



## Executive Board Meeting Agenda: Saturday, September 20, 2025, 10:30AM

**President**  
AMY MARR

**President-Elect**  
JIM VANEIZENGA

**Past-President & Student  
Chapter Coordinator**  
JED FRITZEMEIER

**Secretary**  
STACEY BOWEN

**Treasurer**  
BURKE LOKEY

**Member-At-Large**  
ALAN MACNAIR

**Sponsorship & Advertising  
Coordinator**  
MATTHEW BRIERE

**Chamber Music Festival  
and Competition**  
JI HYUN KIM

**String Camp**  
TED MCDONALD

**Membership Chair**  
LINDEN DE LEEUW

**Michigan Music  
Conference Coordinator**  
JEAN LEE

**MASTA Social Media  
Coordinator**  
JAMI KLEINART

**Website/Webmaster**  
NICK MOSLEY

**State Solo Competition**  
MELISSA KNECHT

**Studio Teaching Chair & SAA  
Liaison**  
JILLIENNE BOWERS

**Outreach Chair**  
JOANNA VAN EIZENGA

**MMC Liaison**  
DAN SCOTT

**MSBOA Liaison**  
MARITZA GARIBAY

**Northern Michigan Initiative**  
DANIELLE SIMANDL

- I. Secretary Report - 4.13.25 Executive Board Meeting Minutes (Bowen)
- II. Treasurer Report (Lokey)
- III. President-Elect Report (Jim Van Eizenga)
- IV. Past-President Report (Fritzemeier)
- V. Member-At-Large Report (MacNair)
- VI. President Report (Marr)
- VII. New Business
  - A. Nominations for National ASTA Awards?
    - (1) Elizabeth A.H. Green
    - (2) Chapter Awards
    - (3) Others
  - B. MASTA Awards
    - (1) Career Excellence Award (Executive Board)
    - (2) Early Career Award (Executive Board)
  - C. Budget
    - (1) MASTA Summer Retreat Discussion
    - (2)

## **Secretary's Report - Executive Board Minutes**

### **MASTA Executive Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025**

Present: Amy Marr, Jim Van Eizenga, Burke Lokey, Alan MacNair, Stacey Bowen

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM

### **Secretary Report from September 21, 2024**

Motion to accept - Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Lokey

### **Treasurer's Report - Lokey**

Motion to accept - Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Bowen

We are over budget by \$4000.00. We need to get the advertising funds. Two board members went to the National Conference last year. This year, Amy will go alone. Melissa could not use her normal accompanist this year. The fee increases from \$100 to \$400. The rehearsal and performance at the last minute. Solo Competition expenses increased by \$300.00. Jed will not be here this year. He hired someone to play in his place, and the fee would be \$200.00. Burke would like to step down as treasurer. He thinks it has been seven years. Do we need a special election? We would elect in December, and the position would be appointed in May 2026. Burke will stay on for now. This election was the first time without a term limit. If you remove someone, it is an appointment. The new treasurer will be elected.

### **President-Elect Report - Jim Van Eizenga**

Motion to accept - Burke Lokey, seconded by Bowen

Discussion: The report is as written. Jim has visited the WMU and CMU chapters. There will be a heavy presence of students here this weekend. Keith Dodson brought nine students from Kansas with him.

### **Past-President Report (Fritzmeier)**

Motion to accept - Burke Lokey, seconded by Bowen  
Jed has been working on the policy manual and visiting universities.

### **Member-At-Large - (MacNair)**

Motion to accept - Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Bowen

Discussion: Alan has only visited one or two teachers. Alan wants more teachers to reach out to him. The new teachers seem to be afraid of being watched and observed. Alan does get phone calls. The Past-President could share this while the students are in college as a resource.

### **President Report - Marr**

Motion to accept - Stacey Bowen, seconded by Burke Lokey

ASTA Outstanding State Chapter - Amy filled out the application.

Strategic Plan - asking for feedback and a survey. Amy does not think there is anything for the treasurer.

Amy has scheduled a free Zoom with Steve Benham on March 10, 2025.

Jean Lee and Judy Palac are discussing dates for a body mapping session to be held at MSU on March 30, April 6 or April 13, 2025. The session is in person and there could be a Zoom option.

Jean Lee will not be able to host the summer retreat on June 29, 2025.

Brainstorming list for the retreat at the back of the meeting packet based on feedback.

