

# **WSMA Festivals Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

## **Present**

Jeff Behrens, Scott Bruer, Jean Enyeart, Laurie Fellenz (WSMA Executive Director), Sarah Hafenstein, Karla Hulne, Cynthia Kiepert, Jake Kulba, Derek Machan, Theresa McKinley (WSMA Director of Technology Services), Linda Meier (WSMA Program Associate), Anne Proescholdt (WSMA Program Associate - Member Services), Matthew Robisch, Erica Ruppert (WSMA Program Director), Darin Schmidt, Laura Schram (WSMA Program Manager), Lee Stovall, Jack Young, Drew Wojciechowski, Tim Wurgler (WSMA Interim Program Director)

## **Absent**

Kendra Junk, Brad Lebakken, Kate MacRae

## **Facilitator**

Erica Ruppert

1. Welcome & introductions
2. Items from last meeting
  - a. Jazz transcribed solo event
    - i. Woodwind and brass selections ready to rollout for this coming school year with approval
    - ii. Festivals committee recommends waiting until 2023-2024 school year to make any event name changes, as not all selections are classifiable as “jazz”
    - iii. Still need to determine what types of adjudicator and rubric to use (or find/create)
    - iv. Festivals committee recommends using instrumental wind solo rubric for woodwind and brass transcribed solo event
  - b. Freestyle string ensemble/small alternative string ensemble event
    - i. Festivals committee approves postponing until 2023-2024 school year to allow time for purposeful music list selection
  - c. Reworking list event numbers
    - i. Some teachers have suggested moving events in 6000s to their respective event family sections (e.g., show choir event moves to 1000s)
      1. Pro: revision requires few changes
      2. Con: jazz events must be wedged illogically into existing event numbers
    - ii. Festivals committee members have suggested reworking entire list
      1. Pro: opportunity to improve upon ordering logic and other issues
      2. Con: requires large volume of time-consuming work with potentially unsettling side effects for teachers accustomed to current ordering logic, especially during pandemic teaching

- iii. Festivals committee maintains that reworking entire list is still worth consideration
      - 1. Earliest possible rollout is fall 2023
      - 2. Teachers might appreciate announcement of revisions at least nine months prior to rollout
    - iv. WSMA recommends and festivals committee approves tabling this until festival app is finalized and stable
  - d. Accreditation
    - i. Focus groups met in January and February to discuss possible changes and needs of schools and teachers
      - 1. WSMA Accreditation will resume for 2022-2023 school year with no changes to formal criteria or general structure
      - 2. WSMA board will review formal appeal process for school administrators, should there be a reason that one music ensemble type (i.e., band, choir, orchestra) is unable to fulfill requirements (with intent that it may be possible to award accreditation based on other music ensembles meeting criteria)
      - 3. Focus groups recommend creation of support materials to address flexibility of clinic experience structuring (e.g., clearly communicating that clinic experience is meant to be flexible and how) and possible appeal process of music ensemble type (i.e., band, choir, orchestra) requirements to involve school administrator(s)
      - 4. Festivals committee approves tabling, as more internal discussion among WSMA team members is needed
- 3. New items
  - a. Transferring concert festival selections to solo and ensemble festival events
    - i. Festivals committee recommends now allowing choir festival transfers and maintaining current concert band festival and orchestra festival selection transfer parameters
    - ii. Festivals committee recommends increasing maximum number of student participants in event 1918 (miscellaneous vocal ensemble) from 15 to 20 to accommodate choir transfer change (this matches madrigal event parameters)
  - b. New event proposal: 3010 (flex band)
    - i. Permission has been required for any flex arrangement of current concert festival selections for any class
    - ii. New event could help directors rebuild their music programs after experiencing big shifts in recent years without putting more strain on WSMA's internal permissions process
    - iii. Festivals committee approves proposal and recommends two-year trial of new event with inclusion of rationale in event header: "transposition of part is allowed for changing instrumentation (no permission needed)"
  - c. Handbell event changes
    - i. Proposal to add new group and adjust number of players per event

- ii. Festivals committee approves changes
  - d. Percussion events header changes
    - i. Proposal to change example instruments in percussion events headers
    - ii. Festivals committee approves changes
  - e. New event proposal: music theater duet
    - i. Festivals committee maintains that selections need to be true duets of Class A rigor and recommends moving forward with research (Drew is interested in helping; Jean suggests reaching out to Natalie Baertschy at New Berlin Eisenhower Middle/High School)
  - f. Teacher suggestion to reconsider prohibition of buckets in percussion events
    - i. Festivals committee rejects suggestion
  - g. Adjudicator suggestion to state explicitly that vocal selections must be sung in their entirety
    - i. WSMA recommends, and festivals committee approves, this addition to relevant event headers
- 4. Next meetings
  - a. Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
  - b. Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by Anne Proescholdt