

Winter 2021
Volume *LXVIII*

The

New Mexico Musician

Please read the wonderful and informative articles from
our Amazing group of Vice Presidents!

Award Winners and their Bios are in the Magazine!

Check out the Clinician's that will be presenting at the
NMMEA All-State Conference!

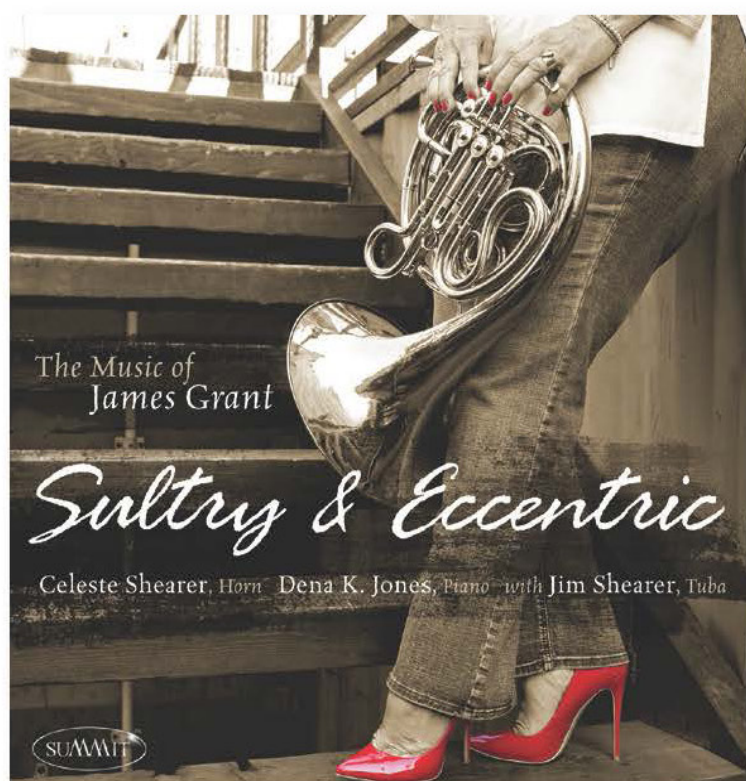
Official Publication of the New Mexico Music Educator's Association



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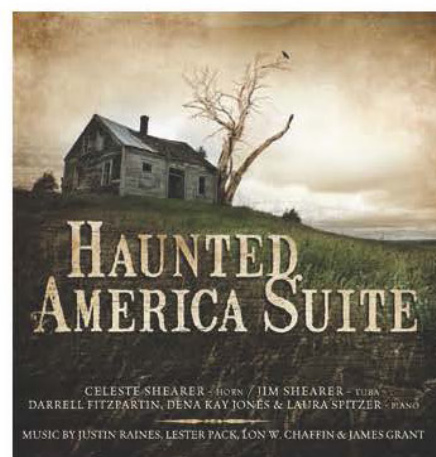
CELESTE SHEARER'S

SULTRY & ECCENTRIC
THE MUSIC OF
JAMES GRANT

CELESTE SHEARER, HORN
AND DENA KAY JONES, PIANO
WITH JIM SHEARER, TUBA
[SMT 781]

Celeste Shearer plays horn with the Roswell Symphony Orchestra and the Great American Trio. She was previously a member of, and continues an affiliation with, the El Paso Symphony. James Grant was immediately drawn to Shearer's effortless command of technique, her sensitive and expressive playing, and her deep, intuitive musicianship, suggesting they record his works, and they did.

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President's Report

Amy Williams, President



President's Article – Winter 2021

Greetings!

I hope this finds you well and, although not completely back to normal, enjoying music making with your students! Now more than ever, we have the opportunity to reinvent and reprioritize our classrooms and it is important to make sure to remind ourselves and our students why music is so essential in all of our lives. Most importantly, we must continue to focus on building those connections with students. Rebuilding our programs is important, but don't let the "task" of rebuilding itself overshadow your focus on students and your community. When we invest

in people first, we gain a greater and longer lasting reward of sharing love, joy, and connection through music.

The NMMEA Executive Committee is dedicated to serving you and your students. Due to the ongoing challenges of COVID, NMMEA leadership has worked tirelessly to reimagine and provide what promises to be a very special and memorable event for educators and students alike. Selected students will attend a one day All-State Honor Clinic on January 8th at regional collegiate sites (UNM, NMSU and ENMU) and selected Jazz students will attend a one day Honor Clinic at UNM on January 22. While this won't be "All-State" as we have had in the past, we are very excited to create a meaningful, educational experience for all. Students will have the opportunity to engage in an energetic keynote address, perform in a full ensemble setting where they will work with a guest conductor sight-reading new music, participate in workshops, and make music in smaller chamber ensembles. We encourage directors to bring their instruments and voices to perform alongside students.

I encourage all educators to make plans to attend our virtual awards ceremony and section meetings on Thursday, January 13 via Zoom and

in-person workshops on Saturday, January 15 at UNM. To encourage everyone's participation, we are attempting a hybrid option where attendees who are unable to attend in person can participate via zoom. As you will see from this issue, we have some stellar clinicians and speakers to inspire both educators and students. A highlight will be our keynote speaker, renowned composer, Mr. Eric Whitacre. All-State is a terrific way to "refill the tank" by learning and connecting with colleagues. I don't know about you, but now more than ever, I am really excited to connect with colleagues in person in January!

You don't hear it said enough, but thank you for all you do for your students and music in NM. Best of luck as you finish up the semester. Be safe and enjoy your Winter Concerts. Remember, to make time to recharge, catch your breath, reach out to colleagues and permit yourself to have joy in the journey! We are better when we work together! I look forward to seeing you in January!

Best,
Amy Williams
President, NMMEA



President...



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The New Mexico Musician – Winter, 2021

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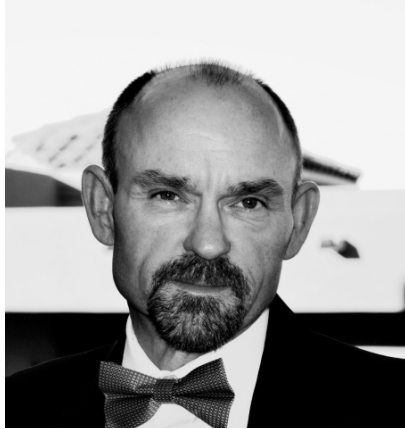


MUSIC

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Office Notes

Neil Swapp, Executive Director



Neil Swapp
Executive Director

Hello from NMMEA! I hope each of you has had a wonderful semester and enjoyed making music with your students. As we slowly emerge from the COVID 19 pandemic, I want to thank all of you for the work you have done to ensure that your students receive a quality music education. I feel fortunate to be part of such a supportive, creative, and generous music community.

I need to thank the NMMEA Board of directors for their creative approach to solving challenges, the Executive Committee for reimagining yet another All-State event, and our NMMEA President, Amy Williams, for her unending support and countless hours of work. Thank you! I also would like to thank our incredible universities and their chairs, Michael Hix, Dustin Seifert and Fred Bugbee, who without blinking an eye agreed to host our regional events in January. This sense of community and support is truly what makes New Mexico an incredible place to live and teach!

All-State Honor Clinic

As you know, the Board of Directors voted to host one day regional events on January 8th rather than our large four-day All-State Music Festival. While this was a difficult decision, it was necessary due to numerous challenges including

restrictions around overnight travel, distancing requirements, lack of leave for teachers, as well as many other factors.

While this event may not look like All-State has in the past, I know that it will be a worthwhile and meaningful experience for our students. The day will consist of rehearsals, clinics, masterclasses, and an in-house performance which will give students an opportunity to perform for each other. A huge thank you to UNM, NMSU and ENMU for not only hosting but providing many of our clinicians.

In-Service Conference

Due to the nature of the one-day event on January 8th it became necessary to move our educator conference to January 15th. This one-day conference held at UNM will be jam packed with professional development clinics for all areas. The highlight of the day will be the Keynote address by Eric Whitacre who will zoom in for a live presentation followed by a question-and-answer period. Please join us in person as we can all benefit from in person comradery!

State Band and Choir Contests

As of now we are still planning for in-person State Choir (April 8-9) and Band (April 21-23) Contests. More information will be coming from NMAA soon.

Business Stuff

As you know, paperwork at the district level can be slow, so please make sure that all POs, invoices, membership renewals, etc. are taken care of early! If you are paying for auditions and registrations with a PO, I must have the PO prior to the event. Also, remember that your

business office will not process a check until you have turned in the invoice.

In Conclusion

As we emerge from the pandemic, we are given a unique opportunity to reinvent ourselves into something better than we were before. I am thankful to the NMMEA leadership that has taken this to heart and continues to push NMMEA to be a better organization for our teachers. I'm honored and humbled to be a part of this amazing organization and thank each of you for the work you do each day and for being part of our NMMEA family.

Editor's Desk -



Hi Folks;

Here is an article by Legendary Band Director, Norvil Howell on Bands and Band arranging. Some of you know that when you do some of the older "war horse pieces" there are Cornet Parts written out plus the regular trumpet parts. :) Sometimes it's good to remember our legendary Band Directors, Norvil Howell, Harold Van Winkle, Greg Randall, Ron Lipka, John Schutz, Henry Estrada, Don Gerheart, Jim Young, the list goes ON and ON, perhaps you can send me your favorites.....)

Where Have all the Cornets gone? by Norvil Howell

I recently read an informative article in the April issue of the NAFME publication *Teaching Music* entitled "Steps Toward a Perfect Trumpet Blend" by Chad Criswell. The article is well written with helpful hints on trumpet blending. However, I would like to ask where have all the cornets gone? Band sales catalogues display numerous trumpet manufacturers and their assorted models but have only one listing for the cornet. What has happened to the cornet? I know trumpets are the instrument of choice of most marching bands, symphony orchestras, stage bands, and large and small jazz bands in this country; but in the past most band arrangements have called for cornets (1,2,3, and trumpets 1 and 2).

Many college/university trumpet studio teachers say one can hardly tell the difference in trumpets and cor-

nets and that may be true if they are teaching college and or professional musicians but with high school and middle school students I contend there is a great deal of difference. Cornets tend to be mellower and make for a more balanced sound in the ensemble.

The late Robert "Hawk" Hawkins, Director of Bands at Morehead State University purchased eight English bore cornets for his symphony band to achieve a more balanced blend of instruments.

While I cannot vouch for its authenticity I have a copy of a letter attributed to the late Herbert L. Clarke writing in 1921 to Mr. Elden E. Bengé who was thinking of making a move from cornet to trumpet. In the letter Mr. Clarke advises Mr. Bengé not to make the change. While the letter is humorous by today's standards, he includes the following sentence I would like to quote: "I never heard of a real soloist playing before the public on Trumpet. One cannot play a decent song even, properly, on it, and it has sprung up in the last few years like "jazz" music, which is the nearest Hell, or the Devil, in music. It pollutes the art of Music". Now, whether this letter is authentic or not is open to question and please keep in mind that it was supposedly written in 1921, and I totally disagree with most of its contents.

I personally feel it is a sad day when band directors only encourage their students to play trumpets.

Norvil Howell

I feel personally lucky to call Norvil a friend and colleague. I can call him and ask questions whenever I need to and I do quite often. He is a WEALTH of knowledge and I can't tell you how many Clovis Band Directors have told me that they have spent more than a few hours in Norvil's kitchen, asking similar questions.

I can tell you that while at the University of Utah working on my Master's in Music Education, I had the opportunity to study under Gregg Hanson, who as luck would have it graduated from the University of Michigan under Dr. Revelli. We OFTEN had Dr. Revelli out to conduct, teach, mentor and help our band. Dr. Revelli said he lamented the shift to trumpets vs the cornet on many occasions, also mentioning the parts that were originally written for Cornet. He also mentions the conical bore vs the cylindrical bore and the effect on the sound and the balance within the band. Many of the older band arrangements are written for Cornet and as you all know, conical bore instruments are made to be played in "families" as cylindrical bore horns are generally soloistic in nature.

On a different note I wish each of you a great fall semester and hope that you and your families, are healthy and happy.

Norvil is 89 years young and still going strong in Clovis, NM. If you have question about bands or conducting or running and effective rehearsal, call him up. He'd love to hear from you. If you get REALLY REALLY lucky, he might make a copy of one of his scores and let you have the copy. He's written down every single comment the judges and clinicians he brought in, said about how to do the pieces! His list of clinicians is a who's who of band director's in the world only slightly past. William Revelli, Dr. Gary Garner, etc.....the list is LONG!

Let me know if there is anything I can do to help you this year. I would love to be of service!

Keith

Band Section

Ty Fredrickson, Vice President



Winter Article

Ty Frederick, Band Vice President

I sincerely hope that the first semester in 2021 has been rewarding, not only for you but for all of your students. It has been great to see marching bands back in action, middle school concerts, jazz bands swinging again and students working on All-State music! I am in awe of all of you creating musical homes for your students - all while using masks and bell covers. While I know that this year has not been a “return to normal” like many of us hoped, I encourage all of you to keep making music with your students. It may not be the year to pull out that grade 6 piece for MPA in the Spring or play your normal Winter Program in December, but keep making music. This might be the year to reinvent some programming ideas. Maybe your December concert becomes a concert featuring chamber music. Maybe your Jazz Band composes a new chart for the band to play. I know that we all have had ideas in the past that we never quite got off the ground and in a year where there are still restrictions on certain things, this might be the year to make one of those ideas a reality.

I want to extend a huge thank you to NMMEA for all of the work that has gone on behind the scenes to make

this year as rewarding as possible. Thank you Amy Williams, NMMEA President and Neil Swapp, NMMEA Executive Secretary for their dedication and vision for NMMEA. As they have said many times, we are better together and their leadership has been amazing for the state and for music education. I also want to remind you that your membership to NMMEA also includes a membership to NAFME. There are thousands of resources available on the NAFME website for all instructional areas and grade levels. As you continue through the 2021-2022 school year and beyond, continue to check out that resource.

Likewise, the NMMEA Executive Board has worked tirelessly to reimagine and provide what promises to be a very special and memorable All-State conference for educators and students alike. We know that the announcement that All-State will again not be what we have had in the past, we are still striving to have a rewarding event for both students and educators. The regional student events in January will have student performances, masterclasses and workshops. The Educator Conference the following week will feature both in-person and virtual options to attend all workshops and clinics.

You don’t hear it said enough, but thank you for all you do for your students and music in NM. Make time to recharge, catch your breath, reach out to colleagues and remember you are not in this alone. We are better when we work together! I look forward to “seeing you” in January!

AUDITIONS

As will last year, we will continue to use Opus Events as the audition platform. Prior to this article, you should have received all of the necessary information

about the process for this year. Results: Results will be posted on the NMMEA website Tuesday or Wednesday of Thanksgiving week. I know how anxious our students are to receive this information, but please refrain from emailing or calling for early results. Audition Team: Thank you to the All-State audition team for their many hours of hard work. It is no small task hearing hundreds of auditions throughout the state

Flute / Piccolo – Spencer Hartman, Clarinet – Jeffery Brooks, Oboe – Kevin Vigneau, Bassoon – Denise Reig Turner, Bass Clarinet – Madelyn Moore, Saxophone – Ronda Taylor, Trumpet – Sidney Shuler, Horn – Michael Walker, Trombone – Chris Buckholtz, Euphonium/Tuba – James Shearer, Percussion – Scott Ney

PERFORMANCES/CONDUCTORS/PROGRAMS

With the change to a regionally focused All-State event, we are proud to partner with our in-state collegiate music departments that will be working alongside local educators to provide a great experience for our students. We will keep you posted about musical programmes for each regional site as we get closer to the event and after we have completed auditions and finalized the student rosters for each area.

STUDENT MASTERCLASSES

Students will have the opportunity to participate in masterclasses, sight reading workshops and ensemble opportunities. Again, we are excited to be able to partner with our area musicians to make this a great event for students.

EDUCATOR CLINICS

In addition to the student events happening on January 8, we will host the Educator Conference on January 15

Band...

in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico. While we would hope to see you all in person that weekend, we are also going to present all of the workshops both live and virtually. We have worked hard to create a variety of workshop options for you to attend.

Your Voice Matters

We want to hear from you. If you have any ideas for upcoming clinics/mini-courses, a willingness to present, or need specific support please contact us. The Executive

Board is committed and working diligently to support music programs in NM, but remember, all music educators together are NMMEA!

Please go to the clinician section of the magazine and



What Is Social Emotional Learning?

How are music educators well-suited to help students develop socially and emotionally?

What does research tell us?

Now more than ever, music education is critical for all students. One significant impact is how it helps students with social emotional learning (SEL).

This brochure includes key talking points for music educators, school administrators, and school boards to connect music education and social emotional learning. For example:

- Teachers can create a classroom environment that is student-centered and driven by students' social and emotional needs.
- School administrators can support certified music educators' professional growth with professional development in SEL.
- School boards can ensure adequate mental health resources are available for students and staff to support teachers in implementing SEL.

Read more in this free resource to help advocate for music education for all students.