### **Old Business**

- By-Laws Amendments and Proposals have been shared with the membership. Amy printed them so everyone could take a look at them.
- Board Liaison Positions - Proposals / Blue Lake Family Suzuki camp will not be formally listed, but they will be incorporated into the Studio Teaching (SAA).
- John Kendall Scholarship Money - The scholarship money is for teacher training at Blue Lake—\$4700.00. The Kendall money is in the MASTA checking account and not the money market account—the original amount of \$4,680.00 was in the account in December 2021. Move the money from the John Kendall

scholarship money to Blue Lake. The money is strictly for teacher training at Blue Lake.

Motion by Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Bowen

- Budget - waiting for advertising money.
  - a. ASTA Curriculum Deep Dive Zoom with Steve Benham was mentioned earlier in the President's Report
  - b. Body Mapping Workshop with Judy Palac (TBD) was mentioned earlier in the President's Report. A vote will be taken during the Full Board Meeting.

### **New Business**

Request for funds for the Jam Session to pay the guitar player since Jed will not be here. MASTA has contributed \$100.00 for Stephanie. The guitar player, Zack Johnson, who runs sound for the Masonic Temple, will perform during the Jam Session Friday night.

Motion to pay Zack/Motion to accept: Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Bowen.

The MASTA Spirit Wear Sales have been reopened. Amy has QR codes and can boost sales to make more money. Amy paid for decals for the board members.

Email protocol 24 minutes

During the Full Board meeting, the Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report need to be voted upon. Amy has added the social media, MASTA website, and listserv for tomorrow's meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting -Amy Marr, seconded by Jim Van Eizenga

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

## Treasurer's Report

	Budget	2024-25
<b>Income</b>		
47300 Membership Dues - ASTA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,652.20
48000 MASTA Camp	\$ 111,250.00	\$ 114,975.25
48100 Chamber Music Festival	\$ 4,384.75	\$ 2,872.62
48200 Solo Competition	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,237.64
48400 Michigan Music Conference	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
46400 Other Types of Income		\$ 225.00
60610 ASTACAP	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,600.00
Advertising	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 4,130.00
45000 Investments	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,587.98
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 136,784.75</b>	<b>\$ 133,280.69</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
60100 MASTA Camp Expenses	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 113,427.63
60000 Solo Competition Expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,400.00
60400 Chamber Festival Expenses	\$ 3,657.53	\$ 3,768.75
60610 ASTACAP	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 1,470.00
60800 UP String Program	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 900.00
60900 Business Expense		
65000 Operations Expense	\$ 500.00	
62110 Accounting Fees	\$ 900.00	\$ 610.00
65020 Postage, Mailing Service		\$ 46.00
65050 Website	\$ 144.45	\$ 109.45
65060 Membership Chair	\$ 200.00	
65120 Insurance - Liability, D and O	\$ 1,916.00	
63000 Grants, Scholarships and Awards	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 3,125.00
68400 National Conference	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,694.49
68320 Travel		
68340 Meals (Meetings)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,263.64
68360 MMC	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,845.93
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 134,897.98</b>	<b>\$ 134,660.89</b>

### MASTA Accounts

Bank balance - \$20,990.30

LPL Investment Account - \$32,445.66

## **President-Elect Report**

I had the opportunity to fill in for Amy Marr at the National State Leadership Meeting at the end of August. There was a break out discussion surrounding big states and how to bridge the distances between people. I attended this discussion to get ideas for how we might better serve the Upper Peninsula. Two states, California and Wisconsin, break up their states into regions. California does something similar to MSBOA where there are regional presidents then an overseeing state president. Wisconsin splits into 5 regions and rotates where they hold each event so the state is geographically all represented. I think this is something to consider for future events. Our biggest struggle is population density with the majority of programs and people being south of mid michigan.

I've also continued work on the MMC committee, thanks to Jean Lee for all her work! I am currently working on putting together the Make N Take session.

I was also interviewed on a new podcast started by some students at GVSU. I made a point to mention the importance of MASTA and our community.

Soon I will communicate regarding the MASTA Resource Guide. Please send any info you'd like included!

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Van Eizenga

## **Past-President Report**

Thank you for all of the wonderful things MASTA is doing.

I am working to set up the nominating committee for the slate of officers for next year's elections.

I'm impressed with the assertiveness of the Student Chapters. I will be contacting them to offer help for future endeavors.

