

June

NEWSLETTER

2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - ELVA KAYE LANCE (DELTA/MS)



## Greetings Brothers and Sisters of Phi Beta Mu:

I hope this newsletter finds each of you doing well and looking forward to a change of pace (and perhaps scenery) in the summer months ahead. Hopefully we can each find a time to renew relationships, reflect, realign our priorities, rest, and recharge.

If we take our lead from the daily news broadcasts, then this is the time for us to review our *infrastructure*. While there are varying applications and interpretations of what is meant by the term *infrastructure* – a commonly applied understanding is that *infrastructure* refers to the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.

With that definition in mind, I would like to direct your attention to *some* of the important items in the infrastructure of the band program.

- An appropriate vision for the program
- Adequate personnel (both faculty and student)
- An instructional plan (for all grade levels)
- An environment suitable for delivering the instruction: Dedicated indoor rehearsal space, adequate outdoor space for marching band (if applicable) with adequate amplification
- Sufficient resources to support the instructional goals
- Plans that allow ample attention to be given to the social infrastructure of the band program

As we emerge from the pandemic, it is essential that we take inventory of our infrastructure.

**Have we adjusted our vision for the program taking into account the local changes within our community?** Are we taking advantage of those opportunities? In the United States, ESSER funds offer an infusion of funding into our schools that has not been seen in our lifetime. Do we have a realistic plan to identify the best use of these funds for our band program?

There is renewed interest in “normal” school activities in our communities. Do we have a plan to take advantage of that interest? Might we consider an outdoor concert in the park, chamber group per-

formances at civic clubs in the Fall, or student involvement with community projects, just to name a few ideas?

**Do we have adequate student personnel to keep the band program on solid footing in the future?** Many directors have told me that they have lost students throughout this year and worry about the impact on the future. Is there a plan to address that? Are plans in place to recruit band students from multiple grade levels that might have been missed? Could we possibly reach out to those we have lost and gauge their interest in returning through a private lesson program to help them catch up? Do we have the instructional staff resources to offer this remediation – or can we develop those resources? It may require a modification of the curriculum and perhaps a clarification of benchmarks required for mastery. ESSER funding offers resources for tutoring those students who might have fallen behind during the pandemic. Perhaps some of those resources could be devoted to the band area to assist with this instruction. There is no charge for inquiring.

In our communities, it is a proven fact that a strong social infrastructure can deliver basic benefits faster. Perhaps now is an opportunity for us to review the social infrastructure of our band program, i.e. the student leadership team, the parent leadership team, the inner leadership team (those colleagues that we interact with every day) and the external leadership team (those essential to our program that we interact with less frequently – upper administration, town officials, school board members, booster club

**Lance– Continued** members, etc.) Are they well-informed about the long and short-term needs and goals of the program? Do we have a mechanism in place that allows and encourages frequent communication amongst all of the various team members?

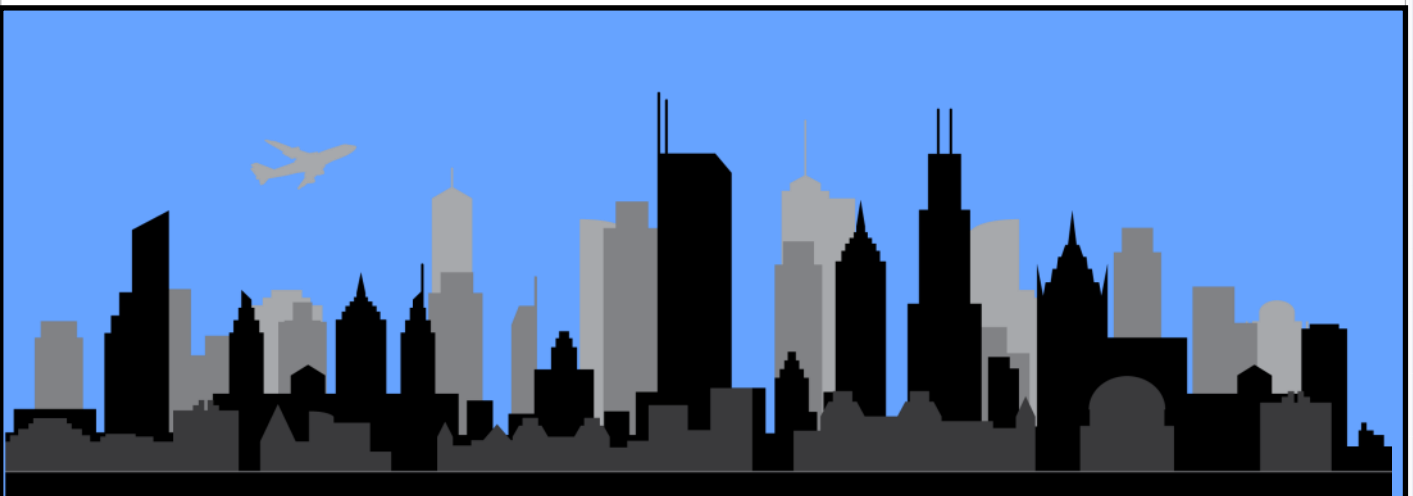
**Do we have enough social activities planned to strengthen the sense of family in our band?** Are we working to promote an environment that is inclusive and welcoming to all students and their families? As we have found this year, being in the band means more than just playing the instrument, marching the show, or playing the concert. We will more effectively reach our goals if we are all genuinely interested in helping each other and united in purpose toward building a strong community.

