

STRING VIBRATIONS NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2000

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

The CMEA conference in Colorado Springs is just around the corner, and the Colorado ASTA WITH NSOA events promise a wealth of information for string teachers. Our featured guest clinician is Dr. Judy Palac of Michigan State University.

Judy is an experienced master teacher and presenter. At the suggestion of several teachers, this year's reading session will group the music into grade levels. The session will begin with grade I music and we'll read our way up through the various levels. My thanks to Flesher-Hinton music for providing the music for this session. In addition,

there will be fine string and full orchestra performances from schools in Colorado. Come early to the Fairview High School performance to honor this year's Outstanding Teacher and Lifetime Service Award recipients. I hope you will be able to attend the CASTA WITH NSOA board meeting and solo competition recital winners program on Thursday.

My involvement with the University Affairs Committee of the CMEA Board allowed another opportunity to invite a nationally recognized clinician, Dr. Chris Azzara. Meeting the national standards of composition and improvisation in the instrumental classroom has become an issue for all of us to consider. I attended Chris's clinics at the MENC national convention in Phoenix and know that you will walk away motivated and inspired. His clinics present practical and participatory experiences for all teachers of music.

This is my last newsletter to you as state president. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity, and this position has afforded me the opportunity to work with many new people. The summer conferences have provided the opportunity to work with the leadership of the Colorado Bandmasters Association. I have been proud of our cooperative efforts and for the first time, we had a joint conference program. It was great to see several of those who are primarily band teachers who also teach orchestra at some of the CASTA WITH NSOA events. The clinicians at the summer conference have been known nationally, and through grants through various music industries, we were able to bring both Doris Gazda and Bob Jesselson to Colorado at a minimum cost to our budget. In addition, summer 1999 saw contributions from local music stores in making our workshop a success. A special thanks to Wells, Fred's and Kolacny music for your contributions. Because of the monetary contributions to the summer conference, our budget is healthy.

I'm proud that we have new bylaws that were updated to reflect the current organization of our state chapter. Related to this, a new Board Policy handbook will be adopted that will inform board members of their duties and provide a calendar of dates for which projects should be concluded. This spreads the responsibilities for the workshops and other state functions between the board members and will relieve the president of accepting all the responsibilities and at the same time will help board members feel more involved. Because Kip Mason, President-Elect will be the first to benefit from these changes I asked her to chair this project in order to facilitate her ability to delegate. Plans are currently to have the handbook adopted by March. I enjoyed working with the board members on both the new Bylaws and the Board Policy Handbook.

The advertising in the newsletter has helped our budget also, and this money is helping support the newly reinstated Colorado Solo Competition. I saw it as necessary to honor these winners at the state level, and thank you Kip Mason for organizing this event. The winners will perform at this years CMEA clinic/conference. Without the support of these businesses the competition would not be able to function at this level, and I encourage you to patronize these businesses.

I've also enjoyed working with the board members of the CMEA convention to organize a calendar of CASTA WITH NSOA events at the annual CMEA clinic/conference. It was a privilege to hear our featured clinicians, Bill Dick and Laurie Scott, present information at the 1999 conference, and I look forward to hearing the the information provided by this years featured clinicians. In addition, a big thank you go to those from Colorado who presented clinics.

It was a pleasure to work with Carol Tarr in writing a state grant for a workshop with Dr. Marvin Rabin from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The workshop, held in Frisco in the fall of 1999, was an excellent opportunity for both public school orchestra teachers and private string instructors to connect and meet. The UNC office of Continuing Education was very helpful in providing information that would allow credit for the workshop.

It was also a pleasure working with Mike Weiker, state advocacy chair for CMEA, in providing information to you about the MUSIC OF MY HEART premiere in Denver. If you have not seen this movie, I highly recommend that you rent it today! The movie was wonderful and many talented student groups played at the reception before the movie.

Thank you to Troy Raper for his work on the web page for Colorado ASTA WITH NSOA. A current Colorado ASTA WITH NSOA member directory is a new addition to the web site. The web site has moved to this new location:<http://www.musicalmud.com/asta/index.html>

As outlined in the new bylaws and Board Policy Handbook, I will have several continuing responsibilities as past-president of CASTA WITH NSOA, and I look forward to serving you in this way. I know that Kip will do a wonderful job of leading our organization during her two years as president. Her term will begin in May. Kip has already been helpful to our organization in many ways, most notably taking on the responsibility for the solo competition and in working on the new handbook for state officers. I'm sure that she will bring many new ideas to our chapter.