Thank you

## **Member-At-Large Report**

As Member-at-Large, I am keeping track of new string teachers around the state. I have already contacted MSBOA to get their list of new teachers, and I would appreciate any other names you may have of new and first year teachers. Once I have that list, I will contact all of them, and offer help and services from MASTA.

I just got the list of new teachers from MSBOA - there are only seven new teachers this year so far. I have already contacted them, and am awaiting replies.

Submitted Sept. 8, 2025.

Alan Mac Nair, Member-at-Large

Updated September 18, 2025

Here is the list of new teachers for this year. I have contacted all of them, and am awaiting responses.

- Aguado, Lucas - Escanaba HS/MS
- Glasmacher, Ursula - Okemos Chippewa MS
- Kadets, Ella - Remus Chippewa Hills MS/HS
- Minor, Abigail - Troy Smith MS
- Ricord, Claudia - Jenison JH
- Shephard, Aiden - Remus Chippewa Hills MS/HS
- Supplee, Evan - Holland MS



## **MASTA President's Report**

It continues to be my honor and privilege to serve our organization in the role of President. Thank you again for entrusting me with a small part of MASTA's legacy!

Once again, I want to thank each and every one of our Board Members and Project Directors for their time and dedication to our organization. None of what I do as President is possible without their unwavering commitment to MASTA, and I truly appreciate all of them and their work so much! I would like to give a special thanks to Jim Van Eizenga for being my constant sounding board on ideas, as well as Dan Scott for his historical perspective and mentorship.

Since our last formal Board Meeting in April, I have:

### **MASTA Camp**

I was honored to spend several hours at the new MASTA Camp site during Session 3. This is a great facility, and our campers were in great hands with our camp directors and staff!

### **2025 MASTA Summer Retreat**

Our 2025 MASTA Summer Retreat was held on Sunday, June 29, 2025, at the MSU College of Music. Different from last year, we charged \$25 per person (with college students being free), regardless of whether an attendee was a MASTA member or not. This was to help defray the cost of our headliner, Joanne May, as well as the food. We had 35 registrants - 27 paid and 8 college students, and approximately 28 of those registered attended.

- Income: \$675 from registration
- Expenses: \$1000 to Joanne May, \$250 to Jamie Fiste for his presentation, and \$340 for pizza/salad. Drinks/snacks/extra desserts were donated this year. Total expenses were \$1590.
- Total cost: \$915

We will need to have discussion as to whether we want to have a paid headliner again in the future or if we would like to have this be more of a "grassroots" effort. Additionally, with MMC looking at the potential of a mini-MMC Summer Conference, we will need to decide if we want to proceed with our own Summer Retreat if MMC starts something as a larger organization. Finally, we need to survey the membership regarding the time of summer. This year was the day right after MASTA Camp, which cut into attendance. It also is in a similar timeframe of the workshop at U of M.

If we do continue with a MASTA Summer Retreat, some suggested topics for future events were beginner tips, recruiting/retaining, shifting, advocacy, more vibrato, more time for chatting within sessions (less lecture), and best practices.

### **MMC Work**

Dan, Jim, and I attended the MMC Board Retreat in Grand Rapids in June. This two-day planning workshop was a great way to set goals and visions for the MMC for the next 5 years with our colleagues from MSVMA, MSBOA, and MMEA.

I was unable to attend the September Executive Board meeting due to a last-minute family conflict, but I appreciate Dan's representation of our organization in my absence.

Jim and I discussed the possibility of adding donuts back to our Friday morning meeting. I will be contacting the Amway to get pricing on this, as well as the ice cream social, so that we can decide what makes the most sense.

### **MASTA Spirit Wear and Swag**

We reopened our MASTA Spirit Wear site for a couple of weeks this summer and received a handful of orders. We are looking to create new designs and/or items for this year; I am open to ideas and suggestions.

### **National Business**

Due to a conflict with my school Instrument Rental Night, Jim attended the ASTA Leadership Meeting in August; thank you to Jim for stepping in!