While there are many Phi Beta Mu members who are retired and may not be directly involved in the above-mentioned activities, you still have a significant role. Please allow me to borrow from my remarks to you in the last newsletter:

*“We need you now more than ever. You are the guardians of our profession. Once it is safe to return to public activities, help those who are younger by mentoring them, recommending materials, volunteering at the local schools, serving as a tutor in the band programs. Our fraternity has always excelled in these mentorship activities and we must return to that level of engagement again. The needs are great. Many young teachers are overwhelmed and questioning their career choice. Help us retain them in the profession by nurturing them through this restoration, rebuilding, and refurbishing process.”*

Best wishes for a great summer! May God hold you in the palm of His hand until we meet again.

*Elva Kaye Lance*



**Our Annual General Assembly and Business Meetings will resume  
at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic**

**Chicago, IL**

**December 15-18, 2021**

**[www.midwestclinic.org](http://www.midwestclinic.org)**

## EARL D. IRONS PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION – PAUL WOROSELLO (Alpha/TX)



As we all return to a normal teaching environment over the next few months, applications for the Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction should resume in 2022. Specific details will be forthcoming, following the International Board Meeting in December at the Midwest Clinic. For more information visit:

[Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction.](#)

## OUTSTANDING BANDMASTER AWARD – KEITH RANDOLPH (Gamma/IN)



Thanks to a number of people who have submitted suggestions for a future recipient of this award. Outstanding Bandmaster Chair Keith Rudolph has 8 names to bring forward to the PBM International Board for further consideration. The Board will narrow the field to three or four finalists shortly after Labor Day and make a final selection of the 2022 recipient at Midwest this December. **We look forward to recognizing 2020 recipient Alfred Watkins at the PBM International Awards Breakfast on December 16**

## COMMISSION PROJECT NEWS– CINDY LANSFORD (Alpha/TX)

Phi Beta Mu continues to have a strong commitment to the creation of new compositions for winds and percussion. With each of these projects, it has been our intent to collaborate with composers in producing new literature that would make a significant contribution to the existing wind band literature and would also be accessible to diverse talented wind bands at various grade levels.

**Our most recent commission, *Rejoice, Dolce, and Dance* by Quincy Hillard was recently published by Carl Fisher. We will keep you updated on the premiere performance of this work.**



This spring, we have been reviewing YOUR composer recommendations for consideration for our next commission project which is to be a Grade 3-3.5 composition. If you have not submitted a name, please do so quickly so all worthy composers can be considered. **Please send your composer recommendations to Cindy Lansford [calansford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:calansford@sbcglobal.net).**

**We want to continue to help create great and useful literature for our bands of all levels! We look forward to hearing from you concerning your recommendations.**

## OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR AWARD – JULIA REYNOLDS (Omicron/AR)

**Nominations for the International Phi Beta Mu 2022 Outstanding Contributor to Bands are being accepted at this time.** Any PBM member may submit a name with brief bio to Julia Reynolds for consideration. We have the privilege of recognizing John M. Stoner, former CEO/President of Conn-Selmer, as the 2020 Outstanding Contributor to Bands during the PBM Awards Breakfast at the Midwest Clinic this December!



