

Indiana State School Music Association, Inc.

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News Notes

August 2020



TOM DEAN ASSUMES ISSMA PRESIDENCY

Tom Dean is the Director of Bands at Castle High School in Newburgh, IN. He oversees all activities of the Castle band, including directing the marching band and concert bands.

Tom graduated from the Castle High School band program in 1984 and continued his study of music at Ball State University, receiving his Bachelor's Degree in music education in 1988. After teaching for three years at Eastbrook High School in Indiana, he accepted a two-year graduate assistantship at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. While at BGSU, he earned his Master's Degree with a conducting emphasis studying with Mr. Mark Kelly and met his eventual wife, Jill. The following year, Mr. Dean returned to Castle High School and was named the Head Director and Music Department Chair in 1994.

Under his leadership, the Castle marching band won the 2017 Bands of American Class AAA National Championship, is a two time Bands of America Grand National Finalist, been named an Indiana Class A State Finalist 18 times, and was awarded the 2016 Sudler Shield Award from the John Phillip Sousa Foundation.

The Castle High School Wind Ensemble has been named an ISSMA State Finalist 18 times and has been selected to perform at the Indiana Music Educator Convention. During his tenure, the Castle High School Band has traveled and performed at many prestigious contests and events throughout the country, but he is most proud of the many talented and hard-working students that he has taught through the years.

Mr. Dean is a member of several professional musical organizations, has served 18 years as a member of the Indiana State School Music State Board, was awarded an Eli Lilly Teacher Creativity Award, and received the 2003 Ball State University Alumni Achievement Citation.

From the Podium

As we prepare for the upcoming school year many questions remain concerning ISSMA events. ISSMA remains committed to fulfilling our mission of providing educationally evaluated music performance opportunities for students and teachers of school music ensembles from member schools in Indiana. ISSMA also believes the health and safety of those involved in an ISSMA event must be our highest priority. The State Board recently adopted the following policy: When the ISSMA Executive Director and the Executive Committee determine any ISSMA event would place an uncontrollable health risk on students, directors, adjudicators, workers, or spectators, the live event should be cancelled. If feasible, and in compliance with all copyright laws, a virtual option should be considered.

Although it was necessary to cancel all ISSMA live marching band events, we remain hopeful Solo & Ensemble, Jazz, Show Choir, and Concert Organization events will be able to be held as scheduled. However, we will continue to explore all options to provide virtual assessment opportunities as needed.

For us to continue with this planning, is it imperative that schools complete the ISSMA Membership Form available on the ISSMA website and submit payment of the membership fee.

As you plan for participation in ISSMA events, we hope you will take the time to read through the information provided in the Highlights and Rule Changes for 2020-2021 document attached to this email.

ISSMA MUSIC FESTIVALS MANUAL: The ISSMA Music Festivals Manual is not being mailed this year. Directors of member schools will have access to the Festivals Manual via the Directors Only area of the ISSMA website.

VIRTUAL MARCHING BAND OPPORTUNITIES: A survey was recently sent to marching band directors to determine the interest in receiving an assessment via a live streaming event or a video submission of a performance. Upon reviewing the results of the survey, specific information will be sent to directors.

ONLINE ASSESSMENT CENTER: ISSMA is in the process of developing an Online Assessment Center to provide the opportunity for directors to submit video recordings of student performances, regardless if they are teaching in-person or virtually, for an online evaluation from a trained ISSMA adjudicator. Specific guidelines are still being refined and will be sent to directors as soon as possible.

COVID-19 UPDATES: ISSMA Directors and administrators are encouraged to frequently check the ISSMA website for Music Guidance Resources and Updates including results and recommendations from the International COVID-19 Aerosol Study.

IAEN/ADVOCACY: The Indiana Arts Education Network is a broad coalition of Indiana organizations and advocates for music and arts education. Many concerns exist surrounding school funding in the next 2-year budget which will be adopted at this year's General Assembly. Lobbying and advocacy efforts are underway, but donations and support are critically needed. Please go to www.inartsed.org to learn more.

NFHS MEMBERSHIP: ISSMA is an affiliate member of the National Federation of State High School Associations. NFHS has been a driving force in providing networking opportunities for performing arts associations to share information as we all face the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic. ISSMA has developed a partnership with NFHS to provide NFHS Learn courses via the ISSMA Academy. Directors are encouraged to explore these courses and to become an individual member of NFHS.

