet. It will take at least another two weeks for information to come in. Please e-mail Ginger with concerns after All-State. If you cannot make it to your region, you can attend the event in another region.

Region One: Charis Burger, Fernwood Baptist Church, Mar. 29-30
Region Two: Anne Matthews, Greenville HS, Mar. 22-23
Region Three: Chris Corde, Blythewood HS, Mar. 29-30
Region Four: Adrienne Wells, Berkeley County, Daniel Island MS, Mar
29-30, after school hours only

- *Solo and Ensemble (Christine Hallett)*: There are about 700 kids registered in Anderson and Spartanburg for the March event. She has metals and certificates for the chair persons today. The deadline is March 9th if S/E is in May. Try to type your form or e-mail it to the chairperson. Make sure you have your judges secured early. We will be using a new form for judging. A draft was distributed.
Pickens, Oconee, Anderson: Joyce Parvin, Oconee, March 16-17
Florence/Charleston: Rosa Kelly
Greenville: Kathy Robinson, Hughes Academy, Greenville, May 4-5
Lexington 1&2: Johanna Pollock, Lexington, May 4-5
Lexington 5: Colleen Marcou, Irmo HS, May 4-5
Myrtle Beach: Lynn Auman, Myrtle Beach HS, May 4-5
Richland 1&2: Becky Leonard, Kelly Mill MS, May 4-5
Spartanburg 2: Tammy Burrows, Site ?
Spartanburg 5,6: Ann Buttimer, Dorman HS, May 4-5
Spartanburg 7: Brad Stewart, Spartanburg HS, March 2-3
Spartanburg 1: Chester HS?
- *All State (Melissa Martin)*: All-State: Feb 23-25. Rehearsals will happen at the Fine Arts Center in Greenville. The Hampton Inn has 11 rooms left. Get Bowfire ticket money and T-Shirt orders in today. Cello/Bass players need to bring rock-stops. Basses need stools and their own instruments. We will take nominations for conductors at the next meeting. Bring bios! All-State solo auditions will occur at the same time as All-State next year. All-State excerpts will be made available at the September meeting. There is an alternative event to Bowfire for those interested. A pizza dinner will be available Friday. Registration is from 4-5pm and rehearsal begins at 6pm. Ginger will check for large instrument storage for Saturday night. All-State will be in Clemson next year. We need a sponsor.
- *Region Orchestra (Johanna Pollock)*: If you want to conduct a region orchestra or you know someone who would like to conduct, please add the name to a list going around.
Region One: Audition: Dorman High School, Susan Baier, Performance: Norman Neff, Boiling Springs JH
Region Two: Audition: Sara Rose, Performance: Brian Gencarelli
Region Three: Audition: Collen Marcou, Irmo, Performance: Johanna Pollock, Conductors: Verita Kennedy, Pam Tellejohn-Hayes
Region Four: Audition: Sarah Fitzgerald, Charleston Fine Arts, Performance: Dominick Geer, Hilton Head, Conductors: Manny Alvarez, Alison Mann

All State Auditions (Paul Buyer): Paul could not be here. The scores for the All-State auditions were distributed.

New Business

- Sarah Fitzgerald's e-mail: do not use the yahoo address.
- Chris Selby has revamped the forms for Concert Festival. He read research from Gail Barnes and created something that would work for us. It has been tested and is very user friendly. It works on a 5 point scale with room for comments. It includes definitions to redefine the 5 ratings. The point range should be more spread out. He would like to put a sign-up list on the front table so teachers can receive a draft of the form. There is also a "comments only" option for our groups.
- Region Excerpts: These excerpts need to be re-evaluated. We currently have a 5 year rotation. These have not been evaluated in years. We need to form a committee to begin this process. There should be at least 3 on each instrument specific committee. Paul Buyer has the current excerpts. The pieces have to be public domain. Bring evaluated copies to the September meeting. Both junior and senior excerpts need to be evaluated. Remember, these were originally intended to be All-State audition excerpts. The level needs to be taken into consideration for a Region audition. This revision is for the 2008-2009 audition. It would be good to have the region auditions posted as early as possible for those teachers who use them as an audition for the following year. Alternates will still be used for All-State.

Violin: Ann Buttimer

Viola: Sandy Goldie

Cello: Jennifer Diehn

Bass: Brian Gencarelli

Please fill out your conference evaluation sheets.

Every one will remain on the board for the next term. Christy Lewis will become a member at large, Stacey Burnette will be the secretary and Amy Strahm will be president elect.

Event sites: Get your event sites NOW! Tentative dates for 2007-2008:

Sept 8: Business meeting in Columbia, Irmo High School, 2pm, ASTA reading session at 9pm

Oct. 6: Region orchestra auditions

Nov. 9-10, Nov. 16-17: Region, let Sarah know which you want at All-State

Jan. 19: All-State auditions, USC

Feb. 7-9: Conference: please plan to attend!

Feb. 22-24: All-State

Mar. 27-29: Concert Festival

May 2-3: Solo and Ensemble, this date will be evaluated

Think about All-State Conductors for next year. Bring a bio to All-State.

Sharon Doyle: The PE bill will affect you. The PE time WILL be increasing. Assessment will occur prior to PACT in PE. Where are they going to find the time in the schedule to increase time from PE in the day without extending the day? They may take away from the arts schedule. A general teacher can schedule PA time for movement, but it is harder for us. The virtual school bill has passed. They will be overseen by the education over site committee. We do not know how it will be funded yet. It will impact school report cards and end of course testing. As of June 1 we will fund our schools with sales tax. Next year we will receive the same amount of money. After that the money will decline. If you live in a district with declining enrollment you will be affected. Everybody needs to begin telling your community how invaluable you are as an orchestra teacher. Do not wait for 2008 when money will become more difficult to distribute. There is a new document that compares students who study in the arts to those who do not. It is called Critical Evidence found at www.aep-arts.org. There is a new license plate that supports the arts in SC. They will not revamp ADEPT until 2008. You will have to submit a complete unit of work samples and the work of the students. This change still needs to be field tested. It may have include a reading unit in elementary WHEN APPROPRIATE. It would not make sense to make a music teacher do a unit on reading. It has been approved to require college bound students to take one unit in the arts to graduate. It is a good tool for retention between 8th and 9th grade orchestra.

Thanks to Sharon Doyle for keeping us updated!

Deadline for next year's performance groups at convention is June 1st.

Sandy Goldie: The ASTA Teacher of the Year was awarded to Susan Baier. Congratulations Susan!!! The Private Studio Teacher of the Year was awarded to Sherry Woods. Congratulations Sherry!

Chris Selby motioned to adjourn the meeting. Freddie Grade seconded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Amy E. Strahm