**You**  **Subscribe to our YouTube Channel!**  **You**



- Virtual Workshops
- Over 90 Top Clinicians
- June 14-17, 2021

## PHI BETA MU INTERNATIONAL BANDMASTERS FRATERNITY SUPPORTS CONN-SELMER INSTITUTE *CONNECT*

Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity is proud to announce, again, its involvement with the Conn-Selmer Institute **CONNECT**, to be delivered online June 14-17, 2021.

This professional development conference is comprised of inspiring workshops and classes led by world-class clinicians. This initiative gives us all a chance to invest in the future of our profession by helping to facilitate this life-changing opportunity for young teachers in your region. We encourage your chapter to select and sponsor, for \$79 each, an unlimited number of outstanding young band directors to participate in this four-day virtual institute.

**The \$79 payment option includes the entire 2021 event: all sessions, all days, all access. Sessions include the following streams:**

- **June 14** – Band, Collegiate, New Teacher
- **June 15** – Band, Orchestra, Collegiate, Music Administration Collaborative
- **June 16** – The New Teaching Landscape
- **June 17** – Marching Arts, Student Leadership, and Parent Booster

### [Conn-Selmer Institute Connect 2021](#)

Please send your Chapter's \$79 payment directly to the selected band director(s) and have them contact Conn-Selmer to register for this year's Conn-Selmer Institute 2021. If you have questions about this year's Conn-Selmer Institute, contact [Erin Cole Steele](#), Director of Educational Programs, Conn-Selmer Inc.

Once your Chapter has completed these steps with the band director(s) selected, please send your name and chapter, and the name of the band director(s) selected, his/her school's name, and their email addresses to Vice President [Dwayne Sagen](#).

Additional inquiries may also be directed to PBM International Board member and Conn-Selmer Committee member [Martin Becker](#).

# Let the music begin!

## [Free Video Preview](#)

## **PBM EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROJECT** – June Bearden (Alpha/TX)

The International Board created the project at Midwest Band & Orchestra Clinic and this is the eighth series of articles under “Teaching Tips”, “The Profession” and “Repertoire” topics. All articles will remain on the PBM International website as a resource for directors, so please share and consult the previous submissions under the EO tab. Hope you each enjoy a restful summer and find these ideas helpful!



### **The Profession:**

- mentoring - creating student leaders for next year
  - [\*Where to Start? Five Steps you can take TODAY to Train Stronger Leaders by Jeff Jones\*](#)
  - [\*If I Could Do It All Over Again by Gary Barton\*](#)
- organizing your band events - community matters
  - [\*Banding Together with Your Community by Dr. David W. Vandewalker\*](#)
- preparing for adjudication/contests - consider playing an American march!
  - [\*The American March by Lowell E. Graham, Col \(ret.\) USAF\*](#)

### **Teaching tips:**

- Events - great marching band ideas for next season
  - [\*Maximizing Efficiency in Fundamental and Rehearsal with the Vista Ridge Band by Bryan Christian, Reid Atkinson, Hector Gil, Erin Kosman, Zach Santos\*](#)
- rehearsal ideas -
  - [\*Tonal Energy: Three Ways to Integrate the TE Met into Your '21-'22 Curriculum by Albert Vela\*](#)
  - [\*Good Musicianship and Ensemble Traits for Band Members by Fred J. Allen\*](#)
- instructional tools - SO many great ideas & videos!
  - [\*Phantom Regiment Academy by Stan Mauldin\*](#) - Inspired by quality, character, & innovation. Phantom Regiment Academy offers both in-person and virtual training opportunities with some of the best marching arts educators in the world. Available on [Facebook](#) and at <https://regiment.org/>

### **Repertoire:**

- [\*Band Directors Talk Shop: "Tunes with a Twist" series\*](#)
- [\*Star Spangled Banner free arrangement, Randall Standridge - "Hybrid" Setting for Full or Flex Groups:\*](#)

Please use these yourself or share with those you mentor!

*We need your Teaching Ideas and articles for the October Issue.*

Email to: [junebearden66@gmail.com](mailto:junebearden66@gmail.com)

# AVOIDING THE MIDWEST CLINIC BLUES

- JOHN HILLSMAN (Rho/Alabama)

I want to share these thoughts with band director friends, especially my younger band director friends. I formulated these ten statements over the years. Occasionally, I slightly revise one statement. I keep them handy in my notes on my phone/iPad and refer to them as necessary.