Download your brochure at bit.ly/ConnectMusicSEL

Questions? Email advocacy@nafme.org



nafme.org

Orchestra Section

Nathaniel Cantú, Vice President



Nathaniel Cantu, Orchestra VP

Hello fantastic string educators! I hope you are having a wonderful school year. I know it has been felt chaotic being unsure of what will happen next and not having been in our classrooms with students for a while, but what makes education special is the connections we make through music. This All-State will be like no other, but it is our hope that we continue to give our students and educators a reinvigorating experience.

All-State has been broken up to aid in complying with the changing mandates from our State leaders. Students will attend a regional (UNM, NMSU, & ENMU) All-State Honor Clinic on January 8th in their respective regions. The hybrid educator conference will be January 15th, and the collegiate conference will be January 16th. We have 6 amazing clinics lined up this year for the educator conference; discussing classroom strategies, repertoire selection, recruiting, tuning solutions, and basics of multi-style playing.

Section Meeting: We have our conductor selections ready for 2023 and 2024. Our section meeting will focus more on what our educators are specifically looking for in the All-State conference, discussing successes/failures from our distance learning time, and anything else for

the good of the tribe.

Town Hall: Attend our monthly Town Hall meetings! It would be great to hear from more string educators about their experiences in the classroom. Neil Swapp and Amy Williams always have important updates, bring in insightful speakers, answers questions, and help spark discussions. We often break into smaller groups and discuss various topics. The next two Town Hall meetings will be November 10th and December 9th and typically last an hour. This is a great way to get the latest news from your association.

MPA Unlocked – Rehearsal Preparation/Adjudication: on November 10th and 18th, NMMEA will be offering a two-part free online professional development workshop. The wonderful Jennifer Rogers will be discussing preparation strategies while utilizing the MPA judging form as a guidance for your ensemble rehearsals. We will discuss what judge's look for in various categories and how they relate to the preparation. This will be a useful workshop for the experienced and the inexperienced.

Volunteers: We are going to need all the help to make this year's conference meaningful for all. We are in need of the following positions:

- ☐ *Presiders & monitors for the educator clinics*
- ☐ *Co-chairs to assist with student ensembles/sight reading clinics (facilitate music distribution, attendance, adherence to protocols, set-up, etc...)*
- ☐ *Sectional teachers*

I will be sending out an email to orchestra teachers but if you would like to reach out and volunteer, please email me at orchestravp@nmmea.com.

Before I move on, I want to thank Dr. Hyerim Mapp, Jennifer Rogers,

Carla Lehmeier, Neil Swapp, Amy Williams, and Art Sheinberg for all your help in answering questions, writing music, and helping me fix any issues with the All-State process. You guys are amazing!

Information about the All-State Honor Clinic for Students: Due to PED/DOH restrictions around student travel and overnight housing, NMMEA will be hosting a one-day regional event on Saturday, January 8th. While this might not be what we all wanted, I highly encourage directors to stay positive! Our main goal for this event is to give our All-State performers an opportunity to make music, make memories, and make music with students from other schools. We are planning to offer the following:

- ☐ *Interactive Keynote (streamed to all sites)*
- ☐ *Full Rehearsals (educators can join! Let's fill those seats!)*
- ☐ *Clinics*
- ☐ *Sectionals, workshops, master-classes*
- ☐ *In-house Performance*

Students will receive their music upon arrival. I encourage all strings teachers to join us and to play with the students in the ensembles. These changes were made to adhere to guidelines and for student's safety, but that does not mean we cannot make the best of it and help our students have a memorable All-State. Any additional information or forms needed to be filled out by students/directors will be sent via OpusEvent.

Auditions

We will be utilizing OpusEvent for auditions and the submission window will be open from October 25th-29th. I recommend you spend the first 3 days of the week for uploading and utilize the last 2 days for troubleshooting. If you have questions, please refer to the following link: <https://www.nmmea.com/all-state/string-auditions/string-all>

Orchestra...

state-audition-registration/

If you have any issues with uploading, registering, logging in, etc... please email Neil Swapp (neils-wapp@nmmea.com). He will help you resolve your issues as quickly as he can.

Results: The results will be posted on the NMMEA Website as early as November 8th, but as late as

November 10th. Please remember to refrain from emailing or calling for early results.

Audition Team: Big thank you to the following gentlemen for adjudicating our All-State strings:

□ *Violin: Daniel Vega-Albela (NMSU)*

□ *Viola: Jorge Martinez-Rios (NMSU)*

□ *Cello: Michael A. Way (UTEP)*

□ *Bass: George Nicholson (UNM)*

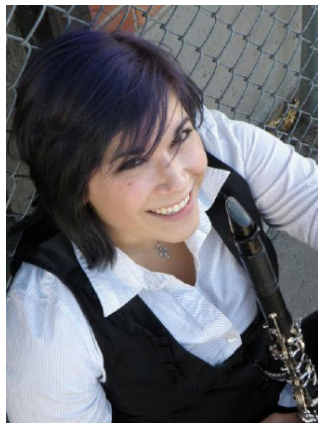
Lastly, please feel free to reach out to me if you need any support. Have a wonderful school year and remember that you are the foundation of your program!

Please go the Clinic section of the magazine and check them out!

I am N Af ME
You are N Af ME
We are N Af ME!



General Music Section Cat Woo, Vice President



Greetings and salutations New Mexico general music educators! Since early 2020, we have been digging deeper than ever before to serve our students in diverse ways. It has been a humbling experience. Our students are always the bottom line and it is

the job of NMMEA to serve you so you may better serve your students. I am so proud to be part of this organization and be surrounded by passionate music educators. Thank you.

While this year's educator conference is looking a little different, I like to think that we are transitioning back to being together safely. While that may look a little different due to the ongoing pandemic, I think it also reasserts our passion for our craft. You have been flexible, resilient, and have pivoted with each change. In my mind, you are all superheroes. Please remember that you aren't alone in all of this. NMMEA has monthly town hall meetings to bring

us together. We collaborate and have some great conversations, as well as professional development.

This year's conference is also a little different, but still filled to the brim with incredible sessions and presenters. You are all amazing and I hope to see many of you at the conference, General Music meeting, and/or the town halls.

Check out all our general music clinics at the end of the magazine!

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Guild auditions provide milestones
from year to year as measurements of progress

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Choral Section

Ida Olguin, Vice President



Greetings to all choir directors around our beautiful state! I hope that your fall semester is going well and that you're able to navigate all of the continuing craziness that this pandemic continues to bring. I want to commend all of you for persevering through all of this - I know singing in masks isn't ideal, the constant concern of going back online is unnerving at best, and the ever-changing mandates make things extra

stressful. Please remember to take care of yourselves through all of this. As music teachers, I think it's easy for us to put our own mental health and well-being on the backburner, especially when we're taking care of our kiddos. Do what you need to do to make sure you're well - you can't pour from an empty glass! I'd also like to take a moment to thank everyone who's working hard to make All-State happen this year, especially the NMMEA Board of Directors, district vice presidents, and the audition team. While this year has been challenging at best, all of these wonderful people have worked diligently to ensure our students have as many opportunities as possible to make music in-person. I am humbled and honored to serve alongside all of you! As I'm sure you're all aware of by now, there have been major changes to our All-State event this year. Students will attend a regional event on Saturday, January 8th at our colle-

giate sites around the state. Students will learn a small number of songs (probably 3 per site) before the event that have been chosen by the collegiate directors. Students will spend the day rehearsing these pieces, as well as attending workshops provided by the sites. I am confident that our collegiate sites will provide a memorable and meaningful experience for our students, and that our educator workshop day will be worthwhile as well. If nothing else, it will give us all a chance to see each other in real life and offer each other support through this crazy school year! We have some really wonderful clinics to offer teachers on January 15th at UNM, and if you're not comfortable being in person or are simply unable to attend, please note that there are zoom options for all workshops.

Please check out the bios and workshop information in the choral clinic section!



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Guitar Section

Dr. Ricardo Paz, Vice President



Greeting fellow guitar educators!

What a gratifying and privileging personal experience has been to serve as Guitar VP for NMMEA since the Spring 2021. I sincerely appreciate your continued support, trust and help to provide a first-class All-State Music Conference. We are still facing many challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2022 All-State Music Conference was originally planned to be a three-day conference in person, however be-

cause of the PED/DOH restrictions around student travel and overnight housing NMMEA will be hosting a one-day regional All-State Honor Clinic on January 8th at UNM in place of our annual All-State Music Festival. This one-day event will include full rehearsals, clinics and an in-house performance. Please encourage your guitar students to participate in this worthwhile, fun and beneficial event. Guitar Educators are encouraged to participate in rehearsals with students. It would be a great experience for the students to hear great performers model. The educator event is planning to host a one-day hybrid educator conference on January 15th (10:00-5:00). This one-day educator conference will include great guitar clinics. The Guitar Section meeting will be held the evening of January 13th (Zoom). The section meeting is absolutely essential for us to communicate about the future for All-State (conductors,

clinics, auditions, and so forth), and we want everyone's voice to be heard in that process. We are better when we work together! I look forward to "seeing you" in January 2022!

All State Guitar Clinician

Conductors that were scheduled to come in January were extended an invitation to join us in 2024 (2023 conductors are already in place) and most have graciously accepted.

Educator Clinics

There are many amazing educators who will be presenting clinics this year. I encourage everyone to attend as many clinics as possible!

Please check out our guitar clinics in the clinic section of the magazine!

"An LEA [school district] might also address the needs of students arising from the COVID-19 pandemic by using ESSER and GEER funds to implement or expand arts programs, such as music programs, including purchasing instruments . . . "

—U.S. Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs, Governor's Emergency Education Relief Programs, page 30



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Collegiate Section Dr. Madelyn Moore, Vice President



As we approach the 2022 NMMEA conference, I am feeling more and more excited about what we plan to offer, as well as the direction that our organization is headed. As a group, we are proving ourselves to be flexible, and truly dedicated to serving students and keeping music education alive and healthy in New Mexico. I hope that as the NMMEA membership, you are feeling well supported by this organization, and that you feel inspired to continue evolving the way that you teach through these difficult times. Music is an absolutely integral part of society, and it provides a creative, social and emotional outlet for us and our students. To that end, this year's conference won't look like it has in the past, but I think

we have pivoted in a way that has set us up for a truly unique and valuable event. As Collegiate Vice President, I am, of course, most excited about the inaugural offering of Collegiate Day!

As usual, college students who are interested in going to the NMMEA Educator Conference, will be able to register and attend all of the clinics that happen for the working music educators on January 15. This will, of course, be a great way for them to continue to hone their skills and prepare for teaching. In addition to this wonderful experience, Collegiate Day will be held on Sunday, January 16 and is an entire day dedicated to emerging music educators. We placed Collegiate Day on the day after the working educators' event to give students the opportunity to attend and learn from both days. Participation in Collegiate Day comes at no additional cost to students. They will be given lunch, and will be able to attend clinics presented by current and retired, experienced public-school teachers, as well as university professors. These clinics will cover topics from how to prepare for student teaching, to how to be more efficient in your classroom, to interview skills. This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for university music edu-

cation majors to learn directly from New Mexico's best and brightest.

The first hour of the day will involve a clinic about the student teaching experience, and will be beneficial for all students to attend. Next, attendees will go to clinics that are designed to help them feel comfortable should they be hired in a position involving teaching outside of their own specialization. As we all know, this is something that happens frequently, and these clinics will give invaluable insight into how to prepare oneself for that situation. The third hour of the day will involve clinics for students to focus on their chosen content area and better prepare themselves for their first years of teaching. Next, lunch will be offered and the day will conclude with a panel of fine arts administrators who will give advice for interviewing and building your early career as a music educator. This is an incomparable opportunity to speak with the people who are hiring, and to pick their brains about what they look for and what their experiences have been in life!

Not only will Collegiate Day give students the opportunity to learn from New Mexico's best music educators, it will also allow them to



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Collegiate...

mingle and get to know their peers from other universities. All of the attendees will soon be colleagues in music education throughout the state. What a great chance to start getting to know one another and

prepare for working together! Here is a more detailed look at the clinics and clinicians to expect at the inaugural NMMEA Collegiate Day:

Check out our collegiate clinics in the clinic section of the magazine!



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Jazz Section

Ryan Finn, Vice President



NMMEA Jazz Division

Jazz Vice President's Report NM Musician Fall 2021

As we start the new school year and adjust back into our routines, I've found myself struggling to bring back the "old normal". During the 20-21 school year I had a little more time for my family and a little more time for myself. I've vowed going back in that I would continue to prioritize these things. Doing so, while still maintaining a strong school music program, is challenging. If you are reading this and finding yourself struggling, please know

that you are definitely NOT alone. Also know that YOU GOT THIS!

I think it's vital that we look back on the last year and not just gripe about what was challenging, but also realize what worked REALLY well. In my middle school jazz classes, I found I was able to bridge a gap with students when working on improvisation. I also was able to create some awesome collaborations with programs around the state that I normally would not be able to do.

We're thrilled to announce that we will be introducing VOCAL JAZZ into our Jazz All-State in 2023. For the 2022 conference, we will host a few clinics - special thanks to Ida Holguin for helping organize these! If you host a Vocal Jazz Ensemble at your school, please let me know! In addition to a few vocal jazz clinics, we will also be hosting a number of great jazz clinics for all. We have New Mexico's own, Mr. J.Q. Whitcomb delivering an improv clinic. Both Donna Schmidt and Tai Mikulecky will be providing improv clinics for "non-jazzers". Some of our clinics will be offered at "Concert All-State" and some

during the Jazz All-State weekend - check the schedule and join us!

As you probably already know, we will be hosting "Director Ensembles" instead of student Honor Ensembles. This is no different for the Jazz section. The Director Jazz Band will be performing at Concert All-State. If you are interested in joining the band, please contact me in advance (jazzvp@nmmea.com). Next year we are planning on doing student honor groups, so start thinking about that. Anyone can submit and win in any year, but do keep in mind that preference will go to small/mid schools. We'd love to have as many of your groups submit as possible!

Our Jazz All-State weekend is scheduled for January 21-23, 2022 at UNM in Albuquerque. Not only will students be rehearsing in three amazing bands, but we will have a number of fantastic clinics. NM Educators - please register and join us for a great time! Even if you don't currently teach jazz, you are welcome to join the conference for only \$25. See you in 2022!



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University News

Eastern NM University, University of NM and New Mexico State University

University News, Eastern New Mexico University
Submitted by Gregory Gallagher

Greetings from the ENMU Department of Music!

Greetings from the ENMU Department of Music! We are back and thriving with faculty and student performances, recruiting events, auditions, and a host of other wonderful opportunities! We invite you to experience live in-person music once again with numerous safety protocols in place to ensure the health of our audience, students, and faculty. Buchanan Hall has already hosted numerous events this Fall and will continue to do so throughout the semester. We are inspired and rejuvenated and cannot wait to share all of the outstanding musical performances we have in store for our department and the community.

Ensemble News

The ENMU Bands hosted the annual Green & Silver Classic Marching Band Festival on Tuesday, October 5 at Greyhound Stadium. Eleven bands performed and received insightful and formative feedback from Corey Spurlin (Auburn University), Don Lefevre (West Texas A&M University), and Melanie Settle (Lubbock High School). Please join us for the ENMU Band Director's Workshop – The New Mexico Thing which will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2021 beginning at 9 AM. Dr. David Waybright, Director of Bands, University of Florida, will serve as clinician and guest conductor. Additional information will be sent via email in January. This event is free and open to all.

The ENMU Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Richard Schwartz, is scheduled to perform an outdoor three-hour Big Band Dance on Friday, October 15, 2021 at 7 p.m. on the campus of ENMU and fall jazz concert on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7 p.m. in Buchanan Hall in the

ENMU Music Building. The ENMU Saxophone Studio is scheduled to perform in recital on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 7 p.m. in Buchanan Hall in the ENMU Music Building.

The ENMU Choirs are back to making music "live" and "in-person." What a thrill it has been to create music together again this fall. We have been active and engaged with our district music educators and have enjoyed a wonderful array of activities, including Men's Choir Festival (9-14), All-State Prep Day and ENMU Choirs' Performances (9-17), Solo and Ensemble (10-7), Fall Choral Concert (10-14), among others. Upcoming activities include our Chamber Singers and Swanee Singers on tour in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, Nov. 14-17. Please join us for our kick-off concert at Monte Vista Church in ABQ on Sunday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. Free attendance and a reception to follow. We will sing for many schools in the area and hope to see you there. Our annual POPS Concert is Saturday, 11-20 at 7 p.m. Contact <mailto:Chaynee.kaiser@enmu.edu> for tickets. Our holiday concert is Thursday, 12-2, in the CUB Ballrooms, featuring the entire Music Dept. Attendance is free and open to everyone. Please feel free to be in touch with any alumni news. We would love to include you in future Alumni Choirs and other campus activities. Dr. Jason Paulk can be reached at 575.749.6213 (cell phone) or <mailto:jason.paulk@enmu.edu>.

