



The Louisiana Music Educators Association

"We are in this together. Together we can do anything."

**Board of Directors Meeting
9 January 2021**

AGENDA

I. Call to Order:

Roll Call – Not present

Victor Drescher

Amy Prats

Kelly Stomps

Gustavo Miranda

Tommy Burroughs

II. Approval of Agenda Motion to Approve Sharon Stevenson

2nd – Greg Oden

Passes

III. Approval of Zoom Meeting Minutes from 3 October 2020

Greg Oden - Motion

Josh Stearman – 2nd

Passes

IV. Approval of Financial Report

Report \$68,045.08

All invoices have been paid to date for conference and orchestra auditions. Books for all the districts will be closed in May 2021. Bruce reminded everyone to remember to reimburse any monies for festivals that may have been held. Please clear your books.

Carol Lupton – motion Greg Oden – 2nd

Passes

V. Executive Officer Report

President – Scotty Walker

Reminded everyone – recruitment of teachers and students is very important. Please reach out to each other and be an encourager. We can glean so much information from each other. Also, please support solo and ensemble.

➤ Guest – Sonya Robinson, Jonathan Bloom

Co-Director/Managing Director

Artist Corps New Orleans

Special guest for the meeting:

Advocacy in New Orleans – they are part of the “First Lady’s” task force. New Orleans is 100 percent charter schools. Therefore there is not a music supervisor – they are working on supporting music educators and music education. (Created a task force) – Started with a resolution and are now functioning as a working group. They are using google and working through a collaborative work page. The task force is working with music and arts teachers. What are their “MUST” needs and what are their “WANTS”. Guiding principles were developed. 70 stakeholders gave input – 50 of these were teachers. For more information link:

Jonathan Bloom gave a brief and very interesting history of the spectrum of music over the past 40 years. Pres Walker invited Jonathan to be a part of the LMEA Diversity task force.

APPRECIATION FOR MICHELE WHITE – Pat Deaville and Bruce Lambert. Moment of silence. In the words of Michele – Claim a blessed day!

President Elect – Brett Babineaux

#La4Music

#MusicMatters

I’ve been using these hashtags at the end of many LMEA Twitter posts as a small way to advocate and bring awareness to what LMEA is all about.

Two years ago, LMEA asked a very important question; “What does NafME do for me”? This eventually led to a statewide vote to either

continue with, or break away from, our partnership with the national organization.. Although it was close, the majority of our membership decided that it was in our best interest to continue to be under the umbrella of NAFME. Fast forward to 2021...that decision proved most wise and very fruitful.

NAfME's general position is that they do not tell states what to do, but rather state MEAs tell them what they want and NAFME will help get it done. We have asked them to help and guide us in matters such as Advocacy as well as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Their response, knowledge, experience, and expertise is truly amazing. They have helped guide us in matters of government policy, virtual learning, classroom and performance standards, copyright guidelines, the ever-important Aerosols Study (along with the National Federation of High Schools), etc, etc.

It is easy to understand why our members were questioning our continued alliance. LMEA has really only been an organization that centered around performance assessments, professional development conferences, and student honor ensembles. It, perhaps, was the only reason anyone paid membership dues. We are now delving into areas that we could have only imagined and all with the guidance of organizations like NAFME. Your membership dollars are truly at work here. You can now be proud that your membership dues are paying for so much more than just an opportunity to perform and to receive the conference discount. We are constantly working to effect positive change with the legislature as it relates to music education. We look forward to educating and training all those involved in school music programs to effectively advocate for music education. Our DEI Council is eager to realize the efforts of a mentoring program, helping underserved schools, and increasing the awareness of this initiative.

2021 WILL bring advocacy victories, additional adjudication training with the addition of vocal and orchestral divisions within the Louisiana Music Adjudicators Association (LMAA), the reinstatement and revision of the State Solo and Ensemble Assessment, monthly virtual professional development sessions, the increase of support and awareness of our Jazz and Elementary Divisions with the help of NAFME through programs such as *Jazz in Our Schools Month* and *Music in Our Schools Month*, new Vocal

Ensemble awards, partnerships with charitable organizations, developing a closer partnership with Louisiana HBCUs, and continuing to offer performance opportunities for our programs and students even in the midst of trying times.

