

Thank you for the opportunity to serve MSBOA. As Orchestra Activities VP, I can say that I truly believe in the mission of our organization. My belief in music education for everyone includes the notion that we need to be a part of the school experience. To state the obvious, MSBOA has the ability to aid our programs with quality offerings that are exclusive to participating members. Including both band and orchestra in the school curriculum can impact as many students as possible.

Thanks to Dan Scott for his help and assistance in making my transition into this position.

MSBOA Strings Reading Session/MASTA General Meeting, September 13

- Thank you to Cathy DePentu at Plymouth High School for hosting this event - she does a terrific job with lots of excellent refreshments.
- Thank you to Luck's Music Library for donating the music. Luck's is a tremendous resource, one of the great orchestral music libraries in the world - and right here in Madison Heights. This year, everyone was able to take at least one piece of music for their school library.
- 36 people attended the event. It is great to see so many young and old (present company included) directors taking advantage of the event. This is by far the best way to choose music for the coming year.
- The MASTA general meeting is held at the same time as the reading session. Amazing is the fact that orchestra directors can participate in two such vital organizations - MASTA and MSBOA. The offerings these two groups put forth are helpful and inspiring.

MSBOA Mid-Level String Clinic, October 18

- Thank you to Leo Hazen at Portage and Nathan Peters at Chelsea for hosting the event. Both sites ran smoothly with no issues. Thank you to both gentlemen for accommodating the guest conductors as they crossed the state.
- This year, conductors were selected to work in the opposite side of the state in which they teach.

Conducting at Chelsea were:

A Orchestra - Dan Scott, Jenison High School

B Orchestra - Melissa Meyers, Grand Haven High School

Conducting at Portage were

A Orchestra - James Gross, Grosse Pointe South High School

B Orchestra - Reed Smith, Farmington High School

- 210 students participated, a slight increase in numbers from last year - 103 students at Chelsea and 107 students at Portage.

Comments:

Nathan Peters: "I can't imagine why anyone wouldn't want their students to participate. This a great motivational tool for kids."

James Gross: "Students had a good time making music and spending time with one another. Well organized event by Portage parents and Leo Hazen."