The ENMU Opera Theatre, in collaboration with the Department of Theatre and Digital Filmmaking, will present Little Women: The Broadway Musical March 3rd-6th. With stellar performances from students of both departments, a full pit orchestra with students and faculty, and a College of Fine Arts collaboration, this is a performance you will not want to miss. From the Department of Music: Dr. Travis Sherwood will serve as Director, Dr. Gregory Gallagher will serve as Music Director and Conductor, and Dr. Stephanie Bein-

lich will serve as Stage Manager and Vocal Coach. From the Department of Theatre: new professor Joshua Blackwood will serve as Technical Director, and Bill Strong will serve as Costume Designer. Tickets will go on sale in the spring with more information found in the future on the websites and social media accounts of the ENMU Department of Music, the ENMU department of Theatre and Digital Filmmaking, and the ENMU College of Fine Arts. Please join us for this wonderful retelling of classic literature that will be sure to warm the hearts of all who attend. For more information please email gregory.gallagher@enmu.edu.

Faculty News

Dr. Gregory Gallagher, Assistant Professor of Music (Voice), will be performing with Opera Southwest in October as Gastone in their production of Verdi's La Traviata. Following those performances, he will join Dr. Sidney Shuler for his faculty trumpet recital with a vocal work by Ewazen. Gallagher is planning a Faculty Recital in January which will feature the music of Broadway and several faculty collaborations. He will also serve as Music Director and Conductor for ENMU's production of Little Women. This production is a complete collaboration between all departments within the College of Fine Arts at ENMU. With performances March 3-6 this is something not to be missed! Gallagher will also perform two events with the New Mexico Performing Arts Society: a solo recital featuring the works of Strauss, Duparc, and Ben Moore's Dear Theo on May 7th and their Opera Series Finale Concert in the summer.

Dr. Bruce Keeling, Adjunct Trombone Professor, had performances at Christmas and Easter with Lubbock Symphony and Big Spring Symphony. He also performed In the Heights and The Sound of Music with Lubbock's Moonlight Musicals. He also

University News...

had numerous gigs with outdoor jazz groups, Dixieland, big-band, and July 4th fireworks shows. Keeling also performed with the Lakeridge Chamber Orchestra this past summer. He hopes to continue performances with the symphony, chamber groups, jazz, musical, and churches and to continue teaching in person and performing with live audiences.

Ms. Kayla Liechty, Vocal Coach and Pianist, will perform in October with her former Stetson University student, Shawn Copeland (University of Idaho), at Tennessee Tech University (with Mark Cramer), and in November at Western Oregon University and the University of Oregon. The November performances will feature *Pulse*, a work by Carlos Velez that Dr. Copeland and Ms. Liechty premiered four years ago at Stetson University in Central Florida. This work celebrates the lives of the *Pulse* Nightclub victims. The work is in three movements, each of which employs a different Latin dance element to represent “Latin Night” at *Pulse* – the evening’s theme the night of the massacre. In January 2022, Ms. Liechty looks forward to collaborating with the NMMEA All-State Mixed Chorus for the seventeenth consecutive year. She continues serving on the boards of Vocal Artistry and the New Mexico Performing Arts Society, and is looking forward to serving as a delivery person for her local Meals on Wheels, beginning in October. In her spare time, she enjoys time with friends, family, cooking, gardening, hiking, fly fishing and making feeble attempts to outsmart her basset hound, Steinway.

Dr. Richard Schwartz’s, recent jazz album, “Song for My Mother” featuring Ellis Marsalis, nine original compositions and distribution by SONY, received a four-star review in the April 2021 edition of *Jazzwise Magazine*: “...the music itself is consistently well played by a coherent ensemble, whose members understand each other well. Schwartz is at his best on the slow contemplative

tempos, again shining on the title track, and on his cameo on the vocal piece ‘Red Love, Blue Love,’ where he picks up on the contralto timbre and feel of Luliia Akers’ voice. The standout track is ‘Without Words,’ a ballad dedicated to Schwartz’s wife and son, and which is beguilingly simple for a jazz waltz built on a series of five bar sequences, with some advanced harmonic thinking behind them!” Schwartz’s classical album, “Embers,” has recently been made available on Spotify, Amazon Music, iTunes and other online streaming sources

University of New Mexico News Submitted by Colleen Sheinberg

UNM Music News

In October James Flora, Lecturer in Voice and Opera, will sing the role of King Charles (tenor lead) in Tchaikovsky’s opera *Maid of Orleans* (Joan of Arc), sung in Russian, with Opera Company Middlebury (OCM) in Vermont. He also will be teaching a masterclass for OCM’s young artist program. While OCM is a small company, the production features a prestigious cast, with Annie Rosen (Met, Lyric of Opera of Chicago) as Joan, Meredith Lustig (Ravinia, Pittsburgh Opera, Carnegie Hall, Chicago Symphony) as Agnes Sorel, and Joshua Jeremiah (Wolf Trap, Houston Grand Opera, Los Angeles Opera) as Dunois. It is directed by Douglas Anderson, the General and Artistic Director of OCM, and will be conducted by Michael Sakir, who is also the Musical Director for OCM and the General and Artistic Director of InterMountain Opera in Bozeman, Montana.

The UNM Art Museum will be the setting for a day-long workshop on October 22 called “Mindful Looking and Listening.” The event features short guided art/music appreciation sessions exploring the relationship

between mindfulness and the visual arts, with the goal of expanding participants’ ability to “pay attention on purpose” in the present moment to bring a sense of peace, groundedness and equilibrium into our daily lives. Faculty, staff and students are among the participants, including the UNM Honky Tonk Ensemble and the Abe Frank String Quartet. The workshop will end with a panel discussion led by Kristina Jacobsen, Professor of Music and Anthropology, Justine Andrews (Art & Art History) and Dr. Matthew Forte (Director of Orchestral Studies).

Brenda Romero, Professor of Music at the University of Colorado, Boulder, has been selected as the recipient of the UNM John Donald Robb Musical Trust’s Robb Award for her achievements in scholarship and performance of music of the Southwest. Dr. Romero received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Theory and Composition from UNM and her Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of California in Los Angeles. She has worked extensively on the pantomimed *Matachines* music and dance and other New Mexican folk music genres that reflect both Spanish and Indian origins. She founded and facilitates the College Music Society Summer Institute on the Pedagogies of World Music Theories, which she hosts every other summer in Boulder. The Robb Award will be presented at the *Música del Corazón* concert at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque on November 14th.

The university is getting back to “normal” following the restrictions of the pandemic year. On September 23, the UNM Orchestras gave their first concert of the semester in Popejoy Hall, under the direction of Dr. Matthew Forte. The program included Jean Sibelius’ *Symphony No. 2 in D Major* and Christopher Theofanidis’ *Rainbow Body*, based on the chant *Ave Maria*, *O Auctrix Vite* by

Hildegard of Bingen. A highlight of the concert was the performance of Hildegard's original work, sung from the balcony by UNM vocal graduate student Hope Willenbrink.

The UNM Wind Symphony, directed by Eric Rombach-Kendall, also gave a concert in Popejoy Hall on September 15, performing Einojuhani Rautavaara's *A Requiem in Our Time*, Henry Purcell's *Funeral Music for Queen Mary*, and Igor Stravinsky's *Ebony Concerto*, as well as several works for smaller ensembles. On October 6, the Wind Symphony will be joined by the UNM Symphonic Band, directed by Dr. Chad Simons, for a concert that will feature works by Stravinsky, Grantham, Fucik, Clifton Williams and others. UNM graduate student Donovan Polk will conduct Benjamin Britten's *Russian Funeral*.

News of New Mexico State University Submitted by Dr. Madelyn Moore

We are enjoying an exciting Fall semester here at NMSU and are greatly looking forward to what the spring has in store. The NMSU Music Department held the annual Autumn Overture Collage Concert on Sunday, September 26. This concert featured performances by the PRIDE Marching Band, University Singers, Jazz Ensemble I, Wind Symphony, NMSU Philharmonic Orchestra, and Dr. Jacob Dalager on Trumpet. This concert also featured the debut performance of the newly founded NMSU Jazz Combo. Here is what else is going on at NMSU:

Wind and Percussion Area

On September 18, the NMSU wind and percussion applied faculty held their All-State Prep Day with high school students throughout the area. Students and faculty worked on tonal and technical development, as well as the scales and etudes used to audition for the NMMEA All-State Bands.

The NMSU Wind Symphony has been internationally recognized with an invitation to perform as part of the World Association of Symphonic Band and Ensembles Fringe Festival Conference. This conference will take place July 19-23, 2022 in Prague, Czech Republic. The Wind Symphony gave a full concert on Tuesday, September 28. This performance included Malcolm Arnold's *English Dances*, *Summerland* by William Grant Still and *Yiddish Dances* by Adam Gorb. Their next performance will be at 7:30 pm on November 18, featuring guest artist, Simon Gollo and composer in residence, Joni Greene.

The 43rd Annual Tournament of Bands was held on Saturday, October 30. Bands from throughout the Southwest United States attended. Adjudicators included Travis Cross (Professor of Music, UCLA), Denise Hudson (Colorguard Instructor, ASU), Greg Orwoll (Former Director, Colts Drum and Bugle Corps), Jeff Crowell (Professor of Music, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire), William Ballenger (Retired Director of School of Music, Ohio State), and Brent Turner (Marching Arts Director, Schmitt Music Brooklyn). The event concluded with a rousing performance by the PRIDE. NMSU's Annual Jazz Jumpstart will be held November 12-13th. As usual, the event will feature clinics, workshops, masterclasses, concerts, and jam sessions for New Mexico and West Texas students. Clinicians include Owen Broder (saxophone, composition), Ricky Malachi (drums), Al Mendez (saxophone), the NMSU faculty, and a special appearance by Bobby Shew (trumpet).

Choirs and Vocal Area
The NMSU Vocal area held their annual All State Prep Day on September 10. Approximately 150 students and teachers from across Southern New Mexico gathered for a

day of All-State preparation. Featured clinicians included Jake Taylor and Sarah Daughtery (NMSU), Ida Holguin (Organ Mountain HS), Chelsea Bolas (Mayfield HS), Pamela Quiñones (Las Cruces HS), Christa Fredrickson (Centennial HS), and Paul Hallsted (Alma d'Arte HS). On October 7, the University Singers joined the Choirs at Organ Mountain High School for a concert. In addition to this performances, all NMSU Choirs gave a performance on October 22 titled "Songs of Love and Loss," featuring works by Dello Joio, Hagenberg, Brahms, and Daley.

Orchestra and String Area
The NMSU string faculty presented a workshop on September 28 for students preparing for the Texas All State Competition. The workshop was held at Pebble Hills High School in El Paso, TX and included classes focusing on the technique and musicality of the all-state music. The NMSU Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Simon Gollo performed a concert on Friday, October 15 at 7:30 pm. This performance included Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre*, Op. 14. They will also perform on December 4 in Atkinson Recital Hall. This performance will include all of the combined ensembles of the Las Cruces Youth Orchestra, both orchestras, as well as the Youth Choir. On this concert, the NMSU Philharmonic will play *Symphony No. 8 in G Major*, Op. 88 by Dvorak and will feature Chicago-area flutist Nicaulis Ailley on 4 Venezuelan Dances by Omar Acosta.

Faculty News and Accomplishments
Dr. Madelyn Moore, Assistant Professor of Clarinet, gave a recital on Saturday, October 9 at 5:00 pm. She performed works by Husa, Fauré, Dorff and Kovács and was joined in performance by Ji Young Han, piano and Dr. Hyerim Mapp, cello.

Associate Professor of Viola, Jorge Martinez-Rios presented

University News...

an online string workshop for students in Torreon, Mexico on October 13. From October 22-25 he traveled to Guadalajara, Mexico where he performed a recital and gave a masterclass to students at the state university.

Dr. Sarah Daughtrey (Voice Area Coordinator) was selected to present as part of the Texoma Region of NATS (National Assoc. of Teachers of Singing) Artist Series at its annual conference held virtually this year on November 3-6 (hosted by Texas Tech University). She will be presenting a workshop around her article entitled "Let's Start at the Very End: Teaching the Singers of Generation Z". This article was published in the Fall 2019 NATS Journal of Singing.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Trumpet, Dr. Jacob Dalager, will release his debut solo trumpet album, *Paradigms*, on November 6th on the Tonsen record label. It features previously unreleased music for trumpet by composer Anthony Plog. Dalager is joined on the album by Joseph Yungen (piano), Daniel Aune (organ), Lauren Cook (soprano), and Gregory Scott Stuart (narrator). In January of 2022, Professor of Trombone, Allan Kaplan will present a clinic titled "Tabuteau for Trombone" at the Big 12 Trombone Conference. This clinic will explore the teaching and practicing concepts of famed Philadelphia Orchestra principle oboe and Curtis Institute faculty, Marcel Tabuteau and their intersection

with the teaching principles of tuba legend, Arnold Jacobs.

Student and Alumni News

On October 4, the NMSU clarinet studio attended a masterclass by legendary clarinet pedagogue, Dr. Charles West. Raul Olivas performed excerpts from Brahms' Sonata No. 2 and Carlos Muñoz played the Concertino by C.M. von Weber. Dr. West discussed important aspects of air support, practice techniques, and musicality. Dr. West was on faculty at NMSU from 1974 - 1984.



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2022 John Batcheller Award

Ana Maria Dark - Rio Rancho

Ana Maria Dark was born in Illinois but lived most of her childhood in Europe as a military child. Her family moved to New Mexico in 1992. Ana María was a fifth grader and attended the school that she currently teaches at! Fast forward a few years, she ended up being one of the first graduating class members of Rio Rancho High School. Ana María then got her vocal performance degree at New Mexico State University in 2003 and later continued her education and got her masters in 2006 from the University of the Pacific in Stockton California. She received a masters in music education and began teaching right away. Ana María taught for two and a half years in Stockton California and created four choir programs. She

then moved back home and began her journey as a road runner at Rio



Rancho Elementary school. In her time there she has created a choir program, school traditions and has discovered so much about herself.

She strives to know every student and to keep her classroom always innovative and fun, even during the pandemic! She creates a dark room and she uses black lights a lot of the time, it is Mrs. Dark's dark room. Ana María hopes to continue to reach students and families and to advocate for music education. Ana Maria is very involved in NMMEA and has acted as the VP of general music for district IV for the last three years. Ana María wants to thank all of the educators and administrators and of course the music educators for all they do to support music in our schools! She is honored to receive this award and is very proud, Thank you!

2022 Music Educator of the Year

Jadira Flamm - Albuquerque

Jadira Flamm is a graduate of Santa Teresa High School. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education with an emphasis in voice from New Mexico State University and her Master of Music Education from the University of New Mexico. This will be her 17th year teaching in the Rio Rancho Public Schools. She is the Director of Choral Activities and Fine Arts Instructional Leader at V. Sue Cleveland High School in Rio Rancho, NM. She holds a NM Level Three-A Instructional Leader/Teaching License and a Level 3 Kodaly certification. She is honored to be one of the first members to receive the NMMEA New & Emerging Teacher of the Year Award. She is a part of the worship team at Sagebrush Community Church where she sings and plays keys for the community. She is humbled to be a part of a community that embraces music education and honored to be a part of the one and only Flammily in town.

Jadira is currently serving as the NMMEA District VI President. She has also served as the NMMEA District VI Treasurer from 2012-2016

and Choir VP from 2007-2012. She has been honored to adjudicate MPA and Solo & Ensemble festivals throughout the state of New Mexico and was the NMMEA All State Audition Choir Master Scheduler in 2019. During the pandemic shut down, Jadira was a Choral Co-Chair in the NMMEA Guidance Document Committee. One of her most favorite things to do is to be a part of the University of New Mexico Cooperating Teacher team. She has had the privilege of working with some of the best future music educators during their student teaching term since 2010.

The choral program at V. Sue Cleveland High School is a testament to her commitment to excellence in music education. She directs five choral groups which consistently receive superior ratings in state and out of state and perform in collaborative performances. They are active in the community to spread the joy of music. Jadira is humbled to work in a school that has one of the best facilities in the state. This has led Jadira to be the founder of the Best of New Mexico A Cappella Festival. This festival was

created to foster a cappella music and a friendly environment where students can improve their craft, build relationships, and have fun. This festival has also opened the door to work in collaboration with the St. John's United Methodist Music Ministries in which they've had the privilege to work with Voces8 and Apollo 5.

Jadira currently resides in Albuquerque, NM with her loving and supportive husband Russell. She was blessed to share life with her sweet daughter



Grace and adventurous son RJ. She also enjoys furry hugs from her dog Ranger. Jadira is blessed to have music in her life. She is thankful that her family has always been supportive of her passion for music. She breathes, drinks and eats music. She believes that music changes lives and it provides an unexplainable bond in humans..

2022 Rollie Heltman Service Award Lauren Espinoza - Las Cruces

Lauren Espinoza is a native of Las Cruces, New Mexico, where she has been strongly involved in the music community for most of her life.

