



NEWSLETTER

Letter From The President

Welcome back to school, fellow collegiates! I hope you all enjoyed your summer vacation, or lack there of. I spent my entire summer marching mellophone with the Holy Name Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps and performed most of the FCMENC tasks through phone calls during my short meal breaks. Now it is time to get back to business!

It is time to start thinking about the FCMENC/FSMA/FCMEA Fall Conference. This year is different from others because it will be held at the school board offices in Polk County on October 3. This facility has been provided for us for free by Frank Howes and Beth Cummings, the music supervisors from that county. Dr. Kathy Kerstetter from FCMEA has arranged to have Dr. Steve Kelly from Florida State University as the keynote speaker. We will be offering two sessions with Dr. Kelly, two with the music supervisors, and two of our own. If you are in need of a place to stay, hotel information can be found on the FSMA portion of the flmusiced.org website.

Be sure to renew your FMEA/MENC membership online or create your new membership by visiting the FMEA website (www.flmusiced.org) and mailing in the new member form to the address listed on the document. The sooner you register, the more time you have to reap the benefits of your membership. Remember, you must be a member of FMEA/MENC to attend the Annual FMEA Clinic-Conference. You can save a decent amount of money by registering online.

We are trying something new this year with our State Board Meetings. At each meeting, I have Skype, a free internet-based phone service, opened on my computer. Chapter Presidents and State Board Members unable to travel to the meeting location can call in and still participate. My idea with this technology is to keep more Chapter Presidents informed first hand and to prevent the age-old problem of travel date issues.

That's about it for now! I look forward to meeting some of you in October. I hope I will see the rest of you in January at the FMEA Conference.

Sincerely,

Michelle Guest, FCMENC President.



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We Want Your Info!

Is your chapter doing something that deserves recognition? Send pictures and information on your chapters' activities to Richard Balach.

Richard Balach
1000 Longfellow Blvd #102
Lakeland, FL 33801
rabalach@seuniversity.edu



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MEET THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD!

President: Michelle Guest
 School: Florida State University
 Email: mlgo6e@fsu.edu
 Phone: (239) 565-2350

Past-President: Nicholas Casiano
 School: University of Miami
 Email: nicholas.casiano@gmail.com
 Phone: (305) 302-2930

Secretary: Rich Balach
 School: Southeastern University
 Email: rabalach@seuniversity.edu
 Phone: (724) 809-4220

Treasurer: Corey Simpson
 School: Southeastern University
 Email: cwsimpson@seuniversity.edu
 Phone: (727) 804-5426

Parliamentarian/Historian: Joshua Autrey
 School: Florida State University
 Email: jaa05k@fsu.edu
 Phone: (904) 504-6148

Membership Chair: Kathy Crane
 School: University of Florida
 Email: kmcrane@ufl.edu
 Phone: (407) 694-7955

Advocacy Chair: Andrew Noell
 School: Florida State University
 Email: aono6@fsu.edu
 Phone: (863) 738-2710

Awards Chair: Claire Smith
 School: Florida State University
 Email: clso7d@fsu.edu
 Phone: (703) 282-1008

Web/Technology Chair: Chris Hinojosa
 School: Southeastern University
 Email: cahinojosa@seuniversity.edu
 Phone: (734) 770-8741

Advisor: Dr. Al Holcomb
 School: University of Central Florida
 Email: aholcomb@mail.ucf.edu
 Phone: (407) 234-2467



FIND FCMENC OF FACEBOOK!!!

Other useful web links

www.flmusiced.org/fcmenc

www.musicedmajor.net



FMEA Conference
FCMENC General
Business Meeting





ADVOCACY

As always, debate and discussion are bustling in our local, state, and federal offices as we enter the beginning of a new school year. With this fresh start we should all have desire to participate in local events as well as state and national events involving music education. The Fall Conference is right around the corner and a great way to meet other students and educators in Florida. I encourage everyone to be involved this year in your music program and local school programs as each year we hear of programs being reduced or threatened to be cut altogether. After reading an article in Sports Illustrated titled "Tuning Out The Band" by Selena Roberts, as of June 2009 FIU has cut their Marching Band program the Golden Panthers due to lack of funds. This shows cutting music programs are more real as they might seem to us. I encourage everyone to visit www.menc.org and click on the "Advocacy" link. This page includes information on how to get involved and staying informed.

Also, be sure to visit www.flmusiced.org. A great way to do this is to contact your members of congress either by e-mail, telephone, mail, or e-mail and express your concern and the benefits of music education. The website www.congress.org includes information for the house and senate as well as current news and discussion taking place. Also, be sure to visit www.myflorida.gov and explore around. The link to the left titled "Government" gives visitors enormous amounts of information, current news, and how to understand Florida's Government. Feel free to contact me at any time by e-mail for questions or concerns related to being an advocate for music education.

Andrew Noell

aono6@fsu.edu



**A presentation
from the 2008
FCMENC Fall
Conference in
Branden, FL.**



**SEU CMENC chapter at
the Fall Conference.**

Need info on chapter presidents? Minutes from past meetings for personal review? You can find all this and more at our very own FCMENC website! Not only do we provide all of the required information, but we are also working to put more relevant and interesting content that is relevant to our field. This is done through interviews in both audio and video formats so that you can take with you.

Everyone, this is YOUR website! Give comments and suggestions so that we can continually improve the functionality of the site so that we all may benefit. If you would like to give feedback, or have any questions regarding the site please send all email to: chris@ignitedchurch.com





OUR ADVISOR

Greetings. My name is Al Holcomb and it is my privilege to serve Advisor for Florida Collegiate MENC Executive Board. This is third year to advise the board after serving as President of the Florida Collegiate Music Educator's Association, and Co-chair for the Florida Music Assessment Project. I have been the Coordinator of Music Education at UCF for the last nine years, teaching courses in music education and aural skill development; directing the Women's Chorus; supervising interns; and working with k-12 music teachers and students around Florida through clinics, honor choirs, and workshops. Through each position and opportunity, it has been my goal to contribute to the improvement of music teaching and learning in Florida.



As a teacher educator, I am thrilled to watch the FCMENC membership show such a strong commitment to professional preparation. I am deeply gratified each time I see future music teachers attending conferences and professional meetings, observing and assisting in music classrooms, engaging in community partnerships, participating in leadership and advocacy efforts, and being ambassadors for music education. It is also extremely gratifying to see future music teachers get excited about developing and teaching courses to accommodate students in middle and high school who may not fit into the traditional band/orchestra/chorus model.

Every child deserves a great music teacher and I thank you for your commitment to becoming great music teachers. I hope to see you at the FCMENC Fall Conference and at the FMEA Clinic-Conference in January. Have a GREAT year.

Al Holcomb, FCMENC Advisor

CALENDAR

- September 18-19 - FMEA Executive Board Meeting**
- October 2 - October State Board Meeting**
Polk County School Board Offices
- October 3 - FCMENC/FSMA/FCMEA Fall Conference**
Polk County School Board Offices
- October 23 - FOA Fall Conference**
- January 1 - State Board Applications Due**
- January 5 - January State Board Meeting**
- January 6 - CMENC President's Forum**
- January 6-9 - FMEA Annual Clinic-Conference**



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FCMENC Newsletter edited and published by Richard Balach.