As outlined in the new Bylaws and Board Policy handbook, I will have several continuing responsibilities as past-president of CASTA WITH NSOA, and I look forward to serving you in this way. I know that Kip will do a wonderful job of leading our organization during her two years as president, and her term will begin in May. Kip has already been helpful to our organization in many ways, most notably taking on the responsibility for the solo competition and in working on the new handbook for state officers. I'm sure that she will bring many new ideas to our chapter.

Please remember to vote for CASTA WITH NSOA President-Elect. A special thank you to members of the UNC ASTA WITH NSOA for helping to fold and label this newsletter. I look forward to seeing many of you at the CMEA Clinic/Conference 2000. Happy New Year!

ASTA WITH NSOA Events: CMEA Conference 2000

Thursday

- 10:15 - 10:45 Strings from Arvada West Area Elementaries
Pattie Nelson, Director
Penrose Dining Room
- 11:00 - 11:50 ASTA Board Meeting and Competition Recital
Crystal Room
Greg Hurley, Colorado ASTA with NSOA President
- 1:30 - 3:00 Reading Session
Russell Guyver, Conductor
Congress A and B
- 3:30 - 4:30 Teaching Improvisation in the Everyday World
Chris Azzara, Hart School of Music
Lake Terrace Dining Room
- 4:45 - 5:30 Rocky Mountain High School Symphony Orchestra
James McNeal, Conductor
International Center North

Friday

- 8:20 - 9:10 Gain Without Pain
Dr. Judy Palac, Michigan State University
West Ballroom C
- 9:20 - 10:10 Cellists in Ensemble
Carol Tarr, Director
West Ballroom D
- 10:20 - 10:50 Irving Middle School Chamber Orchestra
Laurie Sauvigne, Conductor
Penrose Dining Room
- 11:15 - 12:00 Keynote Speaker
- 1:30 - 1:45 Colorado ASTA WITH NSOA Awards for Outstanding Teacher
and Lifetime Service - Penrose Dining Room
- 1:45 - 2:30 Fairview High School Chamber Strings
Brett and Stephanie Wallace, Conductors
Penrose Dining Room
- 3:00 - 3:55 Meeting in the Middle: Gaining Control of the Whole Bow
Dr. Judy Palac, Michigan State University
West Ballroom C
- 4:15 - 5:00 Greeley Central High School Symphonic Orchestra
Doran Azzari, Conductor
International Center North

Saturday

- 9:25 - 10:15 Starting by Rote or Starting by Note
Judy Palac, Michigan State University
Pikes Peak Room (West)
- 10:30 - 11:10 University of Denver Symphony
Horst Buchholz, Conductor
International Center North
- 11:35 - 12:20 Solo and Small Ensemble Adjudicator Workshop, String Clinic
Cameron Law and Katharine Mason, Clinicians

West Ballroom B

1:05 - 1:45 Broomfield Heights 8th Grade Orchestra
Sam Martin, Conductor
Penrose Dining Room

MEET THE CLINICIANS

Dr. Judy Palac

Judy Palac is associate professor of music education at Michigan State University and director of the Suzuki Program in MSU's Community Music School. She received her bachelor and master degrees from the University of Michigan, and doctor of musical arts degree in violin performance from the University of Texas. She has been director of the Suzuki Program at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh, and assistant director of the University of Texas String Project. In the field of music medicine, Dr. Palac has presented at such conferences as MENC, TMEA, and the Aspen Symposium on Medical Problems of Musicians and Dancers. Her articles have been published in the Medical Problems of Performing Artists and the American String Teacher. She has also been active as a clinician in several states, and serves on the faculty of the National String Workshop in Madison, WI. She is Past-President of the Michigan chapter of ASTA WITH NSOA, a member of the editorial committee of American String Teacher, and has been a member of ASTA WITH NSOA's Teacher Training Leadership Committee. Currently, she is co-liaison to the national board for student chapters with Mary Wagner.

Chris Azzara

Christopher D. Azzara is Associate Professor of Music Education at The Hartt School of the University of Hartford and Artistic Director of the Hartt Instrumental Program. A free-lance pianist and arranger, he performs often as a soloist and as a member of various ensembles. After receiving the Bachelor of music degree from George Mason University, he taught instrumental music in the Fairfax County, VA Public Schools and free-lanced in the Washington D. C.

area. He later received a Master of Music and a PhD. in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music. In addition to his work in instrumental music education, Dr. Azzara has made major contributions in furthering the understanding of improvisation's role in the music learning process. He is the author of numerous articles and books including *Creativity In Improvisation*, *Concert Selections for Winds and Percussion*, and *Jump Right In: The Instrumental Series*. Dr. Azzara has performed on and produced many studio and educational recordings and is invited frequently to give presentations in the country and abroad.