Lauren is a 2008 graduate of Mayfield High School, participating in the high school jazz band, orchestra, wind symphony, and pep band during her four years there. In high school she was also selected as the John Philip Sousa Award recipient and was selected to participate on clarinet in the NMSU Southwest Honor Band, and NMMEA All-State bands throughout her high school career.

Lauren graduated with high honors from New Mexico State University in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and minors in both mu-

sic and journalism. She also attended Belmont University's Music Business Program in Nashville, Tennessee.

Though she doesn't play clarinet in ensembles as much as she'd like to, Lauren still participates in the local music community by volunteering. She has volunteered to help her local high school raise money for over 16 years in events around her community. She is also active in the New Mexico Music Educator's Association, where she is involved in the planning and execution of the annual All-State Conference.

Lauren currently runs a flower shop in Las Cruces and loves traveling with her four dogs.



FREE WEBINARS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR MUSIC EDUCATORS

2022 New and Emerging Music Educator Joshua Dumais - Rio Rancho

Joshua Dumais began his musical journey in Las Cruces, NM. Whether it was piano lessons with his mom, jazz band with Arnold Rose, trombone lessons with Alan Kaplan or marching band with Neil Swapp and Sarah Rede, music was a huge part of Josh's upbringing. After graduating high school, Josh went on to study music education at UNM and continued to be influenced by incredible music educators, musicians, and friends. Josh began teaching at Mountain View Middle School and assisting at V. Sue Cleveland High School in the fall of 2016. At the time, MVMS was part-time band and part-time general music with only 90 students enrolled in the band program. Josh saw this as an opportunity and in 3 years, there were nearly 170 students in the band program. Along the way, he started a middle school jazz club that focused solely on listening and improvisation, a second jazz band at CHS, and constantly brought

in clinicians and colleagues to help work with his students. He owes a large amount of credit to these individuals. Under Mr. Dumais's baton, the MVMS Advanced Band received superior ratings for all three years that he led the group. The band participated in the NMAA State Band Contest for the first time in the school's history, where they also earned superior ratings. Due to the increase in band enrollment between Mountain View Middle School and Cleveland High School, Josh took on a new full-time position at CHS teaching alongside Daniel Holmes. All of their ensembles have continued to receive high marks. Josh has served as the secretary for NMMEA District VI over the past year and enjoys the culture of collaboration that he finds not only in his portion of the state, but across New Mexico. Josh would not be where he is today without the tremendous support of everyone around him. He is grateful to have ended up



in a position that allowed him to meet and work with Daniel Holmes, who he considers to be one of the best music educators he's ever met, and an even better friend. He is blessed to have the support and love of his wife and family who are with him every step of the way. Finally, he is humbled by the phenomenal students, parents and administrators who have trusted him as their band director.

2022 Hall of Fame Award Brian Uerling - Clovis

I was a public school music teacher



from 1983-2021, with thirty-two of those thirty-eight years in New Mex-

ico. I taught in the Albuquerque, Moriarty and Clovis public schools, preceded by schools in Nebraska and Missouri. I have been privileged to work with truly wonderful music supervisors and mentors, including Hall of Fame recipients Dale Kempter, Diane Bonnell, Norvil Howell, Don Gerheart and Wayne Anderson. I have also served as a private piano studio instructor and church musician for forty-nine years. During my career, I have directed twenty Broadway musicals at both the high school and college levels. I have also taught at the college level for Clovis Community College and Eastern New Mexico University. I was privileged to teach Elementary Music Methods for ENMU in 2021. I was the

Clovis Municipal Schools Teacher of the Year in 2007. I was also an instructor at the ENMU Summer Choir Camp for twenty years, and was the organist for the ENMU European Choir Tour in 2018, including performances in Notre Dame (Paris) and St. Paul's (London). I have been a professional church organist and music director for forty-eight years.

My education includes two Bachelor degrees from Hastings College in Nebraska (Music History, Literature and Business, 1979 / Music Education, 1983). My Master of Music Education is from ENMU, 2000.

My service for NMMEA includes holding offices as District Choral

Brian Uerling - Clovis

VP (2), District Choral President (1), State Choral VP (2), State President / Past President (1), Piano Collaborator for both Treble and Mixed All-State Choirs (6). NMMEA honors include directing three NMMEA All-State Honor Ensembles: Clovis Ambassador Choir (2), Clovis High School Chorale (1), Music Educator of the Year (2007). I have adjudicated for both large group and solo/ensemble events in all of the NMMEA districts. I have been most fortunate to be exposed to and influenced by many fine practitioners of music education,

and have incorporated ideas from countless educators and theorists over the years. My own personal philosophy has evolved into three main ideas. (1)... The “best things in life” aren’t things. (2)... ALWAYS tell the truth, at least the way you see it, and with kindness. There’s less to remember. (3)... When you’re “over the hill”, you pick up speed. NEVER stop learning.

I retired at the end of the school year in 2021, and moved to Taos with my lovely wife of forty-two

years, Jude, and our rescue dog of two years, Monet. Many thanks to NMMEA for this humbling “Hall of Fame” award. I already miss my Clovis and District 2 (SWNMMEA) colleagues and my Music Supervisor Brandon Boerio very much.

I have had a blessed career. May God keep and bless each and every one of YOU! Sincerely, Brian

2022 Hall of Fame Award Debbie Fleming - Rio Rancho

Debbie is a retired music educator and fine arts administrator who spent most of her career working in Rio Rancho Public Schools. She taught music at the Elementary, Middle, and High School levels in three states: Colorado, Texas, and New Mexico. She is currently a member of the New Mexico Advisory Council on Arts Education, and has served as a district and state officer for NMMEA. Debbie is honored to be recognized by this outstanding organization and to be included in the NMMEA Hall of Fame.

Debbie Fleming is an active advocate for music throughout her community. Debbie co-founded and served as the co-conductor of the Rio Grande Youth Chorale, all while being an administrator in Rio Rancho. The Choral consists of two choirs, the Youth Singers and the Kokopelli Singers and is comprised of students from Rio Rancho, Bernalillo, Corrales, Jemez Pueblo, Placitas, Algodones, and Albuquerque. Debbie supports school music programs through this community choir by requiring students to be a member of their school’s band, choir, or orchestra.

In Rio Rancho, Debbie Fleming advocated for music in many different ways. She visibly supports school

music programs with attendance at concerts, festivals and other events.

As RRPS Fine Arts Director, Debbie managed the budget for the district arts programs. Debbie advocated maintaining or increasing music staffing levels in order to preserve high quality music programs at all levels K-12. Debbie Fleming was known for strong leadership and management skill throughout her career.

Her work at the administrative level and at the district level have given her opportunities to develop strong music programs within the school system and the community at large. She has served in leadership roles, acting as a mentor to teachers and students. She has worked in collaboration with directors of musical groups to put together unique performance opportunities for students.

She has served as a clinician for middle school and high school choirs and has modeled lessons for new teachers. She facilitated the RRPS District-Wide Fine Arts Professional Learning Community for both elementary and secondary teachers. She has been an active contributor to music education by presenting clinics and trainings for Orff Level I and II, along with Ko-

daly Level I certification courses.

NMMEA offers our congratulations to Debbie Fleming on a well deserved honor.



2022 Administrator of the Year

Michelle Ronga - Las Cruces

Michelle Ronga has served as the principal of Las Cruces High School for three years, but she has worked within the Bulldawg Nation for eleven years. Her journey in New Mexico has been a unique one, but after 27 years in education, she celebrates being “home” in her Dream Job!

While she was born in Las Cruces, NM, Michelle grew up in Southern California, earning her B.A. in Liberal Studies, with an emphasis in English, and her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of La Verne. Her teaching career began in 1994, and she continued to teach English in CA until she moved home to Las Cruces in 2010. Her teaching career captures broad experiences, ranging from Grades 9-12, including Advanced Placement, reading intervention, the International Baccalaureate Program, and a specialized English Language Learners Academy, which she founded nine years ago. A lifelong learner, Michelle returned to NMSU to earn an endorsement in Special Education in 2011, and ultimately decided to pursue her administrative degree in 2015. She truly believes each and every experience has helped develop her vision as a building leader, and she strives daily to create a culture where every student and teacher thrives and reaches his/her utmost potential.

Daily, Michelle can be found greeting students as they arrive on campus and visiting classrooms, often interrupting the lesson because she loves to participate and celebrates spontaneous and relevant conversations with students. Her daily mission is to ensure every student feels welcome and safe at school, and she strives to

foster an environment that provides activities and organizations for ALL learners. Her belief in student involvement stems from her own experiences as a student, and from those of her parents. Michelle’s ardent desire to see students embracing their high school experience is the catalyst for her attendance at all school functions. The greatest compliment she receives from her parent and students is that she and her team are highly visible and actively engaged with all organizations! Whether it is the performing arts, academic organizations, athletics, or a newly formed club a student sees a need for, she wholeheartedly embraces these activities and their events. The fundamental belief she preaches is that



students are our greatest stakeholder. We have to be willing to invest in them to yield their greatest return!

After attending the NASSP National Principals Conference in Boston during the summer of 2019, she challenged herself to embrace and model the positive power of social media. Within the last two years, she has

taken to sharing the school’s story on Twitter, realizing the power of narrating the story, and successes, of Las Cruces High School with the larger community. Each Thursday, she can be seen traversing campus with a motivational sign, snapping selfies with students, and posting on her Twitter handle with the hashtag #positivesignthursday, a national movement celebrating positive thinking and positive student behaviors. What started as a small challenge has now become a celebrated morning with students who wait to see what the positive sign of the week is!

While education is her passion, Michelle’s other passion is her family. This year she will celebrate 24 years of marriage with her husband, Tony, whom she credits for his incredible support of her career and love for students. She has been blessed with three beautiful children, all of whom are also Bulldawgs: Teáh, Class of 2019; Emma, Class of 2023; and Anthony “Bubba” Ronga, Class of 2024. Her countless hours at the soccer and baseball fields hardly feel like work when she is enjoying watching her own kids develop and flourish through school activities.

Lastly, Michelle credits this nomination and humbling moment to her music teachers: Jennifer Rogers, Ty Frederick, and Tai Mikulecky. Without their astonishing passion for the arts, tremendous knowledge of music, and authentic relationships with their students, none of this would be possible. Their commitment and dedication is unparalleled, and she is incredibly grateful to work alongside such consummate professionals.



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2022 Award of Distinction – Las Cruces Public Schools

Throughout its history, Las Cruces Public Schools has consistently shown a commitment to support its music programs. This long standing commitment is demonstrated through funding, facilities, and the importance and recognition it places upon music education and its music programs. There are twenty five elementary schools, eight middle schools, and four comprehensive high schools all with quality, dedicated classroom and rehearsal spaces and inventory for music programs. The LCPS District Superintendent, instructional leaders, and Chief Financial Officer prioritize instructional support and funding in order to ensure that every child may participate in music and has the opportunity to do so under the best circumstances. Each teacher and school receives resources to meet the musical needs of the students so that teachers may teach and students may flourish.

In LCPS, elementary schools offer music twice a week during the school day for all six years and also offer students opportunities to participate in a district honor choir as well as supplemental after school music programs. At the middle school level, LCPS offers full band, choir, and orchestra programs during the regular school day. Several middle schools also offer piano classes during the day and opportunities to participate in after school musical theatre productions; one of the middle schools even offers a music technology magnet program where students can study music theory, part writing, and music notation software. Once students reach high school, in addition to being offered full band, choir, and orchestra programs, students can also choose guitar, piano, mariachi, and Advanced Placement Music Theory courses that are also scheduled during the school day. High school students also have opportunities to participate in after school show choir programs and musical theatre productions.

From New Mexico's state equalization guarantee, LCPS receives funding via the Fine Arts Education Appropriation (FAEA) application to specifically support elementary music education through allocation of salary expenses, supplies and materials, as well as professional development. For decades, LCPS has demonstrated increased financial commitment well beyond that provided by FAEA to further support its elementary music programs and all secondary music programs. Even in difficult budgetary times, LCPS maintains its commitment to music education and seeks alternative revenue sources to maintain and grow staffing. Notably, LCPS continues to add staff annually in support of its largest elementary schools so that they can have two full-time music teachers in order to provide service to all students without over-extending teachers. Additionally, all high school band programs are staffed with one or more full time assistant directors.

Great effort is made to recruit and retain exceptionally qualified music educators who demonstrate a commitment to children through continuing education and professional service endeavors. Access to professional development is important to LCPS and is supported financially. LCPS teachers give of their time to attend trainings, workshops, and other professional development in order to keep abreast of the current trends in music education. Many LCPS music teachers possess advanced degrees, Orff, Kodaly & Dalcroze certifications, College Board Advanced Placement approved syllabi, and various other recognized skills above and beyond what they learned during their music undergraduate studies. Additionally, LCPS teachers voluntarily serve annually as NMMEA Southwest District 1 officers as well as NMMEA state level officers. These examples demonstrate the commitment of LCPS music teachers to be their very

best in the classroom as well as support their colleagues and advance their profession through service.

At the elementary school level, funding is utilized for salaries, music supplies, materials, and professional development. Beyond providing additional funding for salaries, music supplies, materials, and professional development, LCPS supplements FAEA funding for student travel. For example: LCPS budgets funding to pay for all 5th grade elementary school students to travel to a showcase performance presented by each district high school music department for the purpose of promoting continued music education at the secondary level.

Similarly, at the middle school and high school levels, LCPS allocates funding to each campus to cover the costs of music supplies and materials, student registration and travel, equipment repair, and professional development for teachers. For example: At the middle school level, funds are provided for all music ensembles to register for and travel to Southwest NMMEA district MPA events and other local and state events as requested. LCPS also provides funding for all selected high school students to travel to the NMMEA All-State Music Festival, NMMEA Jazz All-State, NMACDA Youth All-State and, as possible, provides funding to help facilitate registration and travel to other various events as requested. Additionally, every secondary music instructor has a budget for purchase of music, instrument/equipment maintenance and repair, as well as support in the form of funding for temporary employee contracts for choral piano accompanists and high school marching band tech instructors (percussion, colorguard, etc).

At the district level, even more funding is allocated to program for major purchases such as uniforms, new instruments, risers, other equipment,

2022 Award of Distinction – Las Cruces Public Schools

etc. For example: LCPS provides funding for new instruments and equipment to replace and supplement the inventory of every high school music program. Schools receive this funding on a ten year rotation in tandem with uniform replacement. LCPS is currently working to add policy to include a similar new instrument replacement and inventory supplement rotation for middle schools and elementary schools. In an effort to begin this process, in FY20, LCPS allocated \$350,000 total for new middle school band instruments. In addition, the community of Las Cruces gladly celebrates music programs through full-throated support and passage of all bond elections for remodel and new construction of secondary music classrooms in addition to generous support of fundraising beyond program basics.

As historically and presently recorded, LCPS music students and ensembles have been recognized at the state, regional, and national levels. The city of Las Cruces greatly values its music programs and has come to expect high quality outcomes for music education and performances. Beyond hosting some of the best music programs in New Mexico and the region, LCPS music programs play an active and important role in the community. The high school marching

bands regularly appear in local parades and events. Various choral and instrumental groups routinely perform around the community at grand openings, dedications, retirement centers, legislative events, school board meetings, and other events. LCPS music teachers actively collaborate with other entities to enhance the musical experiences of children. These collaborations include, but are not limited to: New Mexico State University Music Department, Doña Ana Arts Council, City of Las Cruces, Las Cruces Symphony, New Mexico Philharmonic, Mesilla Valley Concert Band, Santa Fe Opera, and the Kennedy Center Partners in Education. In addition, all LCPS music programs participate annually in SWNMMEA and NMMEA activities and the school district serves as primary host for SWNMMEA events. A review of NMMEA historical record shows that the students, teachers, and principals of LCPS have a rich history of selection and performance as honor ensembles as well as educator and administrator recognition awards. LCPS was first recognized by NMMEA with the Award of Distinction in 2015. LCPS has also been recognized as a recipient of the 1998 Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education and National School Boards Association Award for Excellence in support of high

quality arts education in its school district, community and state and has most recently been recognized as one of the 2021 NAMM Best Communities for Music Education.

Las Cruces Public Schools is honored to receive the 2022 NMMEA Award of Distinction in observation of its long standing and deeply held commitment to music education and its current initiatives to further grow capacity and funding for its music teachers and students. Quality music programs at all levels and in all disciplines is the standard in Las Cruces Public Schools and is a reflection of the dedication, effort, and support of its community, leadership, teachers, parents, and students.



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2022 Emeritus Teacher John Sanks - Albuquerque

Mr. Sanks is humbled to be selected as a NMMEA Emeritus Teacher. It has been a privilege being a part of such a noble profession and an honor to receive an award for doing something you love. I have been very fortunate to watch and help many teachers in our state and am so impressed with the amount of passion and dedication they display to their profession. All of the retired music educators I know will gladly do anything we can to help our music teachers, and the NMMEA, continue to keep music alive and well. Music is truly a lifelong passion.