### **Future Potential Events**

- **2026 MASTA Summer Retreat.** See above discussion.
- **Advocacy.** I would like to contact biggest names in ASTA Advocacy - Mary Wagner, Jenna Day, Denese Odegaard - about the possibility of doing a Zoom for MASTA (similar to how we did the ASTA Curriculum one with Steve Benham). What time of year would be best for this?
- **Rehearsal Techniques.** Another request was for a PD regarding Rehearsal Techniques, and Richard Meyer's name was mentioned for this. He has a great session about rehearsal strategies; perhaps he could do this via Zoom?
- **MASTA's Greatest Hits Lists.** We will be creating our first one of these at our MASTA General Membership Meeting, and this could become a series (Festival programs, S&E repertoire, etc.).
- **Student Chapter Event.** There is a student-led informal MASTA Student Chapter Gathering on September 28 at MSU. It sounds as if this will be a social event more than anything, but perhaps we can do a more formal event/workshop for student chapters at some point as well.

### **Future Plans and Events**

- **Policy Manual.** For me personally, I will be continuing to familiarize myself with the month-by-month duties of the President as outlined in our Policy Manual. I ask that each of our Board Members do the same for their roles; the most recent version of our Policy Manual can be found [here](#). Before he rotated off the Board, Mike Hopkins gathered updated job descriptions for most of these roles (as indicated in the file); if your position was not updated, please take a moment to review and let me know of any changes that you would like to make.

### **Community**

In my last report and my letter in the Resource Guide, I wrote a lot about building our MASTA Community. This continues to be my driving force in how I serve, and I hope that it is reflected in my actions.

I look forward to working together within our community to strengthen our membership, in not only numbers but in active participation.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns. I truly value your feedback!

Thank you again to all who serve our organization!

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Marr



**President**

AMY MARR

**President-Elect**

JIM VANEIZENGA

**Past-President & Student  
Chapter Coordinator**

JED FRITZEMEIER

**Secretary**

STACEY BOWEN

**Treasurer**

BURKE LOKEY

**Member-At-Large**

ALAN MACNAIR

**Sponsorship & Advertising  
Coordinator**

MATTHEW BRIERE

**Chamber Music Festival  
and Competition**

JI HYUN KIM

**String Camp**

TED MCDONALD

**Membership Chair**

LINDEN DE LEEUW

**Michigan Music**

**Conference Coordinator**

JEAN LEE

**MASTA Social Media  
Coordinator**

JAMI KLEINART

**Website/Webmaster**

NICK MOSLEY

**State Solo Competition**

MELISSA KNECHT

**Studio Teaching Chair & SAA  
Liaison**

JILLIENNE BOWERS

**Outreach Chair**

JOANNA VAN EIZENGA

**MMC Liaison**

DAN SCOTT

**Blue Lake Suzuki**

**Family Camp and SAA  
Liaison**

ANNE KEARNEY-LOOMAN

**MSBOA Liaison**

MARITZA GARIBAY

**Northern Michigan Initiative**

DANIELLE SIMANDL

## Full Board Meeting Agenda:

**Saturday, September 20, 2025, 12:30PM (Lunch 12PM)**

- I. Welcome and Introductions (Marr)
- II. Secretary Report - 1.23.25 Full Board Meeting Minutes (Bowen)
- III. MASTA String Camp Report (McDonald)
- IV. Sponsorship & Advertising Coordinator Report (Briere)
- V. Chamber Music Festival & Competition Report (Kim)
- VI. Membership Chair Report (De Leeuw)
- VII. Michigan Music Conference Coordinator Report (Lee)
- VIII. MASTA Social Media Coordinator Report (Kleinart)
- IX. Website/Webmaster Report (Mosley)
- X. State Solo Competition Report (Knecht)
- XI. Studio Teaching Chair Report (Bowers)
- XII. State String Outreach Report (Joanna Van Eizenga)
- XIII. Northern Michigan Liaison Report (Simandl)
- XIV. MSBOA Liaison Report (Garibay)
- XV. New Business
  - A. 2025-2026 Calendar Dates (attached)
  - B. Email Communication Policies/Protocols (who sends/receives)
  - C. Summer Retreat Feedback and Vision
  - D. Future Potential MASTA Events/Ideas
    - (a) First 10 Lessons with Andrea Yun
    - (b) Advocacy Zoom
    - (c) Rehearsal Techniques with Richard Meyer?
    - (d) "MASTA's Greatest Hits" Lists?
  - E. Spirit Wear Ideas
    - (a) New Designs/Products?
  - F. Ideas for Upcoming Events?
  - G. Member Recruitment Ideas
  - H. Other?