I well remember being a young band director attending The Midwest Clinic. Two things always happened as a result of attending the event: 1. I would come home feeling motivated and empowered to teach. The experience was invigorating. 2. I realized, and annually I was reminded, of the extent to which I was (and continue to be) a virtual “nobody” in the profession. I would also come home almost depressed about myself professionally. I was depressed to the point I actually did not attend the clinic for years because the invigoration was not worth the depression and lack of self-worth I felt professionally. The Midwest Clinic is built around the “somebodies.” The entire time you are there if you are like me, you realize you stand in an outer circle looking into the inner circle. I finally came to the realization that it is perfectly alright to be in that outer circle. Most of us are. Fortunately, in our profession, most in that inner circle are gracious to those of us who are not!

I continue to go to The Midwest Clinic annually and totally enjoy myself and the experience. I still come home invigorated to teach but never depressed about myself any longer. However, to do so, it took me coming to the ten realizations I share below.

1. Have a hobby or do something you enjoy outside of band directing/music if you want to last in this business until retirement (and in my case, beyond it).
2. Most of us will not have the “premier” band programs. You will discover that it is as much about landing the “right” job as anything else. You can be a stellar and wonderful teacher, but premier programs are the result of great teaching and the “stars have aligned” resources all falling into place.
3. Align your program goals with the resources at your disposal and make it the best you can for your students. Trying to develop the program beyond its resources breeds frustration for all involved and especially for you as the director. It is as important as teaching to build your resources, but in most programs, there will be limitations on the resources available to you.
4. When you go to an event such as The Midwest Clinic, you may realize how insignificant you are in the big picture, but you are the big picture to your students and your community. They don’t care about your status on a national level. They care about you on their level. You are highly important to them. Never forget your importance to them.
5. The biggest obstacles you will face in doing your job will be thrown in front of you by the very people who hired you to do your job.
6. The conditions that you agreed to when accepting your position (scheduling, funding, job conditions, resources, etc.) are only good as long as that person or group who hired you is your supervisor(s). In many instances and especially in non-union states, these agreements are made on a handshake. When that supervisor moves on, often so do the conditions you agreed to. Be alert to recognize when you are not the band director that a new administrator wants. Seldom do they have the integrity to just be forthcoming and tell you. They chip away at your resources and continually drop hints while smiling at you to your face. If you don’t take the hint, they can and often do something that can potentially damage your career. (I have seen this situation happen to good band directors often throughout my career.)
7. Life in our chosen profession can change on a dime. The conditions that favored and fostered your success can be chipped away at or outright stripped away. You cannot, in many instances, continue to build or even maintain your program when the resources you have are diminished. It is like investing \$100K and then withdrawing \$40K, but still expecting to get the same return on your investment. It doesn’t work that way though many

**MIDWEST BLUES, CONTINUED**

administrators will allow your resources to diminish and expect you to continue to build or maintain the current levels of program success. This situation is often a harsh reality that we often face at times in our careers.

8. Realize that resources in your band program are more than just monetary. They include things such as the socio-economics of your community and specifically your students and parents, the intellectual levels of students and parents, the value of your band program to your school and community, your ability to obtain funding for your program (are there resources within the community to support your program?), administrative support, etc. Realize that in most instances, administrative support is often the single most important resource. Plan accordingly. Align program goals to the resources at your disposal. Example: Don't plan a band trip your students/parents cannot afford.
9. Due to factors beyond your control, sometimes it is important to know when to move to greener pastures. However, make sure that the pastures you move along to are actually greener. There are more factors involved in doing your job that you cannot control than you can control. (Refer to some of the points above for an explanation.)
10. **LET YOUR FAMILY COME FIRST.** This is probably the single biggest mistake many band directors make. Don't let your job consume you. Know that being happy at home and at work are both important to your well being. Often times I have been happy at work, but not at home (generally my fault in hindsight). At times, I have been happy at home but not at work, often due to those factors beyond the scope of my control. However, true happiness and fulfillment come when you are happy at home and at work. If one has to be slighted, let it be work, not home.