Mr. Sanks retired in 2013 after 29 years of teaching and then taught 5th grade beginning band part time for 8 years for a total of 37 years. He taught in Three Forks, MT, moved to NM and taught at Rio Grande HS, Highland HS, Santa Fe HS, and Eldorado HS. Mr. Sanks also directs the Albuquerque Concert Band, an 80 plus

member adult community band that performs all year long. He is an active trombonist that plays in a brass quintet, in a rock band, and plays in the Albuquerque Jazz Orchestra. He was the leader of the Albuquerque Jazz Orchestra for 21 years and was the Director of the Albuquerque Jazz festival for 30 years retiring in 2020. He loves to travel, play golf, softball, go bowling, getting together with friends, and riding his motorcycles.

His family members include his wife Christine, daughters Dawn, Gina, Mary, and son Lucas. They have 5 grandchildren; Hayden, Jared, Madison, Ella and Tyler. Other family members are the dogs, Indi-16, Nitro-8, Haji-4, and Charger-18 months.

Mr. Sanks was the KOAT Teacher of the year in 1993 & 2002, the National Federation Interscholastic Music Association Teacher of the Year in 1999 & 2004, and the New

Mexico Music Educator Association Music Educator of the Year in 2004. He was inducted into the New Mexico Music Educators Association Hall of Fame in 2013.



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2022 Emeritus Teacher Pam Towry Church - Red River

Pamela Towry Church, veteran music educator of 42 years, served 19 of those years as the Director of Bands for the Cimarron, New Mexico Municipal Schools. A native of Dallas, Texas, Ms. Towry attended the University of Texas at Austin, earning her Bachelor of Music degree (1979) as well as her Master of Music degree (1985) in Instrumental Conducting. She taught in the public schools in Texas prior to assuming the position of Assistant Professor of Music, Associate Director of Bands, and Percussion Instructor at Northwestern State University of Louisiana in 1987. Ms. Towry moved to New Mexico in 1990, teaching at Santa Fe High School for two years before serving as the Music Department Chair and Director of Bands at Los Alamos High School until the spring of 2000. She re-established the band program in Cimarron in the fall of 2000, instructing grades 6-12.

In its third year of existence under her direction, the "Cimarron Wind Ensemble" was awarded "First Place" in Division A-AA at the New Mexico Activities Association's State Concert Band Contest (2003.) During her tenure at Cimarron, the Wind Ensemble

garnered a total of 13 State Championship titles in their classification.

Ms. Towry has served in several capacities on the Board of Directors and Executive Board of the New Mexico Music Educators' Association and created the position of Percussion Facilitator for the All-State performing ensembles which she held for 20 years. She served on the New Mexico Activities Association's State Concert Band Advisory Council for 13 years. In addition to her activity in the New Mexico Music Educators' Association, Ms. Towry is a member of the Texas Bandmaster's Association, Texas Music Educators' Association, Tau Beta Sigma, Sigma Alpha Iota, Phi Beta Mu, and Phi Kappa Phi. She is the Past-President of the New Mexico chapter of Phi Beta Mu, national honorary bandmaster's fraternity. Pam currently serves on the board of directors of the "Music from Angel Fire" chamber music festival, serving as Education Coordinator for the organization.

Ms. Towry was named the Los Alamos Public Schools' "Teacher of the Year" for 1999-2000. She was the Cimarron Municipal Schools' "Teacher



of the Year" in 2007 and 2011, and was the 2011 National Federation of High Schools "Outstanding Music Educator" for the state of New Mexico. In 2012 she was named "New Mexico Music Educator of the Year." Pam was inducted into the New Mexico Music Educator's Association's "Hall of Fame" in January of 2015. She retired in July of 2019, after a 40-year career in music education. A frequent adjudicator and clinician, she also conducts honor bands, teaches marching and percussion clinics and band workshops.

Certificate of Distinction Rio Rancho Public Schools

Rio Rancho Public Schools was founded in 1994, and has maintained a strong support for music education since its inception. The district is now 17,000 students strong, and maintains eleven elementary schools, four middle schools, two comprehensive high schools, two cyber schools, and an alternative high school. Music is taught every year at all elementary grade levels by certified music teachers, and the secondary schools offer instruction in band, choir, orchestra, guitar, piano, AP Music Theory, and general music. Rio Rancho Public Schools has made a commitment to music education. The district has maintained the

number of teachers and programs in every school, and funding for all programs is stable or increasing. The district years ago increased funding to our music programs to eliminate the out-of-pocket contributions families must make. No student needs to pay a cent simply to be a member of any RRPS music program.

In recent years, RRPS even expanded our teaching and support positions. For example, the district added a percussion specialist position years ago to help support our band directors. In the midst of the COVID pandemic, RRPS reestablished the elementary band program coordinator position, and added

another for a full-time assistant band director at one of our high schools. The district also funds two part-time music department secretaries at its high schools to aid teachers with secretarial tasks. RRPS also supplies the Fine Arts Department with operational funds for instrument and equipment purchases. These funds have remained steady year after year. Rio Rancho Public Schools provides stipends and professional development funds for teachers. All music programs are supported with district funds. RRPS partners with the Santa Fe Opera. Teacher-artists work with students at the elementary and middle schools to create stu-

Certificate of Distinction Rio Rancho Public Schools

dent-produced operas. RRPS also partners with the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC to offer teachers professional development in arts integration. The district has excellent facilities, each high school maintaining its own performing arts center. Marching bands at each high school have fields solely devoted to rehearsal space. Elementary music teachers have their own rooms and large inventories of instruments. RRPS partners with the Rockley Family Foundation, which supplies pianos to schools free of charge. Many of our music teachers serve as officers at the district or state level of NMMEA, and many teachers are past officers. The Rio Rancho community overwhelmingly supports bond proposals and has never voted one down. Parents are highly engaged in our music programs, maintaining boost-

er programs in band, choir, and orchestra at the high school and middle school levels. RRPS programs occasionally receive grants from the Rio Rancho Educational Foundation, and the district is very fortunate that the community supports students through many donations. Several businesses donate supplies, food, and time to RRPS music programs. For example, the Intel factory in Rio Rancho offers incentives for employees to volunteer their time to district music programs, whether it be driving equipment trucks for marching band competitions or chaperoning for a music field trip. Rio Rancho Public Schools prides itself on being a leader in the state, whether it be in regular education or arts education. RRPS is the perfect size to provide the opportunity for expansive and meaningful music education to all students.

RRPS is big enough to make a difference, yet small enough to care. Rio Rancho Public Schools has for three years straight received the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation "Best Community for Music Education" designation, which reflects the valuing



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2022 All-State Clinicians

Student Keynote - Jeremy Spicer

Jeremy Spicer, a Magna cum Laude graduate from Texas State University is the owner of SASI – The Leadership People, LLC., a student leadership consulting firm focusing on the empowerment of young leaders. Mr. Spicer is the former Director of Bands at Vandegrift High School. Vandegrift HS opened in the fall of



2009 with freshmen and sophomores and quickly experienced phenomenal growth and success. Through the focused effort of establishing a culture founded in mutual respect, hard work and excellence the program grew from less than 50 to nearly 225 in less than five years and was extremely successful in both the marching and concert arenas. Prior to his appointment at Vandegrift, Mr. Spicer spent eight years as a member of the staff at Cedar Park High School. While at Cedar Park he served as the Conductor of the Symphonic Winds and the Director of both the Marching and Jazz Ensembles. During his tenure at the marching band won numerous marching contests and was a consistent finalist at both the UIL State Marching Contest and Bands of America Regional and Super-Regional competitions. Under his direction, the Symphonic Winds never earned anything but a superior rating at the UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest. Mr. Spicer has also been very active in DCI. He has served in various capacities ranging from Brass Instructor to Assistant Brass Caption

Head for Carolina Crown, Southwind, Boston Crusaders, and Santa Clara Vanguard. Mr. Spicer is active in the United States as a clinician and adjudicator for Bands of America. His professional affiliations include Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He lives in Cedar Park with his beautiful wife Elizabeth, precious daughter, Coral Amber, and their handsome son, Aiden Joseph.

2022 All-State Band Clinics

In addition to the student events happening on January 8, we will host the Educator Conference on January 15 in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico. While we would hope to see you all in person that weekend, we are also going to present all of the workshops both live and virtually. We have worked hard to create a variety of workshop options for you to attend.

Small Program, No Program...No Problem! Turning the rebuilding process from a daunting task into an exciting opportunity (Steven Iliff)

Very few music educators walk into a large, perfectly designed, and supported dream program. Whether it is a small, rural area, underfunded school system, low SES population, a position with a high rate of turnover, or all of the above, excellent programs can rise up where they



didn't previously exist! Laying the foundations for success in a 'less than ideal'

situation can seem daunting, but can be exceptionally rewarding. In this clinic, we will break down strategies to build, rebuild or redesign a music program that will meet your educational philosophy, support the growth and development of your students, and be an active asset in your school community. Topics discussed will include: Refining your philosophy, short and long term planning, making the best use of your resources (and advocating for more), structuring curriculum, fostering student and community buy-in, keeping a productive mindset, and more!

Steven Iliff is the Director of Bands and Music at Espanola Public Schools.

Band Directing for the Textbook Overthinker - "A practical approach to experiencing less stress in a demanding profession." (Alexander Austell)

In this presentation we'll discuss what overthinking is, and what it can look like in and out of the band room. Overthinking can take shape in different ways, and we all react differently to the stress that it can cause. Once we explore the characteristics of overthinking and the effect it has, we'll dive into strategies on dealing with that stress in a healthy way. Ultimately, the goal is for you to be a better and happier band director for your program. Veteran teachers are encouraged to share their stories. Alexander Austell grew up in Los Alamos, New Mexico where he studied privately with his trumpet teacher, Jan MacDonald, and played in band starting in Elementary School all the way through High School. He auditioned for and was accepted into NMMEA All-State ensembles all four years of high school.



Alex received his bachelor of music edu-

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education degree from the University of New Mexico in 2016, and right out of college was hired as the Director of Bands at Rio Rancho Middle School. He was there for 5 years before becoming the full-time Associate Director of Bands at Rio Rancho High School where he currently teaches. Alex is an accomplished trumpet player and has experience playing with the New Mexico Philharmonic and competing in the National Trumpet Competition during his college years. In his role as an educator, he was asked to present a brass methods clinic at the New Mexico Music Educators Association All-State Conference in 2019, and accepted an invitation to present a clinic at the conference in 2022. He also has experience as a guest clinician for different band programs across the state, and experience judging brass musicians at the District VII Solo and Ensemble Festival. Mr. Austell served as the NMMEA District VI Vice President for Band for two years starting in 2017, and as a result of increased enrollment helped usher the creation of an additional ensemble for the Honor Band Festival in the Fall of 2018. Alex is also the current Co-Conductor for the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program Junior Orchestra and is in his third year with AYSP. Throughout his life Alex has had many role models including his amazingly supportive parents who also happen to be educators and musicians. He would not be the musician and educator he is now without the help of his college mentor Dr. John Marchiando and his teaching mentor Mr. Matthew Casarez. Alex's most important goal is to inspire his students to be the best version of themselves through music, and is happily married to his wife Mary Allison Austell. Together he and his wife both teach music at Rio Rancho High School and enjoy life at home in Rio Rancho with their cat and dog Raya and Holly.

Musical Collaboration, A Panel Discussion - Keeping Students in Band from Middle through High School (Brad Dubbs)
In a panel discussion with seasoned educators from both Middle and High Schools we will discuss ideas and practices that have proven effective in keeping students engaged in their musical journey from middle through high school.



Brad Dubbs is the Director of Bands at Eldorado High School in Albuquerque.

Playing By Ear and Improvisation for Non-Jazz Bands (Donna Schmidt) Clinic Description

Playing by ear and improvising are not just for jazz band! Come and learn quick and easy ways to incorporate playing by ear and improvisation into the concert band setting. Attendees will be provided with practical strategies that can be implemented right away with middle and high school students.

Bio



Donna Schmidt, a native of Beltsville, Maryland, received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from James Madison University in 1991 and her Master of Music degree from the University of New Mexico in 1995. Ms Schmidt is in her 29th year of teaching and is currently the band director at Rio Rancho Middle School. She previously taught middle school band in Arlington, Virginia and at McKinley Middle School and Desert Ridge Middle School in Albuquerque,

New Mexico. As a professional tuba player, Ms. Schmidt has performed with the New Mexico Brass Quintet, the Santa Fe Symphony, the New Mexico Symphony, and has been a featured soloist with several ensembles.

Ms. Schmidt frequently serves as a clinician and adjudicator throughout New Mexico and has presented a clinic at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2013, Ms. Schmidt was chosen as New Mexico's representative for the School Band and Orchestra magazine's "50 Directors Who Make a Difference." In 2016, Ms. Schmidt was named New Mexico Educators Association Music Educator of the Year. In 2018, Ms. Schmidt was selected as a recipient of the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Most recently, Mrs. Schmidt received the NMMEA Rollie Heltman Service Award for her volunteer work with NMMEA.

When she is not teaching music, Ms. Schmidt enjoys hiking, camping, and spending time with her husband and two children.

Returning to Basics Session 1 - A detailed approach to teaching Marching Band from a Visual Perspective. (Kristen Major)

No matter the size or scope of your marching band program, the need to establish a comprehensive visual curriculum is one that cannot be ignored. Through this session we will explore ideas to improve how to teach marching band from a visual perspective and discuss practical concepts that you can take back to your own band program.

Kristen Major is currently a private horn instructor and the Associate Marching Band Director for the NMSU Pride Marching Band. She has also taught middle school band at Sierra Middle School in Las Cruces. Kristen has over 20 years of marching band experience from DCI to teaching both High School and college marching bands.

Returning to Basics Session 2 - A detailed approach to teaching Marching Band from a musical perspective.

Double Reeds - How to start Oboes and Bassoons in your band program.

In this session we will discuss the best methods to start oboe and bas-

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soon players in your band, regardless of grade. Whether you teach middle school or high school, this clinic will help you begin those double reed players and set them up for success!

2021 All-State Choral Clinics

Conducting Gesture as Musical Model, Dr. Jake Taylor

In the heat of the moment, we often forget to rely on one of our most efficient teaching tools—our hands. A conductor's gesture is a valuable instructional tool that can be utilized throughout the learning process, often streamlining the rehearsal by eliminating verbiage. In this session, Dr. Taylor will provide focused and straightforward tips for increasing the efficiency and expressivity of the conducting gesture, along with creative ideas for its implementation within the choral rehearsal.



Dr. Jake Taylor is the newly appointed Choral Director at New Mexico State University and will serve as conductor of the University Singers, Concert Choir, and Masterworks Chorus. In addition to his conducting responsibilities, he will teach courses in conducting, choral methods, and music education. Previously, Dr. Taylor was an

instructor at Texas Tech University. There he served as conductor of the Matador Singers, director of the Opera Chorus, associate conductor of the Women's Chorale, and co-conductor of the University Choir—TTU's premier choral ensemble. Alongside these positions, he taught courses in Vocal Pedagogy, Choral Conducting, and mentored both graduate students and pre-service teachers.

Prior to working at the university level, Dr. Taylor taught secondary choirs in Texas for six years. In 2014, he co-founded The Houston Men's Choir, a collaborative ensemble of tenor-bass singers that rehearses and performs without a traditional conductor and is a recognized 501c3 non-profit organization committed to the art of singing and its positive impact through performance and education.

Dr. Taylor earned his D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from Texas Tech University as well as a Master's Degree in Choral Conducting and Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Stephen F. Austin State University. His recent research focuses on metrical dissonance and other temporal elements in the vocal quartets of Johannes Brahms. He maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician and has given numerous presentations on score study, conducting gesture, and rehearsal technique.

Selecting Solo Repertoire for the High School Singer, Dr. Sarah Daughtrey

Dr. Sarah Daughtrey, mezzo-soprano, is Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of the Vocal Area at New Mexico State University. She has also held positions at Elizabethtown College in PA and Marshall University in WV. Dr. Daughtrey received the DM in Vocal Performance and Literature from the prestigious Jacobs School of Music

at Indiana University, and pursued graduate studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where she was a Knoxville Opera Company Apprentice. An active presenter, performer and pedagogue, Dr. Daughtrey's diverse activities include participation in the Mentor program of SongFest at the Colburn School in Los Angeles; two recent performances at the College Music Society's 2016 and 2019 national conferences; and a lecture recital presentation at the Texoma Region of NATS 2016 conference Artist



Series on Brazilian song and Brazilian Portuguese lyric diction, as well as several recitals featuring music of Latin America. She is currently under contract with Centaur records for a new album featuring works for saxophone, piano and voice. Most recently, she presented her research again for her 2020 article in the *NATS Journal of Singing*, "Let's Start at the Very End: Teaching the Singers of Generation Z," for the 2021 Texoma Artist Series. She has also served as master class instructor at several colleges around the country, and was the invited Voice Division adjudicator for the prestigious MusicFest Northwest festival in Spokane, Washington in 2017. Dr. Daughtrey is currently serving as

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NATS District Governor of New Mexico and West Texas, and served several terms as both Rio Grande and Allegheny Chapter president.