All that being said, we are only at the beginning stages. Some of these victories can be immediate, but many of them will take time and long-standing energy and focus. We need everyone with us! We have to combat the naysayers, the doubters, and the misinformed. Board Members, I ask that you continue to help us spread the good news of what LMEA is working on and working towards, especially with teacher interns and first year teachers. Membership matters because our teachers and our students matter.

Immediate Past President – Carol Lupton

LMEA Board of Directors,

Nominations for the Spring Election of District Directors are listed below. The following names have either been submitted online or have been confirmed.

- District I Robert Freeman
- District II Aleisa Hudlow

- District III Billy Hochkeppel
- District IV Katie Codina
- District V Sharon Stephenson
- District VI Guy Wood
Randy Weaver
- District VII Jim Trant
- District VIII Michele DesLattes
- District IX Joshua Stearman
- District VI is the only district that will need to vote this spring. I ask the board to accept the other nominations by acclamation.

Respectfully,

Carol Lupton Motion to accept District Directors who do not have opponent.

2nd Jim Trant

PASSED Unanimously

Report from CAROL LUPTON – **CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE:**

LMEA Board of Directors,

I have provided with you with Conference Summary that was prepared by Sharon McNamara-Horn. This summary provides you with a lot of information concerning registration.

Other “tidbits” of information you might find interesting:

Registrants Main Interests based on the online registration forms -

137 Band

19 Choir

9 Other

8 Elementary

7 Orchestra/Strings

4 Jazz

Registrant numbers based on the District indicated on their Registration forms –

31 District III

29 District IV

18 District V & District VII

14 District II

13 District VI

12 District VIII

10 District IX

5 District I

VI. District Directors Report

1. Robert Freeman

We are so happy to see that Robbie has recovered from Covid. This is his first day back since Dec 3, 2020.

District 1 Assessment will possibly be virtual. Robbie is hoping to do a zoom meeting with the choir teachers to see how they want to proceed.

2. Aleisa Hudlow

- Parishes are handling COVID-19 in different fashions. This includes, but is not limited to, travel restrictions. Directors from different parishes are facing different obstacles depending on how their parish is handling the pandemic.
- Most ensemble directors seem unsure of whether they will

- participate in Large Ensemble Assessment.
- Those who are nervous about a virtual-only option seem to be concerned about having access to creating a quality recording, so I am looking into a solution for that.
 - I plan to have a meeting with my district to explain how Large Ensemble Assessment will work and help put them at ease. I feel that with all of the adjustments that we have made to performance requirements, Assessment should be achievable for many groups.
 - We are proceeding with District Honor Band auditions, and in place of an in-person clinic we are offering online masterclasses. Choir will not be having Honor Choir this year.
 - Those who attended our conference were pleased with how it went. They especially appreciate the accessibility to recordings of clinics!
 - Congratulations to those who planned our conference on doing an amazing job during a difficult and unprecedented time!

3. *Billy Hochkeppel*

Large Ensemble

- District III plans to hold Large Ensemble Assessment virtually this year.
- Plan to follow LMEA's deadline of May 1st.
- Directors were very understanding and receptive to the adjustments made to the requirements and structure.
- Only concern was the ability to make a quality recording, but a plan will be in place to assist any director who needs it.

District Honor Band

- Directors have chosen to continue to plan both Middle and High School honor band. Committees were developed to work out potential plans.

Conference

- I received many positive comments about the conference. It was an outstanding event that not only filled the void of not having an in person conference but presented many ideas that can be developed and continued at our future conferences. Great job EVERYONE!
- Choir will be participating in solo festival option – anxious to see

details.

4. Katie Codina

- Each school has different restrictions for performances. Her district is going to be doing a virtual assessment.
- Conference was well attended by her district. They would like to see conference at a different time.
- District Honor band is going to be handled as a small ensemble event at different schools. Great plan – waiting to see how well it works.
- Choir is not doing an honor band event.