## **Secretary's Report - Full Board Minutes**

### **MASTA Full Board Meeting**

**Thursday, January 23, 2025**

#### **Present:**

Amy Marr, Jim Van Eizenga, Joanna Van Eizenga, Alan MacNair, Burke Lokey, Melissa Knecht, Danielle Simandl, Ted McDonald, Jami Kleinert, Nick Mosley, Dan Scott, Ji Hyun Kim, Jean Lee, Matthew Briere, Linden De Leeuw

The meeting was called to order at 9:46 AM.

#### **Welcome and Introductions (Marr)**

#### **Secretary Report (Bowen)**

9.21.24 Full Board Meeting Minutes (Bowen)

Motion to accept the minutes - Dan Scott / seconded by Jami Kleinert.

#### **MASTA String Camp Report (McDonald)**

Registration is open for 2025. It opened on the morning of January 23, 2025. All music directors have been hired. Some coaches have been hired for Willis Coe, Steven Fernandez, Shawn Boucke, and Ji Hyun. The health director has been secured. Joe and Ted are working on hiring counselors. Published 500 flyers and increased the cost of the camp. New site: Lions Bear Lake Camp in Lapeer, MI, with 75 students per session. A PayPal account was set up for camp, and 11 students signed up. We need new licensing for the new location. Ted will follow up with the camp to find out what the insurance requirements are. In 2020, Mike Hopkins and Dan Scott were supposed to meet with the insurance representative at the National ASTA Conference. Amy will follow up.

Motion to accept - Joanna Van Eizenga, seconded by Dan Scott.

#### **Sponsorship & Advertising Coordinator Report (Briere)**

Motion to accept: Jim Van Eizenga/Kleinert

The numbers are higher than what is in the budget. This needs an update.

### **Chamber Music Festival & Competition Report (Kim)**

Motion to accept as written: Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Dan Scott

Most of everything has been confirmed. We may need one additional coach, depending on the numbers. Rodney Page and Octavio Mas-Arocas, Alexander Techniques, and Music Entrepreneurship. (see report)

We have moved entirely to using PayPal. The \$3 increase from last year covers the PayPal fees. Private studio teachers - my students are busy and can only perform duets. In the past, it's been trios, etc. The duets would need to be on the more difficult side. The students playing the duets would like to compete. The repertoire is advanced. What is the work for trios and quartets? One person per part, not conducted. If you are competing, it should be one movement from a quartet. The program director should approve the duets. Specify string duets; there are no sonatas for the competition repertoire. Provide some examples of repertoire and a diverse set of pieces. Think about another track for the duets. It's easier to put a duet together than a trio or a quartet. It's too late to make the change for the two tracks this year. We will look into it for next year.

Liability insurance? Check with the State office or the vendor? It's a program. The National Insurance covers all of our events that do not have an overnight stay. It depends on the venue where the competition takes place.

### **Membership Chair Report (De Leeuw)**

Motion to accept the report - Kleinert/Kim

Discussion - Photo booth props are here with mustaches, glasses, etc., for today's MASTA booth. Friday at 2:00 or 3:00 PM or Saturday at 11:00 AM - we need a few more people to cover the MASTA booth. How often is membership being updated? Linden says someone is supposed to work on it weekly, but it is longer, more like two weeks. Amy will look into this with the National ASTA. Mid-month it was listed as up for renewal.

### **Michigan Music Conference Coordinator Report (Lee)**

Motion to accept: Kleinert/Jim Van Eizenga

Discussion: Complete the survey, Registration - encourage people to register as a MASTA member. ASTA does not have membership numbers anymore.

A. MMC Liaison and MMC should be connected

### **MASTA Social Media Coordinator Report (Kleinert)**

Motion to accept the report: Jim Van Eizenga, seconded by Dan Scott.

Calendar and Event Curation. Send events in a Google Form or document through February 20th, and will be shared on social media on March 1st. March 20th goes up on April 1st. Two inclusions on the calendar, and it can be placed into a monthly newsletter.

Member Engagement - members engaging in current topics. Spotlight on programs and directors. Engage studio members and help out with technique videos. I would like to work with the Studio Coordinator (Shawn Boucke)—ways to help teachers who are not string natives.

Member Recruitment and Retention - Ways to keep everyone connected. Mentoring - “Ask a MASTA member(s) questions?” Engagement and advocacy for those teachers who may not know about MASTA. Coordination with collegiate chapters (MSU, CMU, GVSU, WMU, EMU, and U of M.

Member and Program Celebrations: Celebrating our members and awards. Celebrate member program milestones and recognition at 10, 20, and 25 years. Celebrate new teachers.