A Gratitude Attitude: Finding Gratitude in Ever-Changing Times, Vanessa V Casarez

****Please note that Vanessa gave a fabulous workshop at our summer educator event! ****

Vanessa V. Casarez is a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner currently practicing in Albuquerque, NM, working in the NICU at Presbyterian Hospital.



Vanessa has spent the past 20 years in the NICU but most recently has completed a post-graduate certification and received her certificate as a Certified Professional Coach as well as a certification as a Health and Well-Being Coach. Vanessa's personal focus is on improving and maintaining the health and well-being of individuals, as well as helping those find and utilize the resources they have in order to live a more complete, enriched, and fulfilled life. Her current focus is on preventing burnout in the workplace and at home, and helping the groups she works with find a healthy balance between the two.

Vanessa's interests include drinking coffee, running, exercising, reading, and living life with a student mind. She enjoys spending time with her

family and 2 dogs.

The Ins and Outs of the Booster Organization: Helpful Tips for the Music Educator, Arthur Wright and Justin E. Morris

The purpose of this presentation is to shed light on how to oversee and operate a music booster organization. Topics will include organization operation procedures, recruiting, bylaws, fundraising and working with parents, alumni and other patrons.



Arthur Wright, III is a graduate of Charleston Southern University with a B.A. degree in Music Education and a graduate of The University of Georgia with a Master in Music Education degree. Wright graduated with a Doctor of Education in Music Education from The University of Georgia. Dr. Wright previously taught at the Academy of Richmond County and Savannah State University. He was named Teacher of the Year in 2006 during his tenure as Director of Bands at the Academy of Richmond County in Augusta, GA. He currently serves as Director of Bands at Berkmar High School, in Lilburn, GA. Dr. Wright is a member of the Georgia Music Educators Association, National Education Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity,

and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America. Dr. Wright is often sought after as an adjudicator, clinician, and mentor. He has recently presented at Music Education Conferences in Arizona, Rhode Island, Washington, Indiana, Illinois, and Georgia.

Justin Morris is a graduate of Tougaloo College with a B.A. degree in Humanities with an emphasis in Music and a graduate of Augusta State University with a Masters in Music Education. Mr. Morris has been teaching young people music for 10 years.



Mr. Morris is currently one of the band directors at Burke County High School in Waynesboro Georgia. He previously taught high school, middle school, and collegiate band in the Atlanta, Augusta, and Savannah areas. Mr. Morris is a member of the Georgia Music Educators Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Inc.

Middle School Choir Mythbusters, Irene Brink and Anton Tan

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Anton Tan is currently teaching at Sierra Middle School in Las Cruces, NM. He is in his fourth year of teaching middle school and has taught elementary, middle school, and high school levels. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education at New Mexico State University. During his Bachelor's Degree, he has helped pilot a practicum-based community choir through NAFME--the Middle School Choral Ensemble (MSCE) project and now has since been teaching middle school-aged students.



Irene Brink is the Director of Choirs at Vista Middle School, as well as Artistic Director of the LGBTQ and Ally community choir, Singing Out Las Cruces. Ms. Brink is a graduate of New Mexico State University, where she received both a BA in Music Education and an MA in Music. Irene is currently in her 16th year as a music educator, an active board member of NMACDA, and a Co-Chair of GLSEN Las Cruces. When not working, Irene enjoys spending time with her loving partner and 9-year-old son, gaming,

hiking, reading, and cuddling with their many fur babies.

Middle School Madness in the Choral Classroom, Beth Borchert-Thomas

Beth Thomas was the choral director at Mayfield High School, Las Cruces, NM for 27 years. While serving as choral director there, Mrs. Thomas' choirs appeared 5 times as the New Mexico All State Honor Choir and also were featured at the Southwest American Choral Director's Associations Regional Convention. Mrs. Thomas' choirs consistently received superior ratings at both district solo and ensemble and district large group festivals. Each year Mrs. Thomas put a disproportionate number of students in the New Mexico All State Choirs. While in her tenure at Mayfield, the choirs received Best In Class at many regional and national festivals. Mrs. Thomas has toured with her choirs nationally and worldwide including Washington, DC, New York City and a 7 country tour of Europe. Mrs. Thomas taught in El Paso the last 5 years of her public school career at Brown Middle School in the El Paso Independent School District. She is currently Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Las Cruces, where she conducts the handbells and the children's, youth, and adult choirs.



Recently Mrs. Thomas has conducted the Region 22 Middle School All Region Choir of El Paso, Texas and conducted both the Ysleta Indepen-

dent School District's High School and Middle School Honor Choirs. Most recently was conducting the New Mexico ACDA Youth Treble All State Choir. She is very active in New Mexico and Texas as an adjudicator for contests while also providing professional development for current choral directors. Mrs. Thomas received her bachelor of music education from East Carolina University and her masters of music from Florida State University. She has been nominated for many awards locally, state and nationally. She is married to Dennis Thomas, and they have 5 children which she and her husband will say are happily all "out of the house!!"

Sight-Singing & Solfege - Small Steps to Success, Paul Hallsted



Paul Hallsted is currently teaching choir and guitar at Alma d'Arte Charter High School in Las Cruces, NM. He has been a music educator for over 35 years, teaching as a general music teacher for elementary school, and as a choir director at the high school level. He has taught elementary music methods for NMSU, and has taught Orff Certification throughout the country. Paul has served as a guest clinician for numerous honor choirs and is active as a clinician for general music and choral workshops throughout the country.

2022 Orchestra Clinics

How to Recruit Like a Pro (Angela Harman)

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Summary: This clinic will cover topics such as: How to capture the excitement and thrill of music to recruit more students, establishing first impressions, materials to market your program, preparing props, pre-visit, student involvement, concert programming to promote and grow your program, and many other tips for success.



Bio: Angela Harman is passionate about music education and has taught orchestra in Utah's Nebo School District for 15 years. She has successfully grown the orchestra program at her schools by up to 400% and consistently helps her groups earn superior ratings at district and state festivals. Angela has earned a number of awards including: Give A Note Tour and Ardy from Radio Disney and the Give a Note foundation in 2016, Superior Accomplishment Award from the Utah Music Educators association in 2017, and the 2020 Best of State in public music education from bestofstate.org. Angela is the founder of www.orchestraclassroom.com, where she posts ideas and methods that she uses in her classroom. Her blog is well known in the string teacher sphere, and many find inspiration in her articles. Her books and resources are used by string teachers all over the world. As a sought-out speaker and presenter, Angela shares ideas with colleagues by presenting at professional development conferences.

She has been featured several times in NAFME's 'Music in a Minuet' blog and 'Teaching Music' magazine. She has had articles published in the UMEA Journal, Smart-Music blog, and GradeCam blog.

Analyzing String Instrument Playing Skills to Improve Repertoire Selection (Dr. Blair Williams)

Summary: How can we best select repertoire based on the string instrument playing skills that our students have, are refining, and need to develop? These decisions are more important than ever as our orchestra students come back together after the variety of teaching modalities during the pandemic. Teachers will be able to immediately implement these tools and strategies to meet their students where they are, work to develop playing skills and refine strategies through repertoire. During this session we will adapt the Playing Skills Checklist (Gillespie, Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra, vol. 2) to best prepare our students for success using backward design for repertoire planning and sequence of skill development. We will also analyze playing skills in common string orchestra pieces and evaluate their listed and published grade level to make more informed decisions for repertoire plans for the school year and beyond!



Bio: Dr. Blair Williams is Associate Professor of String Music Education

at Texas Tech University and Director/Master Teacher of the national award-winning TTU String Project. She is the co-founder/conductor of the Lubbock Civic Orchestra. She has presented educational sessions and research as well as served as clinician, conductor, and adjudicator across the country. She currently serves on several committees and boards for national, state, and local music associations including ASTA, SMTE, and TMEA, currently serving as the Chair of the ASTA National Conference Committee. She has published articles in Journal of Research in Music Education, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, and American String Teacher.

Tuning Issues Solved: From Pegs to Fine Tuners, Know How to Address Any Tuning Issue (Steve France)

Summary: Learn to repair your own instrument (and that of your student's) so you can perform with confidence. You will come out of this session with practical, hands-on experience knowing how to diagnose and correct all common tuning issues from stuck pegs or out of round peg holes to the frozen fine tuner screw or busted tailpiece gut. I'm Steve France and I've been repairing instruments since 1995 and I promise to bring what little humor I have, a bit of sarcasm, tons of real-life stories you'll repeat to students every year of the rest of your life and the large quantity of energy I bring to each day to make this an effective and fun session. You will talk about this being the most practical and applicable session of the conference! If you have a string instrument with some problems, BRING IT! There's nothing like the satisfaction of taking care of an issue yourself! From this session you will be able to address common peg issues, know when it's stuck versus out of round and how to correct it. You, and every one of your students will benefit greatly from this practical, hands-on session. All participants will receive the free online

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emergency repair guide offering you hundreds of tips and tricks on how to get any student with any problem on stage fast! Make this your best conference ever by attending this session by Repair Masterclass.



Bio: Steve France: Like you, music played an important part in life for Steve France growing up. Music provided a sense of identity and accomplishment to him. After going to college for music education and completing a joint music and business degree, he continued his education in Wisconsin at Badger State Repair and completed an apprenticeship in instrument repair and restoration. Steve moved to Utah in 2000 and has shared his love for instrumental music by helping to recruit thousands of students to band and orchestra programs across the state. In 2011 he opened his own store, The Music Store, in St. George, UT to serve the musical community in Southern Utah and received the Utah Service To Music Education Award in 2016. In 2020 he sold his store to focus on Repair Masterclass where he helps student and professional players' instruments stay in good repair so they too can enjoy the positive impact music has in all of our lives. Steve is married to the love of his life, Rachel and they have 4 amazing children, a dog and a cat. Aside from work he enjoys trail running and a day skiing on the slopes with his family.

Demystifying the Sight-Read-

ing Process (Timothy Kaiser, University of Arizona)

Summary: Although mastery of sight-reading skills is an essential component of musicianship, our band, orchestra, and choir students are often intimidated by the prospect of sight-reading. This presentation will outline a year-long approach to teaching sight-reading fundamentals, including strategies for incorporating sight-reading practice into the daily rehearsal plan. Whether you are preparing for an adjudicated contest or simply looking to build a basic skill set, a focus on sight-reading will yield accomplished, independent musicians capable of performing a wide variety of repertoire.



Bio: Timothy Kaiser is pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Wind Conducting at the University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music. In this capacity, he appears regularly with the Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Band; serves on staff with the Pride of Arizona Marching and Pep Bands; and teaches the Introduction to Conducting course. He is a frequent presenter at music education conferences nationwide and a contributing author to the forthcoming Handbook of Wind Music, under the auspices of the Internationale Gesellschaft zur Erforschung und Förderung der Blasmusik (In-

ternational Society for the Research and Promotion of Wind Music). Mr. Kaiser's professional experience encompasses all ensemble types at all levels of instruction. He came to Arizona from Del Valle High School in Austin, Texas, where he conducted the Concert and Jazz Bands, co-directed the Proud Cardinal Marching Band, and assisted with performing ensembles and beginner classes at all three district middle schools. He began his professional career as Director of Instrumental Music at Antioch High School, in his native California. Ensembles under his direction have performed at Pearl Harbor, Disneyland, the Reno Jazz Festival, the Pacific Western Concert Band Festival, AT&T Stadium, the Alamodome, and Fiesta San Antonio. Mr. Kaiser holds degrees in Music Education from the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music. His professional affiliations include the College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, National Band Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, and Society of Pi Kappa Lambda.

The Basics of Multi-Styles String Playing (George Nicholson, Robb Janov, & Drew Austin)

Summary: In effort to meet the diverse backgrounds of all students within an orchestral classroom, string educators have been looking towards expanding repertoire to include multiple styles and genres. However, many teachers may be hesitant to incorporate these new ways of musicking due to lack the experience, knowledge, or skills. This session will introduce the basics of multi-styles to give string teachers the tools implement a multi-stylistic curriculum. Repertoire choices, pedagogical considerations, technological needs, and instrument techniques will be discussed through a variety of string settings (beginning through

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advanced high school). Styles that will be discussed include jazz, mariachi, R&B, rock, and American fiddling, among others genres.



Bio: George Nicholson is the Assistant Professor of Instrumental Music Education at the University of New Mexico. He holds degrees in music education from Columbia University Teachers College, the University of Georgia, and the University of Miami. His research interests focus on the connection of educational theory to the practice of teaching, in domains of social justice, creativity, and multidimensional forms of music making.



Bio: Robb Janov, multistyles violinist and composer, is the creator of the national award-winning “Rock and

Rhythm” program, which emboldens and inspires underserved public school students through innovative music education. The 25-year program’s success, featured on the PBS Newshour, Colores, and local newscasts, has served as a model for other music programs throughout the country. Robb mesmerizes live audiences with electric violin and vocal ‘live-looping’ performances and joyful grooves. His background includes performances with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and Indiana University’s orchestras.

All Strings Attached: Strategies to Build a Successful Middle School Orchestra Program (Ray Arreola, EPISD)
Summary: Take a look at how I approach classroom procedures, warm-ups, concert programming, scaffolding, and writing in the orchestra classroom. Bring your instrument for interactive learning!



Bio: Ray Arreola Born and raised in El Paso, Texas, Ray Arreola is a professional musician and music educator in the Southwest region. Arreola performs with the El Paso Symphony, Las Cruces Symphony, Roswell Symphony, Texarkana Symphony. He has served as the Artistic Director / Conductor of the Las Cruces Youth Orchestras, Orchestra Director of Franklin High School, Viola Sectionals Coach with the El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestras, and Orchestra

Director of J. Paul Taylor Academy. Ray Arreola is the current Orchestra Director at Hornedo Middle School in El Paso, Texas.

2020 General Music Clinics

Creating Meaningful Movement Opportunities



Movement encompasses a need for self-awareness and cultural understanding. Through movement students work toward a deeper sense of unity that helps to enhance community development in the classroom. We will look at creating meaningful opportunities for students to engage in movement and dance. This session will have three focuses: 1. Discuss the steps to creating movement to enhance musical elements 2. Offer students tools to develop self-expression through movement 3. Create a process to determine how movement builds community engagement.

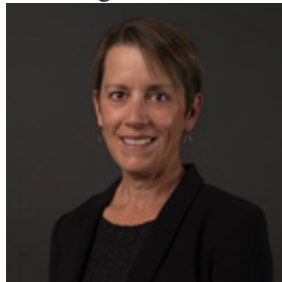
Lesley Dennis taught elementary music for 9 years in Florida and Texas. Dennis earned her BA degree in Music K-12 from Bethune-Cookman University. She is a past conductor, co-chair, and chair of the Volusia All-County Elementary Music Showcase 2016-2018. She was a PLC leader in Hillsborough County, FL and mentored her fellow teachers in Canvas. Dennis is a certified fitness instructor through AFAA. She

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is a life member of Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority, Inc. Dennis is currently a Training Specialist for QuaverEd.

Breathing together: Music Educators Imagining and Co-conspiring in Times of Strife

How can we, as music educators, respond to this moment of cultural strife caused by multiple world crises (racial, environmental, social, political, economic, etc.) that have been amplified by the Covid-19 pandemic? As Julia Church Hoffman witnesses her music education colleagues processing the realities of their own mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being during this tumultuous, disorienting time, simultaneously burdened by pressures to “save the world through music education” while doing the day-in-day-out work of teaching, she reflects on her own positionality in this moment. She keeps coming back to the center, to her own authentic self, and why that matters to the larger cause of moving



forward into a new and better future. This session, informed by research, will create space for music educators to pause, notice, imagine, and co-conspire (breathe together) through various modes of guided reflection, in solitude and in community, on what is true in this moment and what is possible for the future of music education and beyond.

Julia Church Hoffman is Director of the UNM Music Prep School and Senior Lecturer of Music Education. A native New Mexican, Julia attended Albuquerque Public Schools

and holds degrees from the College of Wooster (B.A.), and the University of New Mexico (M.M.). Her teaching background includes early childhood, elementary, and middle school music, choir and general education in New Mexico and Arizona schools.

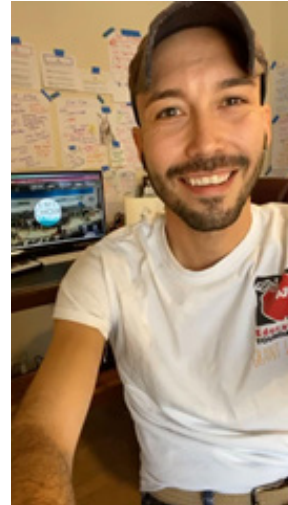
Popular Music in the General Music Curriculum: A Framework for Practical Applications

Incorporating popular music into the general music curriculum has gained traction in secondary schools due to the pedagogical, motivational, and equitable opportunities it provides to students. This session will provide a framework for a nine-week general music course that utilizes contemporary music as a basis for music learning through the artistic practices of the National Standards of Music Education (creating, performing, and responding). Participants will leave with a sample nine-week curriculum that is adaptable to many middle and high school settings, sample lessons plans and materials with student work examples, knowledge of the technology and instruments utilized in popular music, and ideas on how to expand popular music into other school music settings.