5. Sharon Stehpenon

District V is looking to do an in-person assessment. They are also planning to do Honor band events this year. Performances will also be in person.

Vocal events are not happening as much – 2 reasons:

1. covid
2. hurricane Laura has left so much damage to facilities.

District V is very interested in Solo and Ensemble.

6. Guy Wood

Orleans Parish is 100 percent virtual at this point. Band is still planning to do Large Ensemble – most likely virtual. Is it possible to get someone like Ben Hardy to go to different locations and make recordings of each group? Guy is going to suggest this at his meeting next week. Solo and Ensemble is not as well participated – hoping that this year Covid may give students more time to attempt this event.

7. Jim Trant

Sad news – vocal teacher passed away at Christmas time. Recently retired – we lost another great teacher.

All parishes have different restrictions in terms of playing instruments. Jim sent out a survey about having auditions for honor bands - even though there will not be an event. Another survey – less than half plan to participate in the Large Ensemble because of playing restrictions and A/B schedules.

District VII will only participate in a virtual festival. Jim created a LaFourche Parish music on YouTube channel – with 2 Shure mics. Check with Jim to see what type of equipment he used. It is important to know for Large Ensemble where the mics are placed.

Jim asked if different directors would share their ideas about how they are

making different events “happen”.

8. Michele DesLattes

District 8 is urban/suburban – many schools are still on virtual venues. Large Ensemble – her district is not concerned about rating or recording – they just want the opportunity to work toward a musical goal. They are still limited to 49 students plus one director.

Michele is working with vocal teachers to develop a plan for Large Ensemble.

Honor Choirs and Middle school bands have cancelled their events.

Solo and Ensemble is going to be very large this Spring.

9. Joshua Stearman

Many schools have not resumed. Choral and Band side have cancelled the performances of honor groups. In terms of assessment for Large Ensemble– there is minimal interest at this point because of the Covid restrictions.

There will probably be single digit participation.

VII. Division Reports

Band Division – Ronnie Gleason

All State Band Audition:

Students will make a video recording of themselves playing the music: 12 major scales, chromatic scale, both required etudes with the selected cuts. No sight reading. They will submit their video to their high school band director to verify their audition. The high school director will then forward all verified student videos to their District Director for adjudication by March 12, 2021.. All District Directors must send their District allotment (Names and videos) to the Band Division Chairman by March 26, 2021. The Band Division Chairman will send the selected videos to out of state judges. The All-State Band will be posted on Saturday, April 10, 2021. Audition fee is \$15. Ronnie will send a script to Sharon McNamara Horne to post on the webpage.

All State conductors have committed to do the bands for 2021 – November.

Proposal for New French Horn All State Music

Books to be used:

Kopprasch-Sixty Selected Studies for Horn

Published by Belwin-Mills

Available at JW Pepper Music-Catalogue Number 7264427 \$ 11.95

John R. Shoemaker-Legato Etudes for French Horn

Published by Alfred

Available at JW Pepper Music-Catalogue Number 4577276 \$7.95

Etude Selections

Set 1 Etude 1. Kopprasch- Sixty Selected Studies for Horn: Page 13, Number 19, Allegro in G Major. Etude 2. Shoemaker-Legato Etudes for French Horn: Page 32, Number 24, Adagio appassionato in A flat.

Set 2 Etude 1. Kopprasch- Sixty Selected Studies for Horn: Page 21, Number 31, Allegro Moderato. Etude 2. Shoemaker-Legato Etudes for French Horn: Page 22, Number 17, Andante amabile.

Set 3 Etude 1. Kopprasch- Sixty Selected Studies for Horn: Page 24, Number 34, Allegro. Etude 2. Shoemaker-Legato Etudes for French Horn: Page 18, Number 14, Andante con sentimento.