ASTA WITH NSOA EVENTS AT THE MENC NATIONAL BIENNIAL IN-SERVICE CONFERENCE

ASTA WITH NSOA will host a number of events as part of the MENC National Biennial In-Service Conference to be held March 8-11, 2000 in Washington, D.C. ASTA WITH NSOA will welcome all members to a reception on Friday, March 10th from 6:00-7:00 pm. At this reception the Elizabeth A. H. Green award will be presented to the 2000 National School Educator of the Year. The Past Presidents Council will meet on Friday, March 10th. This will be the first time the past presidents of both ASTA and NSOA will officially come together for a meeting.

The highlight of the conference will be the performance of the National High School Honors Orchestra on Saturday, March 11 at 3:30 at the DAR Constitution Hall. Takao Kanayama, assistant conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra, will conduct. The student members who comprise this prestigious orchestra are among the best and brightest young players and are chosen after competing in state and national competitions.

The MENC conference will feature many useful and insightful sessions that will be of interest to ASTA WITH NSOA members. The Orchestra and Band/Orchestra sessions are as follows: Patricia Adams, "Using Rubrics to Assess Performance in the Elementary Instrumental Music Class"; Michael Allen, "Fiddling-An Extension of the Orchestra Program"; Gail Barnes, "Making Connections (Between the Music and Your Orchestra Students)"; Larry Blocher, "Instrumental Music Trends 2000"; J. Bryan Burton, Ramona Holmes & Terese Volk, "Fiddlin' Around the World-String Traditions in World Music"; David Circle, "Networking-Orchestra"; Daniel Foster, "Viola Master Class"; Scott Gates,

"Nuts and Bolts and Butterflies-Exploring Paths to an Expressive Performance"; Robert Gillespie, "Teaching Improvisation in the School Orchestra-A Classical and Practical Approach"; Rebecca Henry, "Violin Pedagogy"; Robert Jesselson, "Cello Tips and Endpins"; William LaRue Jones, "Super Instrumental Conducting Session"; Michael Martin, "Why Can't They Play in Tune or Stay Together?"; Bradford Meyerdierks, "Youth Symphony Orchestras-Bridging the Gap with your Ally or Adversary"; Daryl Silberman, "Let's Connect-Motivating String Students by Connecting Classical and Contemporary Music"; Ann Witt, "String Players Got Rhythm! Who Could Ask for Anything More?"; Gary Wolfman, "The Changing Instrumental Rehearsal"; John Bruce Yeh, "John Bruce Yeh Master Class"; and a master class by the Turtle Island String Quartet.

Additional conference information is available by contacting MENC at 703-860-4000 or on-line at www.menc.org. Registration information is provided in the November 1999 issue of the American String Teacher. For information on the National High School Honors Orchestra, contact ASTAWITH NSOA by telephone at 703-476-1316, email at asta@erols.com or on-line at www.astaweb.com.

ATTENTION COMPOSERS

The 2000 Merle J. Isaac Composition Contest will solicit original unpublished compositions suitable for STRING ORCHESTRA. The prize for the 2000 Merle J. Isaac Composition Contest will be national publicity and 1,000.00. Upon publication, all royalties will remain the sole property of the winning composer. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2000. For guidelines and entry form contact:

Dr. Michael Allen, Chair
Merle J. Isaac Composition Contest
2305 Kilkenny Drive West
Tallahassee, FL 32308
Phone 850-644-4112
Fax 850-644-2033
allen_m@cmr.fsu.edu

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR COLORADO ASTA WITH NSOA PRESIDENT-ELECT

Michelle Ewer

Michelle Ewer is in her 18th year of teaching. The first twelve years were spent in Adams County District 50 teaching elementary and middle school orchestra. The past 6 years have been spent in Jefferson County teaching elementary orchestra and band.

Michelle is a bassist and is currently playing with the Orion Double Woodwind Quartet. She served as ASTA president from 1987-1991. She also served as president of the Instrumental Affairs Council for the Colorado Music Educators Association.

As president, Michelle would like to continue the growth ASTA has shown over the past ten years. Her goals include: bonding with band specialists who also teach strings, and bringing in strong public school clinicians for summer and winter conferences.

Michael Schaefer

A native of Fort Collins, Michael earned a Bachelors in Music Education and Masters in Instruction from CSU. Michael is in his twenty_fifth year of teaching, and is currently in his tenth year as director of orchestras at Webber Junior High School. He has judged at state and local festivals and has presented clinics for ASTA, CMEA, and various colleges and universities in Colorado and Wyoming.