EQUITY & INCLUSION TASK FORCE: In response to recent events that have brought attention to discrimination, systemic racism, and social injustice, ISSMA has formed an Equity and Inclusion task force to maintain an open dialogue to examine ways ISSMA can affect meaningful change. If you would like to participate in this dialogue, please contact Mick Bridgewater at mbridgewater@issma.net

GENDER NEUTRAL POLICY: In compliance with ISSMA's Gender Neutral Policy, all Vocal Solo & Ensemble and Choral Organization event titles have been changed. Entries are now based on the voicing of the music and not the gender of the participants. Treble Choir and Men's Choir have been replaced with Unvoiced Choir.

Please visit the ISSMA website regularly at www.issma.net

Thanks for all you do to make a difference in the lives of students! There is no challenge too great for the dedicated music educators in Indiana!

Mick Bridgewater, ISSMA Executive Director

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Those schools that have not paid current membership dues for the 2020-2021 School Year will find that they are unable to access the restricted areas of the website after September 20th. School Membership forms are available on the ISSMA website under "Entry Forms". **If you are in a new teaching position, please contact our office to receive your "Username" and "Password".**

ONLINE PAYMENTS OF FEES

All entry fees, orders for medals, patches, rockers and choral sight-reading booklets may be paid with a credit card, electronic check through the **ISSMA Online Payment Center**. Directors may login to the "Directors Only" area of the ISSMA website and click the "Material Order Forms" link to place an order.

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE REVISIONS

The **Vocal Group I Required List Manual** has been revised. It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that you notify all your students and private teachers of the changes. The Vocal Solo Event 160 is now a combined list and ensembles are now only identified as a large or small ensemble. Both Vocal Ensemble Lists and the Required Lists for Concert Organization have a new look referencing the voicing of the music, combining mixed, treble and bass clef literature. **DO NOT ASSUME THAT ANY COMPOSITION HAS BEEN RETAINED FROM A PREVIOUS LIST.**

CONGRATULATIONS!

*Congratulations to the 2020 ISSMA Distinguished Service Award Recipients:
Randall Schroeder, Northwestern H.S., Kokomo
Renee Skipper, Center Grove H.S., Greenwood
and
Janis Stockhouse, N.F.H.S. Outstanding Music Educator*

We would like to recognize our 2019 - 2020 State Champion Marching Bands and State Jazz Finalists

Marching Band

Class D: Lewis Cass H.S. - Alan Hinshaw, Director
Class C: Western H.S. - Brian Caldwell, Director
Class B: Greenfield Central H.S. - Chris Wing, Director
Class A: Avon H.S. - Jay Webb, Director

Instrumental Jazz (Alphabetical Order)

Castle H.S. - Mark Eifler, Director
DeKalb HS - Shanna Lank, Director
Goshen H.S. - Tom Cox, Director
Homestead H.S. - Brad Wadkins, Director
Noblesville H.S. - Bethany Robinson, Director
North Central H.S. - Rick Granlund, Director
North Side H.S. - Aaron King, Director
Penn H.S. - Aaron Griesser, Director
Whiteland Community H.S. - Peter Sampson, Director

Vocal Jazz (Alphabetical Order)

Concordia Lutheran H.S. - Tavis Schlicker, Director
Greenwood Community H.S. - Dan Borns, Director
Leo H.S. - Kim MacDonald, Director
Martinsville H.S. - Mark Yount, Director
Perry Meridian H.S. - Melissa Walsh
Southport H.S. - Jaelyn Richardson
Western H.S. - Janel Baker
Whiteland Community H.S. - Stephen Brandt

REQUIRED/SUGGESTED LISTS

KUDOS to all of those who gave so freely of their time and expertise to serve on the various committees this past year. We would especially like to thank the following Required Music Selection Committee Chairs and the ICDA Repertoire Chairs for their work and submissions:

Zak Tschiniak - H.S. Orchestra

Keith Ziolkowski - J.M.E. Orchestra

Matt James - H.S. Band

Candi Granlund - J.M.E. Band

Dan Andersen, Dan Borns, Angela Hampton - H.S. Choral

David Stone - J.M.E. Choral

Aaron Griesser - H.S. Jazz

Josh Weirich - J.M.E. Jazz

Erica Colter - Vocal Jazz

Note: All new additions or list changes are indicated with an asterisk (*) to expedite your initial search.