Collegiate chapters - social media officer or committee. Use these opportunities to build better connections and relationships. Jami would like to create templates published from Canva. On Instagram, add MASTA Notes as the collaborator. Universities can create content that would show up on both feeds.

### **Website/Webmaster Report (Mosley)**

Motion to accept: Kleinert/Kim

Discussion: The website holds information that does not change very often. People go to the website to search for a particular piece of information. Regarding the email list, Nick has found an easier way to update it. If a member has not been a member for one year, they are removed. Jami would like to add social media information to the website. There is a Facebook button. We need to add Instagram.

### **State Solo Competition Report (Knecht)**

Motion to accept: Dan Scott/Jim Van Eizenga

Increased to 40%, now down to 10%. Melissa will hand-deliver the flyers to make sure they see them. Melissa has emailed the college professors. High-quality candidates this year. Melissa did not know the fee for the accompanist. Susan Uchimora (\$400.00) Beethoven Violin Concerto with a 20-minute rehearsal. Music Ed/Computer Science major - Matt Xu. The enrollment is lower than normal this year. It was suggested to place Elizabeth Green's name with the prize money and shorten the name of the event to the MASTA Solo Competition - Elizabeth Green donated some of the money to get this started.

Motion to change the official name of the competition to MASTA Solo Competition and the prize money to include the Elizabeth A.H. Green Award. Withdraw the performance piano fee from MASTA and transfer it to MMC to incur the cost of the accompanist.

Motion to accept: Dan Scott / Jim Van Eizenga

The Gold Medal Award will be named after Elizabeth Green. Silver Medal?

### **Studio Teaching Chair Report (Boucké)**

Motion to accept: Jami Kleinert/Ji Hyun Kim

Discussion: Shawn is planning to step off the board after this year's ASTACAP. Amy has reached out to Jillienne Bowers to be the new Studio Teaching Chair. She is the longest-serving person who has been involved with ASTACAP. She used to take her students to Indiana.

**Bylaws change:** SAA liaison will be wrapped into the Studio Teaching, and the Blue Lake Suzuki Camp liaison board position will be eliminated. The Studio chair can still reference and keep in contact with Blue Lake. Melissa is on the National Studio Committee. People can also reach out to her.

### **State String Outreach Report (Joanna Van Eizenga)**

Motion to accept: Kleinert/Bowen

Discussion: There is nothing new in outreach. There are a few outstanding awards. Some events have not happened yet. In some instances, grant reports hadn't been received before this meeting. Some reports have not been submitted. May 1st is the next grant deadline. Some deadlines have been revised. Joanna has been collaborating with Ted for camp scholarships. This is the largest amount of grants that have been awarded.

**MMC Liaison Report (Scott)** - No written report

**Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp & SAA Liaison Report (Kearney-Looman)** - No written report

### **Northern Michigan Liaison Report (Simandl)**

Motion to accept: Stacey Bowen/Joanna Van Eizenga

Discussion: Received \$900 from MASTA. Warren and Flick performed for all orchestra programs. Students are preparing for the Solo and Ensemble Festival and the MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival. Possible Chamber Music Festival 50:00 Jami requested pictures for social media.

**MSBOA Liaison Report (Garibay)** Motion to accept: Bowen, seconded by Jim Van Eizenga

### **Old Business**

- 2024-2025 Calendar Dates (attached). The program directors will verify dates and place them on social media.
- Email Communication Policies/Protocols (who sends/receives)

Amy reached out to Lynn Tuttle through email and asked the following questions:

When a person changes their address and moves from one state to another, does my membership change? Is there a way to get alerts? Is it possible for National ASTA to send emails to only Michigan members?

The updates are not current; they are updated every two weeks. The staff member is dealing with a family issue. There are four categories of members:

Current (green), Up for renewal (yellow/orange), and Membership lapsed red: They were a member at some point. When do these members not receive emails? Jami and Nick mentioned that the red members would not receive emails. If the members in red receive emails, this could encourage them to renew their membership. Some of the members in red do not have an email address listed or are no longer alive. Linden sent out membership reminders at the end of December (orange). She will send another reminder this month. Amy mentioned the possibility of speaking to some people individually.

Red list - Linden will send out an email, and others can reach out to specific members.

The grant calendar has been added to the MASTA website. - Deadlines for grant proposals are September 1, April 1, and the camp scholarship deadline is April 15.