Set 4 Etude 1. Kopprasch- Sixty Selected Studies for Horn: Page 27-28, Number 27, Allegro. Etude 2. Shoemaker-Legato Etudes for French Horn: Page 8, Number 6, Allegretto amabile. Click on link to view pdf's of Set 1-4
https://drive.google.com/file/d/14fD6mJ6wD1vZRsj9wh_KXzWMiXf27pst/view

Motion by Jim Trant – to accept French Horn music change

Josh Stearman 2nd

This will be voted on again at the next meeting because it involves a handbook change.

- **Jazz Division – Lee Hicks**

Auditions – same video submission as the All -State bands by March 26th – the ensemble will be selected by April 10th, 2021. Verification may be tricky with covid restrictions – we need to be sure that we are listening to the correct student. Audition material will be the same – fee will be \$15. All students will receive a patch/academic award

- **Orchestra Division – Katrice Lacour**

Orchestra will need to resubmit an academic all-state form. Homeschool questions. Dr. Sey Ahn has committed to do next year's group and they will use the same music.

Vocal Division – Greg Oden

Vocal will follow the same process as the other All-State groups. All recordings will follow the ACDA format – vocal students are familiar with this process.

We lost Julie Yu as a clinician – the other clinician is good to go.

- Barbara Butler Standard of Choral Excellence Award

Motion Greg Oden

2nd Guy Wood to name this award Barbara Butler.

Passes unanimously

- Choral Standard of Excellence Award

Motion LMEA standard of excellence Award

2nd Jim Trant

Passes unanimously

- Choral Performance and Sight-reading Adjudication Form

Greg has updated forms and would like them to be used.

- LMEA Prescribed Music List

Motion: All choruses classified B, A, AA, AAA, AAAA must perform three selections, two of which may be chosen from any source. The third or required number must be chosen from the Louisiana LMEA Prescribed Music List.

Motion Greg Oden

2nd by Jim Trant (Handbook change – needs two votes)

PASSES

Elementary Division – Michele White

Scotty asked for names to fill the Elementary Division position

University Division – Victor Drescher - Absent

Collegiate (CNAfME) – Ed McClellan

All is well with the collegiate division. Asked for the names of the actual participants to be sent to Ed – so he can encourage participation. All is well.

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington

Virtual Conference was a huge success. Special thanks to everyone for working together to make this happen – it was indeed amazing! I could not have done my part without the continuous able bodied assistance from Sharon McNamara Horne – she put in 100's of hours to make our conference

shine! We had the following vendors:

Patron Sponsor: Conn Selmer

Gold Sponsors:

- Quaver
- Moosika
- JW Pepper
- Music for All

Silver Sponsors:

- Alfred Music
- DeMoulin
- Chemical City Reeds
- Just Orlando Youth Tours
- Smart Music
- ULM
- LSU
- McNeese
- ULL
- Hurley School of Music

We did our very best to give vendors every opportunity to be advertised before/during and after the virtual conference. We were creating a virtual conference wheel and I am so grateful that they trusted us to get our job done in a “first class” manner.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Public Relations Chair for the past 7 years – my sister Gail Lawrence has really enjoyed serving as my right hand at conference and says she will still show up when we meet again – “Face to Face”.

VIII. Ex-Officio Members

Hall of Fame – Tommy Burroughs – Not present

Webmaster – Sharon McNamara-Horne

Conference Chairman – James Hearne

Conference was a huge success. In the summer when we decided to change to a virtual conference, it was amazing and scary to see it happen.

Our goal was to have 200 paid members – we were a little short of that, but

still excited about the success. James thanked the LMEA board for giving him the freedom to make things possible to happen. Greatest supply for the conference for James was the Sea Chanters! Special thanks to all the behind-the-scenes people who stepped up and did the work that no one was able to see. Conn Selmer (Rania El Kira and Elisa Jones) – Dr. Tim and Mike Kamphuis Sharon McNamara Horne is a ROCK Star – she worked tirelessly for days!

Editor – Carolyn Herrington

Please submit articles for February magazine – deadline Jan 22, 2021.