**John Hillsman** is a native of Tifton, Georgia. Upon graduation from Tift County High School, he attended Troy State University. He currently holds a Bachelors, Masters and Specialist Degrees in Music Education from Troy University. Prior to accepting his current position as band director at Beauregard High School and Sanford Middle School in Opelika, Alabama, Mr. Hillsman was the band director at Hawkinsville High School/Pulaski Middle School, Westover High School, Washington County High School, and he retired from Jeff Davis High School in the state of Georgia. This year marks his thirty-seventh as a music educator.

## TRIBUTE TO A BRIDGEBUILDER

- ELVA KAYE LANCE (Delta /Mississippi)

Organizations are built by leaders who epitomize the foundational character of the association. On April 28, 2021, the Delta (MS) chapter of Phi Beta Mu lost one of the legends in our state. While all of our chapters are losing far too



many of our senior leaders to the natural processes of life, Badrae Hannah held a unique place in our state. He helped create the bridge between the old ways of the past and the current practices of the present. His career spanned 35 years in the public schools of Mississippi. Throughout his career, his bands received all-superior ratings in every category numerous times and in various venues. His bands played for two US Presidents. But those successes were not the most significant in his long and storied career.

There were numerous personal achievements that all attested to his outstanding work as an educator and the high esteem in which he was held by his peers. Mr. Hannah has the distinction of being the only director to serve as President of both band associations in Mississippi: the Magnolia Band Association and the Band Division of the Mississippi Music Educators Association (predecessor of our current MBA). His

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**TRIBUTE, CONTINUED**

election to these high offices set a precedent for other African-American band directors after school integration and helped facilitate the merging of the two band associations in Mississippi. In 1977 he became the first African-American to be initiated in the Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu and served as its president in 1989. He was selected as Star Teacher at D'Iberville High School on four occasions and was elected by Phi Beta Mu as band director of the year in 1988. The school yearbook was dedicated to him and the television station named him Person of the Week in 1996, just to name a few of his achievements.



He served on the advisory board of the Mississippi High School Activities Association and was inducted into the Phi Beta Mu/Mississippi Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame on December 12, 1997.

Growing up in the segregated South, Badrae Hannah led his students, his communities, and our professional organizations through the difficult events surrounding school integration, and he modeled the highest behaviors and standards for everyone. Through his career, he led with a strong work ethic, a vision and system of high values and expectations, grace, and the heart of a servant leader. There were difficult times and amazing successes over the span of his career, but there was never any defeat—only the joy that comes from the sense of accomplishment of a life well-lived and a lot of precious memories. **The Delta Chapter and the band profession in Mississippi are much richer because of the contributions of our brother, Badrae Hannah.**

## SOME THOUGHTS ON MOVING FORWARD

- TRAVIS WELLER (Nu /Pennsylvania)

The most tumultuous and challenging year in recent history for music education is drawing to a close. Ensemble directors have been doing their best to give their students some type of meaningful musical experience. Concerts are being held in a variety of venues to limited audience members with music that is at points below the level of difficulty that the ensemble has previously performed. Directors have adjusted annual goals, but these educators are still in pursuit of excellence with their students.

As the next school year sits on the distant horizon, this post is part encouragement and part suggestion for ensemble directors as they prepare over the summer. This discussion is not about score study, repertoire suggestions, or even discussion of rehearsal techniques. Sustaining band programs over the next six to eight years will require a paradigm shift in the approach directors take with their students. Many band programs have experienced setbacks in ensemble growth and accomplishment. Yet, other programs have seen ensemble success replaced with individual advancement and development. It is a distinct reminder that ensembles are composed of students. Those students will need a director who recognizes their value, want the best for them, and will stand for truth on their path.

Ensemble directors must accept and embrace that personal character matters as much as the skill in the members of the ensemble. Who you are and what you do are equivalent characteristics in the 21st century ensemble rehearsal room. Members of the ensemble need to know their director cares about them as people first and musicians second. A student who feels value, acceptance, and safety is often more inclined to be productive and reliable members of a larger group. This spirit in each student contributes to rebuilding the sense of community that was lost over the 2020-21 academic year.

CONTINUED.....