As a violinist, Michael is in his 32nd season with the Fort Collins Symphony, four as assistant concert master. He is the principal violinist with the String Quartet Con Brio, and performs with many of the orchestra and chamber music groups along the Front Range, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

Michael has taught violin lessons in his private studio for 23 years. He has enjoyed all levels of students from elementary to adults.

Michael's conducting responsibilities include the daily classroom challenge, guest conductor at junior and senior high honor groups, all-state high school clinics, student and adult music camps, and an occasional university rehearsal. He spent 13 seasons as music director and conductor of the Loveland Chamber Orchestra, and is beginning his 14th year as assistant conductor of the Fort Collins Symphony. Michael has conducted in the FCSO's summer concerts, "Mozart on the Roof" and "opera Galleria" series.

As a candidate for ASTA with NSOA President elect, Michael's goals remain the same as our past presidents; 1. Continue to offer the best support for string teachers in Colorado through our National and state organizations, 2. Continue to offer the best possible presentations at the summer and winter conventions, and 3. Improve overall membership, especially among the private teachers in Colorado.

AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Honorees for the CASTA WITH NSOA Lifetime Service Award and Outstanding Teacher will be presented in a preconcert award ceremony on Thursday at 1:30 at the CMEA Clinic?Conference in Colorado Springs. We will honor Susan Day as Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and present Dan Giullian with the Lifetime Service Award. A concert by the Fairview High School Chamber Orchestra will follow the presentation of these awards. Congratulations Susan and Dan!

CASTA MIDDLE SCHOOL STRING CAMP AUGUST, 2000 STUDENT INTERN APPLICATION

The CASTA Middle School String Camp, held each summer at Camp Cedaredge at the base of the beautiful Grand Mesa, is now in its seventh year. Brochures for the camp will be available at the CMEA Clinic/Conference in Colorado Springs in January. Costs for students will be \$210.00 for the four day camp.

An integral part of this camp is the student intern program. The intern is a student in his/her senior year in high school who plans to major in string education the next fall in college. This student will have the opportunity to work with a professional teacher within the context of the camp to design lesson plans, discuss delivery and classroom management, teach an enrichment class, and receive feedback. The purpose of the program is to provide a potential string teacher with real world teaching experience before the first semester of college. Our interns then return the following summer as a paid member of the camp staff. Interns attend the camp free of charge, and may be paid for counselor responsibilities. This program has been wonderfully successful in the past, and we urge you to please pass along this application to a qualified student.

Name_____

Phone_____

Address_____

Instrument_____

High School_____

Director's name and phone_____

Private teacher's name and phone _____

1) Please enclose a brief essay on your musical career goals as well as your reasons for applying for this internship.

2) Please enclose a cassette tape including two short contrasting pieces. Partial movements are acceptable-10 minutes maximum.

Send completed application, essay, and tape to:
Cameron Law, CASTA Student Intern Program
611 East Indian Creek Dr.
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Sally O'Reilly to Present Workshop at CU-Boulder

The University of Colorado and CASTA WITH NSOA will present a workshop and masterclasses on March 18 at the Imig Music Building, Room E 160, with Sally O'Reilly, violinist from University of Minnesota. The workshop is open to all teachers, students and the public. In addition, a competition for Colorado school age students students will be held for participation in the afternoon masterclass presented by Ms. O' Reilly. (see 1:30 below)

Schedule:

- 9:00-10:00 Ms. O Reilly will speak on her current books:
"Fiddle Magic"
"Fiddle Rhythms"
"String Quartet Sampler" Volume I and II
- 10:15-12:15 Masterclass with University of Colorado students
- 1:30-3:15 Competition for participation in the secondary Colorado students afternoon masterclass.
- 3:30-5:30 Masterclass with competition winners (up to six students will be selected)

The afternoon masterclass is for Colorado's elementary, junior high and high school students only. The competition is open to students currently in the Suzuki Book V level and higher or its equivalent. Students must be enrolled in an area school, enrolled in their public school orchestra, and be taking private lessons; or be home schooled and taking private lessons.

The first round will be a taped audition. Students may use the solo portion of their All-State tapes. New tapes with a solo of the applicants choice are also encouraged. Use of the same repertoire for both the tape round and the finals is strongly recommended. Use of the same repertoire for the finals and masterclass is required.

Send tapes to:
Jennifer John, Professor of Violin
College of Music
University of Colorado at Boulder
Campus Box 301
Boulder, CO 80309-0301

TAPES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRAURY 23 FOR CONSIDERATION!!
Finalists for the competition must provide their own pianist if the repertoire warrants. Please make certain that your pianist is available for both the finals and the masterclass. Contact Jennifer John for pianist recommendations if needed.