George Nicholson is the Assistant Professor of Instrumental Music Education at the University of New Mexico. He holds degrees in music education from Columbia University Teachers College, the University of Georgia, and the University of Miami. His research interests focus on the

connection of educational theory to the practice of teaching, in domains of social justice, creativity, and multidimensional forms of music making.



William Gonzales is a proud New Mexico native who graduated from UNM in 2010 with a degree in Music Education. After graduating, Wil spent 6 years in the Washington, DC metro area teaching and earning a master's degree in music education at the University of Maryland where his master's thesis focused on assessment practices in secondary music ensemble classes. While in Maryland, Wil taught at Newport Mill Middle School where he grew a choir class of 42 students to a functioning program consisting of over 130 singers and 4 ensembles. Additionally, he worked as ensemble manager and assistant director for the Strathmore Children's Chorus Concert Chorus, a vocal ensemble for females grades 9–12. In 2017, Wil moved back to the Land of Enchantment to be closer to family and became the choir director at Eisenhower Middle School in Albuquerque Public Schools. At EMS he teaches four choir ensembles including a show choir and also teaches two sections of 6th grade Exploratory Music. In addition to working for APS, Wil is also the Treasurer for New Mexico American Choral Directors Association

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(NMACDA).

Tips on Playing and Teaching Ukulele



Participants will learn to improve their ukulele playing and teaching skills using the ukulele as an accompaniment instrument and also as a melody instrument in playing solos and ensembles. Sequential curriculum for teaching the ukulele class will be presented. Participants are encouraged to bring their ukuleles to the session.

Mike Christiansen is Professor Emeritus in the Music Department at Utah State University. He founded the guitar program at USU where he was Director of Guitar Studies for 39 years. In 1994, he was selected as Professor of The Year at Utah State University. In December of 2012, Mike was selected as a U.S. Carnegie Professor of the Year. In 2013, he was invited to be a TED speaker. He has authored/co-authored over 40 guitar and ukulele instruction books and appears on hundreds of instruction videos. Mike is currently the co-owner and Director of Curriculum for Consonus Music.

Crossing Boundaries: Growing music culture through cross-curricular instruction

Many music educators feel isolated in their schools, from being in a

closed-off wing, to having colleagues who don't really understand what they do. In addition to having to constantly recruit, fight budget cuts, and more, many directors feel their school environment is an "us versus them" battleground. This session discusses how to grow positive music culture, increase enrollment, and establish inter-departmental collegiality throughout the school through the use of musical cross-curricular instruction. Attendees will leave with lesson plans that can be immediately implemented in the classroom, and an increased appreciation for the universality of music as an instructional and creative subject. Attendees will gain confidence as pedagogical leaders in their schools who can use their expertise to bridge instructional and interpersonal gaps through the creative use of cross-curricular pedagogy.

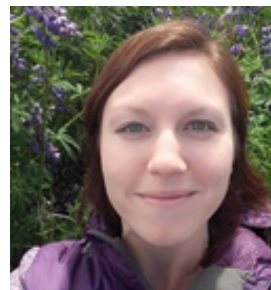


Cameron Elliott is a Masters student in Music Education at the University of Hartford's Hartt School Conservatory. A current resident of the greater Salt Lake City metro in Utah, Cameron is a full-time educator, teaching middle school band, choir, guitar, and ukulele. He has taught in Utah and North Carolina. He has held previous positions as the assistant director of the Charlotte Pride Band in Charlotte, NC, and director of the Lesbian Gay Band Association's World Pride Band at the 2019 World Pride Festival in New York City. As a conductor, Cameron has studied privately with Scott Carter and Jorge

Richter, and in workshops with Jack Stamp, Michael Haithcock, Jerald Schiebert, Eugene Corporon, Travis Cross, and Mallory Thompson. Cameron's interests as an educator include cross-curricular pedagogy, equity and access to music education, music learning theory, and social-emotional learning in the music classroom.

Sing, Say, Dance, Play: It's All About the Orff Process

The presenters will begin with a song and lead the attendees through activities in which they sing, say, dance, and play through imitation, exploration, and improvisation; essential elements of the Orff Schulwerk process.



Vicky Wood is an elementary music teacher for Albuquerque Public Schools. This is her 11th year teaching and her 10th year as a member of NMAOSA. She previously served as Secretary for three years and is beginning her fourth year as Treasurer.



Alexa Nguyen is a Native New Mexican and is from Roswell, New Mexico. She attended the University of New Mexico, as a Daniels Fund

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Scholar, from 2015 and graduated with her Bachelors in Music Education in 2019. Ms. Nguyen is an Elementary Music Teacher with Albuquerque Public Schools and works within the Fine Arts Department as a Level 1 teacher. Ms. Nguyen received her Orff Level 1 Certificate in the Summer of 2019 and enjoys attending Orff Workshops every Fall and Spring Semester.

MLT, it's as easy as ABC!

At its core, music learning theory is simply an attempt to explore and explain how we learn to understand music. Through his decades of research, Ed Gordon posits that we learn music in a parallel process to how we learn language. Natalie Tiesi will explore this idea. Beginning with the listening vocabulary and moving through speaking/singing, audiating/thinking, reading, and finally writing, she will present a



series of songs, chants, and activities that demonstrate this fundamental learning sequence.

2022 Guitar All-State Clinics

Educator Clinics

There are many amazing educators who will be presenting clinics this year. I encourage everyone to attend as many clinics as possible!

Teaching Guitar for the Non-Gui-

tarist (Philip Hemmo)

Teaching a guitar course or building a guitar program in the 7-12th grade system can be a complex undertaking. This session will offer insight and practical resources to help the guitars and non-guitarist alike, to design and implement a guitar course and full curriculum for you 7-12 grade guitar course offerings. I want to offer insight for you as to how to stay at least 1 step ahead of your students while still driving them to a high level of aptitude on the instrument built on solid fundamentals. This clinic will include everything you need to instruct a first year guitar course and beyond (textbook, curriculum map with lessons, audio tracks, video support). All this material is open source and can be freely used and shared. Philip Hemmo is known throughout the United States as a teacher and performer of the classical guitar. As a faculty member at the University of Arizona, Pima Community College, the University of Illinois-Springfield, Notre Dame Preparatory High School in Scottsdale, AZ, and now Northern Arizona University, he continues to foster the next generation of classical guitarists. He has been featured in concert throughout the US and Mexico as a soloist as well as working with symphonies and chamber ensembles. Mr. Hemmo's students include international competition winners, performing artists, and current University Instructors. Mr. Hemmo is the author of the guitar method text 'Beginning Classroom Guitar' (Thompson Learning 1998 & 2004, Open Source, 2018) which is the textbook and curriculum of choice for guitar courses across the United States. His recordings 'Guitar Works of Francisco Tárrega' (2020), 'Petite Pieces' (2017), 'Guitar Recital' (2013), 'The 20th Century Guitar' (2012) as well as 'Romantic Works for Classical Guitar' (2010) have been released on the Project Aurora Recordings label to national acclaim.

Classroom Guitar Before, During, and After COVID (Mike Christiansen)

During the pandemic, teachers developed creative ways of teaching classroom guitar. Many pedagogical techniques used prior to the pandemic were modified to accommodate situations brought on by COVID restrictions. Some of those modifications can still be applied when the students return to classrooms full-time. This session will present some of those techniques, including blended learning. Methods of using blended learning, whether students are in class daily, at home, or in-class part-time, will be presented. Unique blended learning curriculum and courseware will be made available.



Mike Christiansen is Professor Emeritus in the Music Department at Utah State University. Mike founded the guitar program at USU and was Director of Guitar Studies at USU for 39 years. In 1994, he was selected as Professor of The Year at Utah State University. In December of 2012, Mike was selected as one of the U.S. Carnegie Professors of the Year. In that

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same year, he was selected as the USU Caine College of the Arts Professor of the Year, and in 2013, he was invited to be a TED speaker. Mike is an in-demand clinician doing dozens of clinics and workshops annually for schools and various conferences. He has presented at the NAMM show and the Midwest clinic. He averages over 130 performances annually as a soloist, with the group Mirage, and with the Lightwood Duo (a clarinet-guitar duo which has released six recordings). He is the author and/or co-author of 45 books. He is the author of the best selling *Guitar Basics*. He has had articles published in several magazines including *Acoustic Guitar*, *Fingerstyle*, and *Soundboard*. and has performed with many artists including: Jack Petersen, Glen Frey (the Eagles), Joe Diorio, Tommy Emmanuel, Jose Posadas, Johnny Hilland, Natalie Cole, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Juliza Adlizan, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Sutton Foster, and Alfie Boe. Mike is currently the co-owner of Consonus Music (a company specializing in blended learning courseware for ukulele and guitar). He has authored and composed the material used in the Consonus courseware and appears on the Consonus videos and audio recordings.

New Music Reading Session for Guitar (Paul Nielsen)

Explore new ensemble music for guitar classes. Sample score and parts provided by 'Musicality' and available for purchase. Bring your guitar to sight read selections. Level-Intermediate/Advanced High School Guitar Classes.



Paul Nielsen
Sandia Prep School, Guitar Instructor 2015-present
Taught for Albuquerque Public Schools, 1990-2015
President, Guitar New Mexico, 2008-2021
NMMEA, Guitar Vice President, 2017-18
NMMEA, District VII Guitar VP, 2012-16
University of New Mexico, MM, 1982
New England Conservatory of Music, BM, 1978
Attended Emilio Pujol's 'International Courses of Guitar, Lute and Vihuela'; Cervera, Spain 1977
Primary teachers: Hector Garcia, and Robert Paul Sullivan; Masterclasses with Oscar Ghiglia, Eliot Fisk, Robert Guthrie and Jesus Silva.

Technology Tools for the Guitar



Classroom (Gwen-Marie Lerch)

This workshop provides an overview of technology tools and best practices for the guitar classroom and includes samples of in-class and student use, as well as a discussion of best practices and mistakes-to-avoid. Technology

areas covered include notation systems, rhythm technology, play-along and backing tracks, ear training, technique, composition, reference recordings, live audio, live recording, solo and/or ensemble practice over the internet, practice & learning with online resources, tuning, and intonation, using cameras and webcams to maximum advantage, and maximizing audio recordings for student achievement and growth.

Gwen-Marie Lerch, director of Guitar Studies at New Mexico School for the Arts (Santa Fe) is a guitarist, conductor, composer, and soundscape artist, known for exploring language, memory and landscape in multimedia art installations, compositions, and live performances. Her chamber works and soundscapes have been performed or installed at festivals and collaborations throughout the world, including Titwrench, Kleinsmark, Jacob's Ladder, OATE, Safed, and Masada. As a conductor and musical director, Ms. Lerch has had the great pleasure of conducting in Seattle Opera House, The Kaufmann Center, Tempe Center for the Arts, The 560-St. Louis, and the Chicago Lyric, as well as many smaller theaters run by dedicated artists throughout the world. A passionate and dedicated music educator, Ms. Lerch holds degrees and artist certificates in guitar performance, conducting, music education, and theory/composition



from St. Louis Conservatory, Murray State University, the University of Kentucky, and the University of

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New Mexico. She regularly advises schools and districts throughout North America on guitar and fret pedagogy, methods, and programs, and has published numerous TED talks and manuscripts on the subject. Ms. Lerch maintains leadership roles and active memberships in Guitar New Mexico, the Guitar Foundation of America, the NM Music Educators Association, the National Association for Music Education, the Conductors Guild, Society for Composers, and ASCAP/BMI & SEASAC.

Theorbo Practices (Pablo Champion)



A basic introduction to the instrument, its tuning, and basics of continuo playing from a figured bass.

Pablo Champion began his serious music studies in 1989 at the University of Texas at Austin. There he studied Classical Guitar with Prof. Adam Holzman and received a Bachelor of Music degree after spending a year in Alicante, Spain; where he studied with the late Maestro Jose Tomas. After finishing a Masters degree in Guitar performance at the Eastman school of Music, Pablo switched his interests to early music and continuo playing on the theorbo. This led to Doctoral studies at Indiana University under the tutelage of Nigel North. Pablo has varied musical interests outside of classical music and has played in popular music groups on both the electric guitar and bass. Pablo has performed in Texas, New York, Indiana, Mississippi, Louisiana, New Mexico, Spain, and France. Before

joining the music faculty for the Santa Fe Public Schools, Pablo was the guitar instructor at the New Mexico School for the Arts. Pablo currently teaches guitar



full-time at Santa Fe High School.

2022 Collegiate All-State Clinics

**“Come on in, the water’s fine!”
Preparing for your student teaching experience and beyond, Presented by Dr. Blair Williams**

Attendees will discuss researched strategies and suggestions from administrators, mentor/cooperating teachers, university supervisors, and former student teachers to prepare to make a “splash” during their student teaching experience and beyond!

Dr. Blair A. Williams is Associate Professor of String Music Education at Texas Tech University and Director/Master Teacher of the national award-winning TTU String Project. She is the co-founder/conductor of the Lubbock Civic Orchestra. She has presented educational sessions and research as well as served as clinician, conductor, and adjudicator across the country. She currently serves on several committees and boards for national, state, and local music associations including ASTA, SMTE, and TMEA. She has published articles in *Journal of Re-*

search in Music Education, *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*, and *American String Teacher*.

If You Can Sing It, You Can Play It - A Brief Overview of Universal Musical Concepts and Rehearsal Techniques, Presented by Dustin Seifert

This session will focus on universal musical concepts and rehearsal techniques that can be applied in the instrumental rehearsal room. Clinic is designed for general music/vocal majors seeking K-12 music certification.

Dustin D. Seifert, a native of Lancaster, Ohio, is Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Bands at Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU). Mr. Seifert received the B.M.Ed., summa cum laude, from The University of Akron and the M.M.Ed. with an emphasis in instrumental conducting from the University of Illinois where he was the recipient of the Guy M. Duker Award. His mentors include Richard L. Cass, Michael R. Golemo, Robert D. Jorgensen, Tucker R. Jolly, James F. Keene, Gary E. Smith, Mark E. Moore, and Deborah A. Confredo. In addition to his administrative duties as Chair of the Department of Music, Mr. Seifert is also responsible for the operation and organization of a comprehensive undergraduate instrumental program. Dustin conducts the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Greyhound Sound Marching Band, and teaches applied euphonium and tuba. Mr. Seifert leads courses in low brass teaching techniques, techniques of marching band, band and wind ensemble history and repertoire, secondary instrumental methods, and beginning and advanced conducting. The ENMU Bands offer several important outreach events annually including the Green and Silver Classic Marching Band Festival, Hound For A Day marching band immersion

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event for high school students, and the ENMU Band Director Workshop - "The New Mexico Thing".

Widely honored as a Music Educator and conductor, Mr. Seifert received the "Spirit of Eastern Award" in 2004 acknowledging outstanding contributions, dedication and loyalty to ENMU over a sustained period. He was the 2005 recipient of ENMU's Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dustin has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus in Music Education by The University of Akron School of Music and as Music Educator of the Year by the New Mexico Music Educators Association.

Prior to his appointment at ENMU, Mr. Seifert served as Assistant Director of Bands at Iowa State University (ISU). At ISU, he conducted the University Band and Musical Pit Orchestra, designed drill for and rehearsed the Sudler Trophy winning ISU Cyclone Football Varsity Marching Band, taught low brass methods, applied low brass, and courses in music education.

Dustin is a member of the New Mexico Music Educators Association, National Band Association, National Association for Music Education, College Band Directors National Association, Texas Music Educators Association, Kappa



Delta Pi Education Honorary, and Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honorary. He is an honorary member of national

honorary band fraternities Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity.

Mr. Seifert was appointed to the New Mexico Music Commission in August of 2020 by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. He currently serves as Southwest Division Chair for the National Band Association, Executive Secretary for the Southeast New Mexico Music Educators Association, is a member of the Collegiate Advisory Council of National Association for Music Education, and served as Music Director of the Clovis (NM) Community Band for eight seasons. He is a Past President of New Mexico Music Educators Association.

Dustin is an active clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator throughout the region, state, and nation. He has conducted honor bands in Alaska, Iowa, Mississippi, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas. When not musicing, Dustin and his family are very involved in numerous community service projects. Mr. Seifert is not above taking a pie in the face to benefit an ENMU student organization or the United Way of Eastern New Mexico. He resides in Portales, New Mexico with his wife, Meredith, son, Stratton, and daughter, Sawyer Jean.



Orchestral Survival Guide for Band and Choir Educators, Pre-

sented by Nathaniel Cantu

This clinic will focus on helping educators be prepared to teach orchestra when their primary focus may have been choir or band in school. Don't let the fear of teaching outside of your content area keep you from getting a job! Don't worry – you can do this.

Nathaniel Cantu is the middle school orchestra director at Picacho and Vista Middle School in Las Cruces, NM. He studied trombone under Dr. Alan Kaplan and received his B.A. at New Mexico State University, playing in various ensembles such as the NMSU Wind Symphony, Philharmonic, and the Pride Marching Band.