## FORWARD, CONTINUED

Ensemble directors need to have a passion for members of their ensemble to exhort, encourage, and equip them. Directors must be persistent in their daily journey to become good in the musical and social lives of their students, more than just doing good. Directors should exhort each member to be courageous in their pursuit of discovering their personal identity. Directors must encourage each member to strive for higher standards both musically and personally. Finally, directors must equip each member with dispositions, insight, and skills that help them find a life-long personal and communal sense of belonging and identity in music.

Every ensemble deserves to hear the truth. Ensemble directors need to stand for truth with grace and grit in the face of certain adversity and welcome prosperity. Directors need to meet adversity with grace as a director may not agree with the decision an ensemble member makes or the progress the group has made toward a musical goal. When a decision that contradicts an agreed upon code or puts the safety or well-being of other ensemble members, directors must confront with immediacy and focus on the decision, not the person. The grace extended to that member offers unmerited clemency to the person, reaffirming their value as an individual to the group. The grace extended to an ensemble refocuses their collective efforts to aspire to the agreed upon standards. While expectations can change in these uncertain times, working toward quality and higher standards will never go out of style.

Regardless of circumstances, directors must persist in being positive to their students without sacrificing integrity or truth. Directors must remind their students that it is acceptable to sometimes fail in endeavors that will ultimately succeed rather than find success in endeavors that are short-sighted or do not promote long-term growth. Trophies at competitions, degree of difficulty in the repertoire performed, or the number of performances completed will not determine the success of instrumental ensembles in music education in the immediate future. The future of instrumental ensembles requires a nuanced approach by directors that places the value of the students as the top priority.



**Travis J. Weller** is the Director of Music Education and directs the Symphonic Winds at Messiah University (PA). He is currently serving as President for the Nu Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. He is a published composer with several companies and a frequent presenter at clinics and conferences.

**“ENSEMBLE DIRECTORS NEED TO STAND FOR TRUTH WITH GRACE AND GRIT IN THE FACE OF CERTAIN ADVERSITY AND WELCOME PROSPERITY. “**

Have you seen the videos of Phi Beta Mu commissioned works that have been posted on our Facebook page?

Find ALL of them (and more to come) on the [Phi Beta Mu YouTube Channel](#). It is open to all, so invite those you mentor!

[Information About Upcoming Elections this Fall!](#)

## CHAPTER NEWS

### PI Chapter (WI) NEWS - John Szczygiel

*The Wisconsin PBM 2020 Outstanding Bandmaster is John Climer.*



**John Climer** is Director of University Bands and Professor of Music at UW-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts where he oversees all aspects of the band program, guides the graduate wind conducting area and serves as conductor of the Wind Ensemble, the University's premiere wind band. As a guest conductor and clinician, Dr. Climer has led performances nationally and internationally including the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, John F Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Eastman School of Music and the Conservatorio di Musica in Salerno, Italy. Ensembles under his direction have performed for four conferences of the College Band Directors National Association and many other music conferences throughout the nation. An avid supporter of new music, Climer has participated in numerous commissioning projects. His UWM program has collaborated with renowned composers Schwantner, Colgrass, Mackey, Markowski, Camphouse, Stamp, Perrine, Phillips and Ticheli.

John is the recipient of three university teaching awards, is past-president of the North Central Division of CBDNA and is a contributing author for the *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* series. He is active in many professional organizations including the American Bandmasters Association.

Dr. Climer is frequently called upon to provide artistic and organizational leadership for various music department committees and is generous with giving his time to area music programs as a clinician and as a resource to directors, administrators and students. He is a cornerstone of the entire music program at UW-Milwaukee and his exceptional collegiality is valued by all faculty and staff. His warm and friendly personality is welcoming to all.

### Alpha Chapter (TX) NEWS - Scott Coulson

**Greetings from Alpha Chapter!** Due to the COVID 19 Outbreak, the Texas Music Educators Association Convention was held virtually with great success. The Alpha Board of Directors met virtually and approved the following:

