

# WSMA Festivals Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

## Present

Jeff Behrens, Scott Bruer, Vickie Donahue (WSMA Program Director), Jean Enyeart, Kim Graff, Kendra Junk, Derek Machan, Kate MacRae, Theresa McKinley (WSMA Director of Technology Services), Linda Meier (WSMA Program Associate), Anne Proescholdt (WSMA Program Associate – Member Services), Erica Ruppert (WSMA Program Director), Laura Schram (WSMA Program Manager), James Thaldorf

## Absent

Steven Boyd, Micki Carlson, Kevin Erickson, Cynthia Kiepert, Jacob Kulba, Ryan Petersen, Matthew Robisch, Timothy Schaid (WSMA Executive Director), Jim Welander

## Facilitator

Erica Ruppert

1. Welcome and introductions
2. WSMA State Solo & Ensemble Festivals Exemplary Performance Award
  - a. WSMA board approved all performances for award eligibility
  - b. Announcements will appear on WSMA website and in *Updater*
  - c. WSMA staff will communicate changes with adjudicators before state solo and ensemble festivals
3. Eligibility rules for alternative or virtual school students
  - a. Increase in alternative and virtual schools students unable to rehearse regularly with concert groups, even if alternative or virtual schools belong to traditional school districts with or without WSMA member schools
  - b. Festivals committee recommends that WSMA continues handling inquiries on still-manageable individual level
4. Adjudicating students with special needs
  - a. Requests for performance accommodations
  - b. Fair and compassionate adjudication may require more than music modifications (ie. Rubric modifications)
  - c. WSMA staff will propose adjudication accommodations permissions process at next festivals committee meeting, cognizant of following criteria:
    - i. Reserve for students with Individualized Education Programs or 504 Plan
    - ii. Empower music educators to indicate directions to adjudicator
    - iii. Ensure legality and confidentiality
      1. Require parent/guardian approval
      2. Include confidentiality statement(s) on our permission form

- 3. Encourage sharing only as much information as necessary
    - iv. Class A events ineligible for state solo and ensemble festivals qualification
- 5. Review event 6211 (vocal jazz improvisation solo) header rule 3.b.
  - a. WSMA unable to evaluate live accompaniment
  - b. Festivals committee recommends removal of header rule 3.b.
- 6. Review events 6258, 6268, and 6278 (contemporary a cappella) rules
  - a. Festivals committee recommends addition of language to address following:
    - i. For music stating “vocal percussion optional,” vocal percussion permissible but not required
    - ii. Use of electronic beatbox prohibited
    - iii. Voicing of SSA/A, TTB/B, and mixed events refers to vocal range and not gender
    - iv. Student performing vocal percussion does not need to match voicing of ensemble, not gender specific
- 7. Review events 6468 (jazz combo) and 6478 (creative jazz combo) headers rules 5.a.iii. and 6.a.iii., respectively
  - a. Discrepancy between minimum number of performers in rule 3 (two) and improvised solo expectations for class A (minimum of three soloists)
  - b. Festivals committee recommends revised language: “At least two soloists must improvise for a minimum of 72 combined measures per selection.”
- 8. Feedback from adjudicators
  - a. Review student introduction rules to consider potential for age and presentation biases and efficiency
    - i. Cons:
      - 1. Student declarations of age and/or grade in school
      - 2. Occasional lack of student and/or teacher preparation
      - 3. Less time for performances and/or adjudicator feedback
    - ii. Pros:
      - 1. Verification of performer(s) and music selection(s)
      - 2. Encouragement of engagement with performance music and good teaching
      - 3. Practice of important performance and life skills
    - iii. Festivals committee recommends further discussion at next meeting
  - b. Revise rubrics for events 1311 and 1321 (music theater) to emphasize music over acting
    - i. Festivals committee recommends formation of music theater events review committee
    - ii. Give music theater events review committee member suggestions to Erica
- 9. Permanently out of print (POP) music on festival music list

- a. Original copies of POP music may be difficult to acquire, but all photocopies of music given to adjudicators must be legal (i.e. with publisher permission attached)
  - b. Standard repertoire selections meant to remain indefinitely; however, festivals committee recommends that WSMA staff use data to identify least popular selections in each event for removal review every eight years (two rotations of regular review)
10. Consolidation of instrument families choirs and instrument families ensembles events
- a. Brass/woodwind choirs events and brass/woodwind ensembles events identified as interchangeable
  - b. Festivals committee recommends no changes without cause
11. New festivals committee members needed
- a. Three seats open
  - b. More orchestra representation encouraged
  - c. Give suggestions to Erica
12. Other festivals committee member concerns
- a. Derek: private/studio teacher access to festival music list
    - i. Purchase from WSMA website
  - b. Jean: standard number of adjudicators at concert festivals: one, two, or three?
    - i. WSMA staff will investigate and report findings at next meeting
13. Next meeting: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by Anne Proescholdt