



Tennessee Music Education Association

Virtual Board Meeting

Saturday, July 10, 2021

In Attendance:

TMEA Board

- Executive Director: Michael Chester
- President: Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry
- President-Elect: Dr. Ryan Fisher
- Immediate Past-President: Lafe Cook
- Choral Chair: Jason Whitson
- CNAfME Chair: Dr. Jody Blake
- Higher Education Chair: Dr. Robert Bryant
- SMTE/Research Chair: Dr. Loneka Wilkinson Battiste
- Advocacy & Government Relations Chair: Dr. Christopher Dye
- Editor, *Tennessee Musician*: Anna Laura Williams

Absent: Jacob Campos (Band Chair), Anna Maria Miller (Orchestra Chair), Franklin Willis (General Music Chair), Dian Eddleman (Secretary)

I. Call to Order

President Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., Saturday, July 10, 2021.

II. Roll Call

(See attendance.)

III. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Dr. Ryan Fisher, seconded by Dr. Chris Dye, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the TMEA Board Meeting, March 7, 2021.

IV. Meeting Norms/Board Expectations

President Yatuzis-Derryberry stated the Monthly TMEA Board Meetings will be reinstated this year as follows:

*Monthly TMEA Board Meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month**

**see exception: April 2022*

- Board of Directors 2:00-3:00 p.m. CST
- Executive Committee 3:00-3:30 p.m. CST
- Conference/Project Chairs/Council (if needed) 3:30-4:30 p.m. CST

Monthly TMEA Board Meeting Dates/Times:

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- September 19, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. CDT
 - October 17, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. CDT
 - November 21, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. CST
 - December 19, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. CST
 - January 16, 2022 – 2:00 p.m. CST
 - February 20, 2022 – 2:00 p.m. CST
 - March 20, 2022 – 2:00 p.m. CDT
 - *April 26, 2022 - TMEA Board & Conference Dinner/Meeting (In-Person TTBD)
 - May 15, 2022 – 2:00 p.m. CDT

V. Review of Last Year

President Yatuzis-Derryberry presented a summary of 2020-2021 TMEA accomplishments:

- **Submittable** – Regional auditions went well with Submittable this year. ETVA specifically communicated their praises recently regarding this process.
- The **Virtual Jazz Caucus** hosted on October 1, 2020 was successful.
- The **CNAfME Kick-Off** hosted on October 2, 2020, was well attended. The keynote speaker was Ms. Sonja Williams, NAFME Southern Division President. Special thanks to TMEA CNAfME Chair Jody Blake for his great work on this.
- TMEA hosted the **TCVPAS College Career Fair** on February 27, 2021. Regional arts coordinators were able to discuss the interviewing process and information about their districts with upcoming music educators. The students in attendance also had the opportunity to choose specific district arts coordinators to speak with at this event.
- The **TMEA Virtual All-State Event** on April 10, 2021, was very successful. TMEA partnered with the Nashville Symphony and CMA Foundation to provide this virtual event for our All-State students. President Yatuzis-Derryberry shared notes of appreciation from music educators about this event.
- The **CNAfME Virtual Event** on April 17, 2021, with keynote speaker Ms. Natassia Perrine was an excellent event.

VI. TMEA Publication Report, by Ms. Anna Laura Williams

A summary was presented regarding the 2020-2021 publications cycle; this report included the printed publication costs, advertisements overview, and materials published in the *Tennessee Musician* and All-State Program. It was noted the 2021-2022 TMEA publications cycle will resume print production of the All-State Programs (only offered digitally during 2019 and 2020 due to the pandemic) and the Conference Programs.

VII. Advocacy Leadership Force Report, from Dr. Chris Dye

The national Advocacy Leadership Force (ALF) met during the virtual NAFME National Leadership Assembly this summer. The topic of ESSER Funds (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds) was included in the ALF discussions. Members are encouraged to let Dr. Dye know if they have any information regarding how this funding is being utilized in districts across Tennessee. Upon discussion, it was suggested that TMEA could partner with ArtsEd TN to draft a letter to send to school districts that would advocate for utilizing ESSER Funds for arts education.