The Finals will be recorded. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Fees include: CASTA WITH NSOA members-\$15.00
Non-members \$20.00
Students, free

If you have questions please contact Jennifer John for further information.

303-492-0200, school
jjjohn@colorado.edu (preferred)

Application:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Name of current private teacher:

Signature of public school orchestra director:

Repertoire included on Tape:

send to Jennifer John, Professor of Violin
College of Music
Campus box 301
Boulder, CO 80309-0301

Tapes must be received by February 23rd to be considered for the
masterclass!

Zweig and Goldsmith Guests at Viola Society Conference

The Rocky Mountain Viola Society will host a conference on Saturday and Sunday, March 11 and 12 at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. Guests will be Mimi Zweig, teacher and pedagogue and Professor of Music at Indiana University, and Pamela Goldsmith, internationally recognized performer and Professor of Music at the University of Southern California.

Ms. Goldsmith will give a recital on Saturday, March 11 in the Fine Arts Concert Hall at the University of Wyoming at 8:00 p.m. She will play the Sixth Cello Suite of Bach, Four Caprices for Solo Viola by Grazyna Bacewicz, the Hummel Viola Sonata as well as other works. Ms. Goldsmith will give a masterclass for high school and college students that afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

Mimi Zweig will give two masterclasses on Sunday, March 11. At 10:00 a.m. she will work with high school and college level violists and at 2:00 p.m. she will give a masterclass for younger students. Prof. Zweig will also give a talk on pedagogical issues that day.

Acceptance into the high school and college level masterclasses is by taped and live audition. The pre-high school masterclass is for students in 8th grade and younger. Acceptance into that masterclass is by application and teacher recommendation.

The conference will also include other activities relevant to performers and teacher of the viola. For more information on the conference and applications for the masterclasses and the conference contact RMVS President Jim Przygocki, Professor of Viola at the University of Wyoming. You can reach him at 307-766-3335 or via email at przygcki@uwoyo.edu. Applications for the competition and the registration materials for the conference will be available on the Rocky Mountain Viola Website: www.viola.com/rmvs

ASTA WITH NSOA

2000-2001 GRANTS FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS

ASTA WITH NSOA SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS are designed to provide financial assistance to projects planned at the state chapter level. ASTA WITH

NSOA is committed to supporting new and innovative programs that can enrich the string and orchestra teaching environment in your state. Seed money is available for new projects that will advance the ASTA WITH NSOA mission, and increase the strength, visibility and activities of your state chapter. Only one project per state can be funded. Grants will be awarded from \$100 to \$800. (A state may apply for partial funding for the continuation of the project in the second year.) The budget must reflect some financial commitment from the state chapter.

SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS are intended to finance new projects, rather than to support an existing one. Projects which benefit only a small constituency, or which primarily benefit an institution within the state, will not be funded. States may apply for a second year of an approved project for up to one-half the original amount.

SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS are awarded for projects or events scheduled to take place between June 1, 2000 and May 31, 2001. Grants are awarded only for the specific project described in the application, and may not be transferred to another activity.

SPECIAL PROJECTS previously funded to include:

- New summer string camps
- Start up funding for solo competitions and workshops
- Leadership training seminar for state ASTA WITH NSOA officers
- Regional ASTA WITH NSOA workshops
- Handbooks for teachers on recruitment ideas and teaching tips
- Mini-conferences, string institutes and orchestra festivals

APPLICATION AND DECISION TIMETABLE

- A. In consultation with the state board, decide on a project.
- B. Complete the application form. It must bear the signature of the current state president.
- C. Include your state's most recent Treasurer's Report. Applications will not be considered unless the Treasurer's Report is attached
- D. Send these documents (make a copy for your records) to: ASTA WITH NSOA, Special Projects Commission, 1806 Robert Fulton Drive, Suite 300 Reston, VA 20191.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 11, 2000.

E.The SPG Commission is a committee of five, appointed by the National President. Members are past state and national presidents. Proposals will be considered by the Commission in March 2000.

F.The SPG Commission Chair may recommend that an application be revised and resubmitted.

G.The National President will inform the State President of the Commission's decision by April 16, 2000.

H.Following approval of the grant, half the grant may be awarded with demonstration of need, with the remaining half awarded upon completion of the program.

I.Each recipient state president will complete a required written evaluation of the project. This evaluation must be mailed to the National Office by May 26, 2001. A state will not receive payment for a new Special Projects Grant until the evaluation form for the previous year is returned.

J.Application may be made for a second year of funding the same project. 50% of the prior years funding is available.