### **Future Potential MASTA Events/Ideas**



- ASTA Curriculum Zoom with Steve Benham - March 10 (no fee). Amy will send a Google Form for registration in one week.
- **Body Mapping session w/ Judy Palac - Mar 30, 1:00-3:00 PM**, Apr 6, or Apr 13. Judy's fee is \$200.00 to present. ASTA will sponsor this event and is open to everyone.

### Other ideas

- Rolland Technique with Joanne May?
- Violin/Viola Vibrato with Joanne May?
- Cello/Bass Vibrato with Andrea Yun?
- Rehearsal Techniques with Richard Meyer?
- "MASTA's Greatest Hits" Lists (1st edition at General Membership Meeting)

### New Business

Vote on Executive Board Action re: John Kendall Scholarship Funds

### Member Recruitment Ideas

1. Camp is a good vehicle to engage the younger teachers
2. Marketing materials for college chapters
3. Partner with districts that encourage string students to participate. "Grow your own" on the orchestra side, music education.
4. How to get involved

MASTA Spirit Wear and Other Swag - the store is open. Would this be a good welcome gift for new members?

### Retreat Brainstorming - Amy will share a Google Form

1. Vibrato
2. Joanne May - vibrato and Rolland Technique, went to school with Dan Foster, and they present together.
3. Reading Session
4. Jam Session
5. ASTACAP
6. Advocacy Zoom - Mary Wagner, Steve Benham, John Benham, Creston Herron
7. Chamber Music - Ted McDonald
8. Sessions for the levels
9. Audition Prep
10. Festival Prep
11. Wellness / Injuries

12. The first 10 lessons (Andrea Yun) will be promoted to college students
  - a. Alternate between private study, orchestra classroom, and the heterogeneous classroom.
  - b. Everyone bring a left-hand exercise
  - c. Amy will reach out to Joanne May based on the cost.

#### **Other?**

1. The investment netted 8%. We still need to move the John Kendall money (\$4700.00). The investment account should cover bringing in clinicians.
2. Case by case or establish a protocol for the MASTA Retreat? Melissa suggests making it more collaborative instead of hiring clinicians. Send personal emails to members to help us during the retreat.
3. Do we have a new member welcome person? If your membership has lapsed, you show up as a new member. Linden sorts the sheet by the membership date. Linden will send an email to the new members.
4. The Spirit Wear shop is open.
5. General meeting - Amy is creating a QR code around the room is for the entire folder. She will not print copies of the Secretary's or Treasurer's report. Amy did print the MASTA Bylaws.
6. John Kendall Scholarship Money
  - a. Blue Lake has a John Kendall scholarship (Geri Arnold)
  - b. The money was raised through Tuesdays with John
  - c. No one has applied for this money in several years.
  - d. Blue Lake has requested the funds to be allocated for teacher training for \$4700.00. The executive board has already voted. This would streamline the process.

Motion to accept - Jean Lee, seconded by Ji Hyun Kim

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 AM. Jim Van Eizenga/Burke Lokey.

# **MASTA Camp Directors Report**

## **Fall 2025 Report**

**New Location:** Lions Bear Lake Camp in Lapeer, MI. Fantastic location to have our camps. Our structure of camp worked well in this location. Only complaint is lack of air conditioning in some locations (cabins - bought lots of fans!). Staff at LBLC *extremely* helpful and accommodating.

### **Registrations**

- Session 1 - 89 Campers - 16 Staff
- Session 2 - 81 Campers - 16 Staff
- Session 3 - 83 Campers - 25 Staff

### **Staffing**

- Counselors
  - Returning - Alex Sheldrake, Lauren Williams, Clarke Scherer, Aaron Longuski, Molly Hull
  - New - Carson VanNoy, Andrew Kales, Gabi Gippert, Erin Gibbons, Kate Stienstra, JoLee Hurren, Cynthia Atkinson
  - All Excellent!!
- Coaching Staff
  - Ji Hyun Kim, Linda Trotter, Sarah Patterson, Claudia Ricord, Sean Brennan, Wendy Kao, Jinhyun Kim, Willis Koa, Steven Fernandez
- Music Directors
  - Session 1 - Joanna Van Eizenga, Sam Farmer
  - Session 2 - Sarah Maurice, Matt Briere
  - Session 3 - Wendy Stuart