LAJE-David Gambino – No report

LBA – Jessica Fain –

Happy New Year! As of right now LBA is planning to move forward with our All-Star Clinic which is currently scheduled for June 6th-8th. The LBA Board has met several times to come up with contingency plans to still offer an experience for students and directors. I am very proud of the work that we have done to come up with several contingency plans that will offer a positive experience while still meeting the CDC guidelines. As of this time, we are working hard to secure a site that will host this event.

We are also going to be having a virtual business meeting, which is open to members and non-members, on Sunday, February 21st at 3pm. I will be sending a link for this meeting to the district directors and posting on our LMEA Facebook pages.

LAKE – Ava Brown – Not present

ACDA – Amy Prats – Not present

LA AOSA – Kelly Stomps – Not present

LSTA – Michele Wilkinson-Nelson – Not present

LA PASA – Gustavo Miranda – Not present

LMAA – Katie Codina

LMAA had first workshop for their charter members. Seeing all those charter members on a zoom call was an exciting experience. James Drew facilitated the clinic – a very insightful event. They are going to wait until they can have a “face to face” clinic to move forward.

IX Committee Reports

Council for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – James Square

Very pleased with the virtual conference – sessions were well attended and exciting to participants throughout the state. Consider DEI and James will

be glad to listen to any and all concerns. DEI would like to have more roundtable discussions – there are so many new ideas out there for us to embrace. Glad to hear from Sonya and Jonathan at the beginning of the meeting – glad to see that like-minded people are still out there and working to share ideas. It is time for us to begin launching some of our ideas – screen sharing mentorship ideas. The committee would like to help the new interns – link them up with mentors - help move new educators forward as they begin in the fall. **Challenge:** PARTICIPATE IN SMALL AND SOLO & ENSEMBLE!

Louisiana Advocacy Leadership Force – Ginny Medina-Hamilton
Advocacy voice has been working – they are going to meet again January 21, 2021. There were two sessions at the virtual conference that were very well attended and still available for view. Music and Movement – committee met earlier today with the First Lady. Beginning of the semester meeting has happened – we are looking for ways to get LMEA and music education at the table at the state level. We are looking to spread our stories throughout the state. Music in our Schools month is coming up - excited to see what is happening.

Professional Development – Brett Babineaux

Created a 12 for 12 idea:

One professional development session per month. This could be a continual – year after year event. Brett is looking for interested people to share ideas and help get this going in our state.

Guitar Division – Scotty Walker, Greg Robin
Wants to start a division chair with the overall goal being an All-State event for the Guitar ensemble. Much discussion about how to put feet under an eventual position and the cultivating of a classical guitar venue in our state. These students could participate in LMEA solo & ensemble as long as there is an LMEA member submitting their guitar students.

X. Unfinished Business

- Administrator/Hall of Fame 2020 award presentation – Scotty Walker

This will happen at our next face to face opportunity. This way we can honor them in front of their families.

- LMEA google calendar update – Sharon NcNamara-Horne, Katie Codina

Keep things as they are right now – regroup and put things up next year.

VOTE ON NEW DIRECTOR CANDIDATE:

Stephen Gregory
Mitchell Breaux

Neither candidate received votes necessary receive the award. Scotty Walker will notify.

XI. New Business

- Article 7, Section 5 change “Membership is on a 12-month continuing membership basis, with annual dues providing membership from enrollment date one year to same date one year later.” to read The membership year of the LMEA shall be from August 1 of each year through July 31 the following year. - Scotty Walker

Motion by Jim Trant-
2nd by Josh Stearman

Vote PASSED (8 – 1)

- Standards of Adjudication in Handbook – Brett Babineaux

Motion to replace current standards of adjudication in handbook with newly formed rubric.

Motion Brett Babineaux 2nd Josh Stearman

Vote

- Marching Band Assessment on website and handbook – Brett Babineaux

Motion to remove all marching band verbiage from the handbook because LMEA no longer participates in marching band assessments.

Motion

2nd Billy Hochkeppel

Vote FAILS

XII. Adjournment