- New member class of 2021: Destry Balch, Rob Chilton, Chad Collins, David Dunham, Manuel Gamez, Corey Graves, Ryan Johnstone, Kevin Knight, Jarrett Lipman, Terry Maxwell, Lucy Pascasio, Brian Pollard, Adam Powell, John Rauschuber, Joshua Shaw, Misty Smith, and David Stephenson. They will be inducted as members at the 2022 TMEA Convention.
- Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame class of 2021: Robert Caston, Mike Cudd, Roger Edwards, Phil Geiger, Scott McA Dow, Brian Merrill, Sherry Miller, Steve Musser, Tom SoRelle, Travis Smith, and Ray Toler. They along with the HOF Class of 2020 will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention, which will be held in-person this July in San Antonio.
- Jesus Marquez from Richardson High School was named Outstanding Young Bandmaster. His formal presentation will be this summer at the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention in San Antonio. 2020 recipient, Dan Morrison, will be recognized as well.
- Bill Everett Jr. of Brook Mays and H&H Music was named Outstanding Contributor. His formal presentation will be this summer at the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention in San Antonio. 2020 recipient, Jerry Hanszen, will be recognized as well.

As mentioned above, the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention will be held in-person this July and Alpha Chapter will continue to contribute to the convention. The annual awards breakfast will be held, recognizing the Outstanding Young Bandmaster and Contributor, as well as **the newly named Texas Bandmaster of the Year- Keith Bearden**. Alpha will also present the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Phi Beta Mu Reading Band, performing new music from supporting publishers. In addition, Alpha will sponsor 2 clinics during the convention: (1) "Building a Band Hall Culture Strong Enough to Overcome a Pandemic"- **CONTINUED ...**

## CHAPTER NEWS

### ALPHA, CONTINUED

Corey Graves, Roma MS and Mike Howard, Vandegrift HS presenting. And (2) "A View From Both sides of the fence! High School and Middle School Directors working together to get kids to the next step: High School Band"- Jarrett Lipman, Claudia Taylor Johnson HS; Bernard Rosenberg, Frank Tejada MS; and Kim Risenberg, David Lee "Tex" Hill MS presenting. The convention will conclude with the 2020 and 2021 Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame ceremonies.

**Alpha Chapter continues to offer the Band Director's Support Network. The BDSN is to assist band directors throughout the State/Nation by providing consultant services, professional development workshops and peer mentoring.**

### Rho Chapter (AL) NEWS - Clifford (Ski) Winter

April 16th was our last meeting in 2021 and we were able to resume live meetings!. We met at the Mobile Convention Center in which the Alabama Bandmasters Association All State Band Convention was being held. Rho Chapter will be changing their business meeting to the AMEA Meeting held in Montgomery each January.



#### **Rho Chapter inducted Suzanne Winter into the "Hall of Fame".**

Suzie is a retired Middle School Band Director who taught at three different schools. Smith Middle, Rutledge Middle and Pizitz Middle School.

#### **We pinned our second Honorary Member: Robert W. Smith**

Robert is a famous composer and past director of the Troy University Bands. Robert now teaches Music Industry at Troy. Our first Honorary Member was Joe Terry (2019).



**We also inducted 6 new members into Rho Chapter:** Ryan Fitzpatrick, Lori Hart, Nancy Frith, Keith Anderson, James Crumb, Jr., and Doug Farris.

We are moving closer to our chapter goal of collecting enough funds to commission an Alabama Composer to write a composition for Rho Chapter. We have raised a great deal of money by having a 50/50 raffle at each meeting. This was initiated and continues to be coordinated by Brother Jim Knight.

Rho is giving an \$800.00 scholarship to Emma Suzanne Best From Decatur Alabama. She attended Austin High School under the direction of John Cooper and Clay Sloan. She will be attending the University of North Alabama as a Music Education Major. Our chapter gives a \$500 scholarship normally, but adds \$100.00 for every Phi Beta Mu member who has passed away in the last year. With the addition of the three hundred dollars we are honoring Jim Duren, Dr. John M. Long and Dr. Ed Jones.

**Our Chapter has logged over 500 hours in our yearly Helping Hands project.** This project encourages our members to volunteer their time and talents to other directors and or their bands. Rho Chapter honored two Alabama Directors: The Outstanding Band Director Award (over 10 years experience) was presented to John Cooper of Austin High School in Decatur. Outstanding Young Band Director award (under 10 years experience) was presented to Justin White of Thompson High School

### Alpha Gamma Chapter (ND) NEWS - Nancy Olson

We held our annual meeting virtual this year. We have new nominees from both 2020 & 2021 who we will initiate at our, (hopefully) in-person meeting in 2022. After that meeting, we will have new members to report along with more news from our chapter regarding a commission that we are trying to raise money for. We supported the PBM commission this year and look forward to being more active in other projects.