Advocacy at the state level was discussed by the TMEA Board. The current legislation HB580/SB623 was mentioned; it was noted that TMEA and ArtsEd TN are currently monitoring this legislation.

VIII. Executive Director Report, from Mr. Michael Chester

Mr. Chester presented a TMEA financial report summary. TMEA ended the 2020-2021 fiscal year with a balance of \$75,712.94 currently in the checking account. The QuickBooks balance was reported to be \$74,310.34. Expenditures were \$51,403.67 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

TMEA Membership Dues will slightly increase this upcoming year.

TMEA 2021-2022 Membership fees are as follows:

- TMEA Active Membership: \$40 (previously \$35)
- TMEA Introductory Active Membership: \$20 (previously \$15)
- TMEA Collegiate Membership: \$10 (previously \$4)
- TMEA Retired Membership: \$10 (previously \$0)

NAfME Membership fees have not increased and will remain as follows:

- NAFME Active Membership: \$100
- NAFME Introductory Active Membership: \$50
- NAFME Collegiate Membership: \$30
- NAFME Retired Membership: \$50

An official TMEA 2020-2021 Financial Report will be presented at the August 2021 TMEA Board and Council Meeting.

IX. 2022 Conference Report, by Mr. Michael Chester and President Yatuzis-Derryberry

- **April 26, 2022** - TMEA Board & Conference Dinner/Meeting (In-Person TTBD)
- **April 27-April 30, 2022: TMEA Professional Development Conference and All-State Performances**

Discussion included current space allowances at Opryland Hotel for the 2022 TMEA Conference as well as the upcoming TMEA Conferences over the next few years. The 2024-2026 TMEA Conferences may be when TMEA can begin expanding ensemble offerings; these ensembles previously

discussed by the TMEA Board include the middle school ensembles, 9th grade All-State Choir, and more. These potential ensemble offerings could be included as discussion items at the 2022 TMEA Conference in-person caucus sessions.

- **2022 TMEA Professional Development Conference Session Proposals and Research Poster Session Proposals**

It was discussed to open the Session Proposals application window and the Research Poster Session Proposals application window this month (July 2021) for the upcoming 2022 TMEA Conference. Upon considering possible deadlines for these proposals to be submitted for the TMEA 2022 Professional Development Conference, it was determined to make the application windows as follows:

Motion: Ryan Fisher, Second: Loneka Wilkinson Battiste, Vote: Unanimous

The motion was made to close the application window for Research Poster Session Proposals on December 10, 2021, by 11:59 p.m. CST and to close the General Interest Session Proposals on September 10, 2021, by 11:59 p.m. CDT for the TMEA 2022 Professional Development Conference.

- **Additional Discussion regarding TMEA 2022 Conference Session Proposals**

The idea of requiring a letter of reference as part of the General Interest Session Proposal application process was discussed. It was determined that a letter of reference should not be included at this time as part of the session application process but that this concept can be revisited for future conferences.

Discussion also included ensuring applicants selected to present sessions at the TMEA 2022 Conference are active NAFME members as well as active TMEA members if residing in Tennessee. It was determined that the applicants who are selected to present at the TMEA Conference will submit proof of their current NAFME membership at the time when they submit their official confirmation to present at the conference. The TMEA session proposals applications will also include a statement regarding this NAFME membership requirement.

- **Additional TMEA 2022 Conference Items**

Conductor contracts are ready for the TMEA 2022 All-State Ensembles. The Vocal General Chair and Instrumental General Chair are working on the process for issuing contracts to 2022 TMEA Conference All-State conductors.

Performing Groups that were accepted for the previous conference [2020 TMEA Conference; cancelled due to the pandemic] will be reinvited to the upcoming 2022 conference; this was already voted on at a previous TMEA Board Meeting. It was noted that scheduling times for the collegiate performance ensembles will need special consideration since college finals will be occurring at the time of this TMEA Conference.

Additional luncheon and banquet opportunities are being considered for the 2022 TMEA Conference. These possibilities will be revisited in January.