He student-taught with cooperating teacher, Mr. Douglas Poff, now retired orchestra director of Vista and Picacho middle schools and quickly developed a love for string pedagogy. Nathaniel has been working as an orchestra teacher, coach, and conductor since 2015, having worked for Alamogordo Public Schools, Las Cruces Public Schools, and the Southwest Music Academy. Nathaniel is currently the Orchestra Vice President for the NMMEA and is working closely with LCPS string teachers to develop and run the area's first Regional Honor Orchestra.

He is married to Maria Shin, an elementary music educator, and has one son and another on the way. His goal is to share his love of music within his classroom and community.

Choral Pedagogy for the Non-Singer, Presented by DuWayne

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Shaver

This session will provide tips and strategies to help instrumentalists who may find themselves in charge of choral classes.

DuWayne Shaver is a professional music educator in Capitan, New Mexico where he has taught both band and choir at the high school and middle school level for 26 years. He also coaches middle school basketball and track. Ensembles under the direction of Mr. Shaver have consistently received superior ratings at local, state, national and international competitions. Both his choir and band have won the state championship once, and have placed in the top three multiple times. He has married to his wife, Janis for 32 years, and they have two lovely daughters.

Teaching Elementary Music Outside Your Content Area: Developing Routines and Procedures to Ensure Success, Presented by Paul Hallsted

In this session, participants will explore daily routines and procedures to navigate the elementary music room successfully. This clinic is designed to help students who did not originally plan to teach elementary music.

Teaching Elementary Music Outside Your Content Area: Developing Routines and Procedures to Ensure Success, Presented by Paul Hallsted

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Paul Hallsted is currently teaching choir and guitar at Alma d'Arte Charter High School in Las Cruces, NM. He has been a music educator for over 35 years, teaching all levels



of students, which include pre-school, elementary school, middle school, high school, and university. He teaches in Orff Schulwerk Certification courses around the country and is an active presenter at the local, state and national levels. Paul has served as a clinician for honor choirs throughout the country. He was inducted into the New Mexico Music Educators Association Hall of Fame in 2009 and received the NMMEA John Batcheller Award for General Music in 1996.

Paul has served as General Music vice president for NMMEA on two separate occasions, president of the New Mexico Chapter of American Orff-Schulwerk Association (AOSA) and as a Regional Representative for AOSA.

Help! How Do I Teach Middle School Band?, Presented by Dr. Olivia Tucker

This clinic will help collegiate attendees understand how to teach middle school band by considering how they have been and are taught, discussing the psychological development of middle schoolers, and discussing sequential strategies on the podium.

Olivia Tucker is an assistant professor at the University of New Mexico, where she is the head of the music education area. Tucker holds a PhD in music education from the University of North Texas,

where she was a teaching fellow and served as an assistant director of the Denton New Horizons senior citizen band. Prior to her doctoral work, Tucker taught band in Dallas-Fort Worth area schools while earning a Master of Music Education degree from UNT. Tucker holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree from Howard Payne University. Her primary instrument is the flute. Tucker's research interests include the agency, education, and identity of music teachers. Her work may be found in the Journal of Music



Teacher Education, Music Educators Journal, Contributions to Music Education, and Update: Applications of Research in Music Education. Tucker has annually presented her work for ensemble teachers at the Texas Music Educators Association Clinic and Convention in San Antonio, and she has presented research at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, the National Association for Music Education National Conference, and the International Symposium on the Sociology of Music Education. She is the author of a chapter on band director identity in an instrumental methods textbook that will be published by GIA in 2022.

Interweaving Creating, Performing, and Responding in a Beginning String Curriculum, Presented by Dr. George Nicholson

In a beginning strings class, focus is often placed on learning the technical foundations required to

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play the instruments, resulting in an emphasis on building the performing practice and leaving the creating and responding practices until later in the curriculum. This session will show various ways to meet all National Standards while building the technique necessary for first year string students. Participants will walk away with strategies and lesson plan ideas to interweave performing, creating, and responding while learning the basics of holding the instrument, the left-hand technique, and right-hand technique.



George Nicholson was born in Ridgewood, NJ, and grew up studying music in the Ridgewood public school system as well as at the Manhattan School of Music Preparatory program. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Miami, FL, and his master's degree from the University of Georgia. Mr. Nicholson had the privilege of teaching orchestra in Cobb County, GA at the middle school and high school level to wonderful, passionate, and thoughtful students. During his time there, the program produced award-winning performances, became actively involved in the local community, and engaged in creative musical experiences. In 2014, George moved to New York City to pursue his doctoral degree in music education at Teachers College at Columbia University where he was a Florence K. Geffen fellow under Dr. Randall E. Allsup. In addition to his studies, he mentored practicing music teachers, conducted the InterSchool Orchestras of New York, and was principal bass with the Queer Urban

Orchestra. His research interests focus on the connection of theory to the practice of teaching, in domains of social justice, creativity, and multidimensional forms of music making. Past positions include posts at Ithaca College, CUNY Queens College, and The College of New Jersey. George currently serves as Assistant Professor of Instrumental Music Education at the University of New Mexico.

Off to the Races: Tips for a Successful First Week in the Choral Classroom, Presented by Dr. Jake Taylor

The first week of rehearsals can be daunting even for the most seasoned educators, as these initial encounters often shape the trajectory for the entire year to come. Dr. Taylor will present a wide array of teaching techniques to set the tone for a fruitful year. Topics will include team-building, voice building, music literacy, and repertoire. In addition to actively participating in much of the session, attendees will have access to several digital resources to use in their future classrooms.



Dr. Jake Taylor is the newly appointed Choral Director at New Mexico State University and will serve as conductor of the University Singers, Concert Choir, and Masterworks Chorus. In addition to his conducting responsibilities, he will teach courses in conducting, choral methods, and music education. Previously, Dr. Taylor was an instructor at Texas Tech University.

There he served as conductor of the Matador Singers, director of the Opera Chorus, associate conductor of the Women's Chorale, and co-conductor of the University Choir—TTU's premier choral ensemble. Alongside these positions, he taught courses in Vocal Pedagogy, Choral Conducting, and mentored both graduate students and pre-service teachers.

Prior to working at the university level, Dr. Taylor taught secondary choirs in Texas for six years. In 2014, he co-founded The Houston Men's Choir, a collaborative ensemble of tenor-bass singers that rehearses and performs without a traditional conductor and is a recognized 501c3 non-profit organization committed to the art of singing and its positive impact through performance and education.

Dr. Taylor earned his D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from Texas Tech University as well as a Master's Degree in Choral Conducting and Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Stephen F. Austin State University. His recent research focuses on metrical dissonance and other temporal elements in the vocal quartets of Johannes Brahms. He maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician and has given numerous presentations on score study, conducting gesture, and rehearsal technique.

What Just Happened? How to Thrive in the First Years of Teaching General Music, Presented by Sarah Silva

This session will offer advice on lesson/curriculum planning, time management, and self-care to help young teachers succeed without burning out.

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Sarah Silva

has completed 17 years of exemplary teaching for Las Cruces Public Schools. She teaches at Monte Vista Elementary School, where her students have participated in multiple school wide programs that showcase student leadership and talents. Since 2006, Sarah synergies closely with the Teaching and Learning Center within Las Cruces Public Schools, where she has mentored and supported first year music teachers as well as student teachers. In 2014, Sarah successfully passed her New Mexico Dossier and became highly qualified Level III teacher for the state of New Mexico. Furthermore, she is certified in Orff Schulwerk for elementary music. In 2015, Sarah collaborated with music educators and Visual and Performing Arts Coordinators as they developed a crosswalk which bridges the National Arts Core Standards and New Mexico State Standards. Sarah has assisted Las Cruces Public Schools as they have worked together to develop pacing guides for elementary music, power standards for elementary music. She is currently the Southwest Vice President for elementary music and works to develop strong and sustainable elementary programs. Sarah has been a guest speaker at New Mexico State University Introduction to Music Education Class. She strives to develop rapport with colleagues throughout the district, implement highly effective teaching strategies that align within the philosophies of elementary music and continues her learning through professional development and various leadership roles. In 2016 Sarah Silva was the recipient

of the Dr. John M. Batcheller Award for excellence in teaching elementary music.

Mrs. Silva is a native of Las Cruces, where she lives with her husband, Shawn, and their two lovely daughters Milianah and Mattox. She received her Bachelor of Music Education and her Masters of Arts in Early Childhood Education from New Mexico State University.

**Ask an
Arts Administrator, Presented by
Daniel Fear (Farmington), Kurt
Schmidt (Rio Rancho), Joseph
Flores (Las Cruces), Brandon
Boerio (Clovis), Antonio Romero
(Albuquerque)**

A panel of district arts administrators will present a discussion on establishing your career in music education through the first few years. Topics will include the nuts and bolts of administering a music program, interview tips, and a Question/Answer session.



Daniel Fear received his Bachelor of Music Education from New Mexico State University in the spring of 1999. While at NMSU he studied tuba with Dr. Jim Shearer and conducting with Dr. William Clark. He completed his Master's Degree in Educational Administration through Eastern New Mexico University in July of 2015. Mr. Fear has accumulated 17 years of instrumental teaching since the fall of 1999, all with Farmington Municipal Schools in Farmington, NM. Assignments included high school assistant band director and

middle school band and orchestra director. In April of 2016, Mr. Fear accepted the position of Coordinator of Fine Arts for Farmington Municipal Schools. During his time as Fine Arts Coordinator, Farmington Municipal Schools has been recognized as a NAMM Best Community for Music Education 5 consecutive years, and the NMMEA's District of Distinction twice.

He has served as president of the Northwest New Mexico Music Educators Association and holds professional memberships with the National Association for Music Education, New Mexico Music Educators Association, as well as a member of the New Mexico chapter of Phi Beta Mu. He is also a member of the National Art Educators Association and New Mexico Art Educators Association. His service memberships include the Southwest Civic Winds Board, Connie Gotsch Arts Foundation Board, the San Juan College Fine Arts Committee, and the New Mexico Advisory Council on Arts Education.

Mr. Fear is an active performer with the Celebration Brass of First Presbyterian Church-Farmington, Southwest Civic Winds, Kissmah Brass Band, San Juan College Concert Band, Die Sechs Polka Dots polka band, and the Great Western Rocky Mountain Brass Band Festival. Mr. Fear is also an active clinician and adjudicator in New Mexico and Colorado.

Mr. Fear spends his free time with his wife Andrea and riding mountain bikes with his two children Jazzlyn and Decland.

Kurt Schmidt, Executive Director of Fine Arts for Rio Rancho Public Schools, received a B.M.E degree in 1991 from Central Michigan University and an M.A. in Liberal Arts in 1995 from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. Mr. Schmidt is currently a doctoral student in educational leadership at the University of New Mexico.

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Mr. Schmidt played in numerous small and large ensembles in Michigan and the Washington, DC area, and lived for a time in Vienna, Austria, where he studied horn with members of the Vienna Philharmonic and played in the Vienna Horn Society.

Mr. Schmidt served as band director in the Carson City-Crystal Area Schools (Michigan), at The Maret School (Washington, DC), spent 16 years as Director of Bands at Rio Rancho High School, and was assistant principal for three years at Eagle Ridge Middle School in Rio Rancho.

Joseph Flores has been teaching middle school and high school band programs in the El Paso, Texas and Las Cruces, New Mexico areas since 1997. In his career, Mr. Flores has taught at several schools and now oversees all curriculum and activities as the Fine Arts Content Specialist for Las Cruces Public Schools. During his time in the classroom, all of his groups consistently earned superior ratings and were recognized at local, state, and national levels for musical excellence. During his tenure at Las Cruces High School, the music department was recognized as a Grammy Foundation Signature School in 2000 and the LCHS Jazz Band was selected as the 2002 Honor Jazz Band by the New Mexico Jazz Educators. While at Oate High School, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble won the 2009 state

championship for concert bands hosted by the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA). At Centennial High School, the CHS Wind Symphony won the 2016 state championship for concert bands hosted by the NMAA. In addition to his responsibilities with the CHS band program, Mr. Flores co-conducted the CHS Symphony Orchestra which won the state championship for orchestras hosted by the NMAA in 2014, 2015, and 2016. The CHS Symphony Orchestra was selected as the 2016 Honor Orchestra by the New Mexico Music Educators Association (NMMEA). Additionally, Mr.



Flores has been nominated for the 2016 Golden Apple Award by the New Mexico Golden Apple Foundation, selected as the 2017 NMMEA Music Educator of the Year, and selected as the recipient of the 2019 NMMEA Rollie Heltman Award. In addition to his work with LCPS Fine Arts, Mr. Flores has regularly served as a guest conductor with the Mesilla Valley Concert Band and the New Horizons Symphony Orchestra, both in Las Cruces, and remains active as a guest speaker, guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician. He has presented several clinics to fellow music educators at the NMMEA All-State Music Festival and In-Service Conference. Mr. Flores has served as President of the NMMEA Southwest District and he has also served as Band Division Vice-President, and President for the entire NMMEA state organization. Lastly, Mr. Flores is a member and former President of the New Mexico

Chapter of the International Band Master's Fraternity, Phi Beta Mu.

Brandon Boerio has been working in music education since 2002. He is currently the Director of Music Education for the Clovis Municipal Schools in Clovis, NM. Before his current appointment, Mr. Boerio

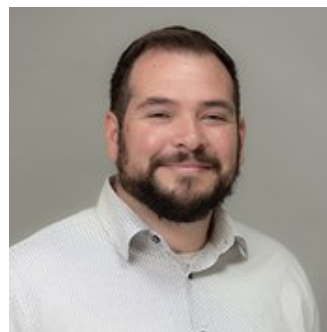


served a year and a half as the Assistant Principal at Yucca Middle School. Prior to becoming an administrator, he was the director of the Clovis High School Concert Band, and was the Percussion Instructor for the Clovis High School, CHS Freshman Academy, Yucca Middle School, Marshall Middle School, and Gattis Middle School bands. In addition to teaching in Clovis, Mr. Boerio taught four years in Portales, serving two years as the Jr. High director and two years as the High School director. Mr. Boerio is a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University with a Bachelors degree in Music Education, and earned a Masters degree in School Administration from Wayland Baptist University. Mr. Boerio has played professionally as a drum set artist, has played with the Southwest Symphony Orchestra and the Roswell Symphony Orchestra, and is active in New Mexico and West Texas as a percussion and band clinician. Mr. Boerio is a member of NMMEA, NAFME, NMCAE, the CCC Cultural Arts Series, Phi Beta Mu, and is an Education Artist Endorser for the Vic Firth stick and mallet company. He and his beautiful wife Tristan have two amazing sons: Grayson and Easton.

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Antonio Romero is a Performing Arts Director with the Albuquerque Public Schools Fine Arts department. He has been on the APS administrative team for three years. Previously, Antonio began his music teaching career in the fall of 2009 in Santa Fe Public Schools and joined APS in the fall of 2010, where he taught elementary music for nine years. Antonio is a multigenerational northern New Mexican from Las Vegas, NM. He received his B.A. in

Music Education from UNM and an M.A. in Educational Technology from Boise State University. Antonio completed his educational leadership requirements at UNM in 2019.



In Memorium - Bill Maxey

It is with sadness that announce the passing of long time Music Educator Bill Maxey.

William (Bill) Dean Maxey, 85, of Las Cruces, NM, went to be with his Lord on September 9, 2021.

Bill was born on December 18, 1935 in Kansas City, Kansas and adopted by William A. and Alvena M. Maxey. He was a graduate of Hot Springs High School, (T or C, NM) and received a Master's degree in Music Education from ENMU (Portales, NM).

During his career he worked as a Band Director for Zuni High School (Zuni, NM), Lynn Jr. High School (Las Cruces, NM), Catalina High School (Tucson, AZ), Mt. View Jr. High (Roswell, NM), Roswell High School (Roswell, NM), and Zia Jr. High School (Las Cruces, NM). Bill was also a veteran of the NM National Guard.

He married Naomi Bernice Cellan on September 3, 1955 in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. Most of Bill's life was spent in New Mexico and Arizona. He and his wife spent summers and vacations at their lovely cabin in Alpine, AZ. He was a member of The Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Naomi Bernice Cellan Maxey. He is survived by his children William R. Maxey (Aurelia) Las Cruces, NM, Richard D. Maxey (Teresa), Las Cruces, NM and Kerri L. Price (Dennis) Los Lunas, NM. He is also survived by grandchildren Naomi C. Molina, Eagan, MN, Kenneth W. Maxey (Kana), San Diego, CA, William R. Maxey (Lindsey), Las Cruces, NM, Rachelle A. Maxey, Albuquerque, NM, Miles C. Maxey (McKay), Salem, OR, Mariah Hamilton (Josh), Jordan, UT, and many great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Karen Smallridge, Novato, CA, two nephews and one niece.



NMMEA Music Industry Council Members 2022

Music Industry Council membership is available to all corporations, businesses, and educational institutions who wish to support the activities of the New Mexico Music Educators Association. These members are an important part of our organization and deserve your support.

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