**Phi Beta Mu Private Facebook Group :** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/510173002454158/> **JOIN TODAY!**

## CHAPTER NEWS

### **Mu Alpha Chapter (ALB) NEWS — Trish Howe**

**The spring finds Mu Alpha looking forward to creating the new normal, and seeing the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.** Throughout the winter and into the spring, the chapter has remained busy and engaged and has been able to continue with most of its programs, though indeed all are missing being together and making music! **The hope is to be able to connect again in person at the provincial music conference.**

**Mu Alpha has continued its support of the Canadian Band Association's Howard Cable Memorial Prize in Composition.** This annual competition is run as one would run a consortium, and invites nascent composers to enter their



works. Mu Alpha supports this project annually to help develop Canadian composers. The chapter was also able to support members of the National Youth Band Anna Bosgra (Tuba), and James Shi (Clarinet) – pictured- in their participation in the virtual presentation of the ensemble this year. Despite not being able to travel, both found the experience meaningful and enlightening, and took from it a sense of collegiality with their compatriots, excellence in learning from both instrumental sessions, and from sessions that included EDI focuses, and great motivation to make the band world a better place.



**Locally, our brothers and sisters are fostering online communities and finding ways to provide online enrichment opportunities to both school and community musicians.** Brother Chris Herard continues to guide the Band Directors United Facebook group and assist with the Pathway to Success community meetings, and Brother Nathan Gingrich has just finished a second successful online edition of Slide into Spring – a trombone event that ends with a mass trombone choir. Many of our members are very active with community bands and have been working to keep music alive in our communities as well as our schools.

There are many fine organizations that support music education in Alberta, and one of the newest collaborations is the Alberta Music Advocacy Alliance. Brother Kirk Wassmer serves this group and Mu Alpha is working on to support the efforts of this outstanding collective that is working to create a unified voice for music education in Alberta.

**Sisters Sheryl Bowhay and Tricia Howe** share the news that they are working together with several charter members of the Beta Gamma chapter in British Columbia, Canada to support a revitalization of the chapter and look very forward to helping to create more recognition for excellence in teaching in our sister chapter.

Mu Alpha would also like to thank all of its members for their support of each other and of the organization. As do most chapters, Mu Alpha runs solely on the dues, and it is amazing to have so many projects on the go supporting teachers and music educators. It's the kind of year where it's easy to forget, but it is much appreciated, and we are grateful to those who have kept us afloat in the pandemic.

**As always stay well, stay safe, make what music you can, and don't lose hope!**

### **Iota (KS) NEWS — Robert Lee**

The Iota Chapter has not held a meeting since Feb 2020, **However we will have a live, face to face meeting in July in conjunction with the Kansas Bandmasters Convention.** We will be installing new members, installing new officers and discussing the continuation of our scholarship and sponsorship activities.

**We presently have 144 members.**

### **Kappa (CO) NEWS — Brian Margrave**

Kappa Chapter cancelled our annual meeting in January at our state conference due to the pandemic. We have no new officers, as 2022 will be our election year. We are putting our inductions on pause until we have the opportunity to meet together again.

## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

[Past-President Keith Bearden named TBA Bandmaster of the Year](#)

[Zeta \(Georgia\) Chapter member Dr. Daniel Kiene receives civic honor.](#)

[Rho \(Alabama\) member Chuck Eady recognized by former student.](#)

[Composer Robert W. Smith becomes Honorary Member](#)

[Eta \(Tennessee\) Member Perry Elliot receives television recognition.](#)

[Jim Knight of Rho \(Alabama\) creates Legacy Project for Alabama.](#)

[Barry Trobaugh of Eta \(Tennessee\) recognized for career accomplishments.](#)

[Delta \(Mississippi\) member Louise Smith recognized in national news article.](#)

[Pi \(Wisconsin\) member Larry Daehn receives national honor.](#)

[Iota \(Kansas\) member Bill Schick inducted into Hall of Fame.](#)

[Travis Beard chosen for Arkansas Tech Hall of Distinction.](#)

[Stephen Gage of Mu \(Ohio\) featured on TV News.](#)

[Michael Krofta of Pi \(Wisconsin\) recognized for legacy of teaching.](#)

**Deadline for October Issue is September 15!**

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