It was noted earlier during this meeting that the potential new ensembles offerings (see above discussion regarding middle school ensembles, 9th Grade All-State Choir) will be shifted to occur at future TMEA Conferences; these new ensembles will not occur at the 2022 TMEA Conference. There will not be an All-Collegiate Ensemble this year at the 2022 TMEA Conference.

The All-State Instrumental agenda for Wednesday night of the 2022 TMEA Conference was discussed **[it was specifically noted this potential agenda change would not affect the schedule for the All-State Jazz Band or All-State Choral Ensembles as these ensembles have already been seated prior to arriving at All-State]**. The Wednesday night (Day 1) schedule for the All-State Instrumental has historically been the All-State Instrumental Ensembles Chair Auditions. The recommendation was made for the All-State Instrumental Ensembles to utilize Submittable prior to the conference for the All-State Chair Auditions. Multiple benefits were discussed regarding this possible schedule change: This could increase the All-State students' enjoyment as they would not have an audition upon arriving for their in-person All-State experience. This could also increase involvement of collegiate applied faculty members as they could be the adjudicators for the Submittable auditions. Instead of the chair auditions on Wednesday night, the schedule for the All-State Instrumental Ensembles could consist of sectional masterclasses with collegiate applied faculty members. These ideas were noted by President Yatuzis-Derryberry.

X. New Business, by President Yatuzis-Derryberry

- **Jazz Road Creative Residencies -**
TMEA is partnering with Dr. Ryan Middagh, Jazz Chair at Vanderbilt University, on this project. Dr. Middagh has written a grant that will allow for his ensembles to create some jazz advocacy and jazz lessons that will be housed on the state department website. He would like to offer partnering and working with mid-level jazz bands that need extra assistance. It was noted this will help jazz efforts across the state. Selection will be determined through an application process. More information to come.
- **CMA Foundation Advocacy Session with TMEA and Charlie Worsham -**
The CMA Foundation would like to create a TMEA Advocacy session with Charlie Worsham. A representative from the CMA Foundation will be contacting TMEA with additional details.
- **Summer NAMM/American Eagle Awards on July 15, 2021 -**
TMEA was recently contacted to nominate a TMEA member who has "kept the music going" throughout the pandemic; congratulations to TMEA member **Dr. Ollie Liddell** on receiving the NAMM Annual American Eagle Award. NAMM

also requested for a Nashville-area teacher to accept the award on behalf of all of music teachers; **TMEA Representative Mr. Franklin Willis** will be accepting this award.

- **TMEA and the University of Tennessee at Martin “Careers in Music”** - University of Tennessee at Martin has expressed an interest in working with TMEA on discussing “Careers in Music” with the All-State students. More information to come.
- **NAfME All-National Honors Ensembles** - The TMEA State Choir, Band, and Orchestra Chairs have been tasked with the process of reviewing the TMEA All-State Handbook as well as the creation of audition procedures for the All-National Honor Ensembles; these new procedures for the All-National Honor Ensembles will include the All-State regional chairs. Additional updates will come at the next TMEA Board Meeting. The audition deadline for the All-National Honor Ensembles is September 15th, 2021. The virtual event will occur January 22-24, 2022.
- **TMEA State Band Festival** - The TMEA State Band Festival will occur April 21-22, 2022, at Austin Peay State University.
- **Items for TMEA Board Members** - TMEA Board Members are requested to please let President Yatuzis-Derryberry know if they would like to create a virtual meeting with their respective caucuses. TMEA Board Members are also requested to continue creating an updated job description and timeline for the next TMEA Board. The next TMEA Board members will be shadowing the current board members at the TMEA 2022 Conference.

XI. Next Meetings

- The next virtual TMEA meeting will occur for the **TMEA Conference Planning and Project Chairs** in July at a date to be determined.
- The next virtual **TMEA Board Meeting** is Saturday, August 14, 2021, for the **TMEA Board, Council, and Project Chairs**.

XII. Adjournment

It was moved by Jason Whitson, seconded by Dr. Loneka Wilkinson Battiste, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Anna Laura Williams