2025 Actual Expenses/Income			
Income	Amount	Qty	Income
PayPal Gross			\$104,424.50
Checks/Scholarships			\$19,605.00
Remaining Petty Cash			\$931.80
<b>Income Total</b>			<b>\$124,961.30</b>
Expenses	Amount	Qty	Expense
Total Staffing for 3 Camps			\$32,960.00
Printing			\$350.00
Postage			\$581.45
Marketing/Website/Signage			\$0.00
Supplies			\$930.70
LBLC - Session 1 - Campers	\$150.00	88	\$13,200.00
LBLC - Session 1 - Staff	\$200.00	16	\$3,200.00
LBLC - Session 2 - Campers	\$250.00	82	\$20,500.00
LBLC - Session 2 - Staff	\$250.00	16	\$4,000.00
LBLC - Session 3 - Campers	\$300.00	83	\$24,900.00
LBLC - Session 3 - Staff	\$350.00	25	\$8,750.00
Staff Meals			\$975.20
Storage Unit Rental (year)			\$624.00
Guitar Rental			\$100.00
Camp Shirts			\$1,625.70
Insurance			\$1,343.00
Misc.			\$239.81
PayPal Fees			\$3,694.25
<b>Expenses Total</b>			<b>\$117,974.11</b>
Total Income	Total Expenses	Remaining	Percentage
<b>\$124,961.30</b>	<b>\$117,974.11</b>	<b>\$6,987.19</b>	<b>5.59%</b>

## 2026 Camps

### Camp Dates

- Staff Training (1/2) - June 12
- Session 1: June 13-15
- Session 2: June 16-20
- Staff Training (3) - June 21
- Session 3: June 22-27

**Camp Budget Proposal** - Budget from 2025 didn't account for cost of staff stay at LBLC. Propose increasing camp fee for 2026 (see proposals below):

PROPOSAL A				PROPOSAL B			
Income	Amount	Qty	Income	Income	Amount	Qty	Income
Camper Fee 3 Day S1	\$330.00	85	\$28,050.00	Camper Fee 3 Day S1	\$335.00	85	\$28,475.00
Camper Fee 5 Day S2	\$530.00	85	\$45,050.00	Camper Fee 5 Day S2	\$535.00	85	\$45,475.00
Camper Fee 6 Day S3	\$630.00	85	\$53,550.00	Camper Fee 6 Day S3	\$635.00	85	\$53,975.00
Late Fees	\$25.00	20	\$500.00	Late Fees	\$25.00	20	\$500.00
Income Total			\$127,150.00	Income Total			\$128,425.00
Staffing	Amount	Qty	Expense	Staffing	Amount	Qty	Expense
Camp Dir 3 Day S1	\$360.00	1	\$360.00	Camp Dir 3 Day S1	\$360.00	1	\$360.00
Camp Asst. Dir 3 Day S1	\$315.00	1	\$315.00	Camp Asst. Dir 3 Day S1	\$315.00	1	\$315.00
Instructional Coach 3 Day S1	\$270.00	1	\$270.00	Instructional Coach 3 Day S1	\$270.00	1	\$270.00
Mus Dir 3 Day S1	\$450.00	2	\$900.00	Mus Dir 3 Day S1	\$450.00	2	\$900.00
Theory Dir 3 Day S1	\$300.00	1	\$300.00	Theory Dir 3 Day S1	\$300.00	1	\$300.00
Rhythms Dir 3 Day S1	\$300.00	1	\$300.00	Rhythms Dir 3 Day S1	\$300.00	1	\$300.00
Recreation 3 Day S1	\$75.00	1	\$75.00	Recreation 3 Day S1	\$75.00	1	\$75.00
Counselor 3 Day S1	\$270.00	10	\$2,700.00	Counselor 3 Day S1	\$270.00	10	\$2,700.00
Jr Counselor 3 Day S1	\$180.00	0	\$0.00	Jr Counselor 3 Day S1	\$180.00	0	\$0.00
First Aid 3 Day S1	\$390.00	1	\$390.00	First Aid 3 Day S1	\$390.00	1	\$390.00
Camp Dir 5 Day S2	\$600.00	1	\$600.00	Camp Dir 5 Day S2	\$600.00	1	\$600.00

Camp Asst. Dir 5 Day S2	\$525.00	1	\$525.00	Camp Asst. Dir 5 Day S2	\$525.00	1	\$525.00
Instructional Coach 5 Day S2	\$450.00	1	\$450.00	Instructional Coach 5 Day S2	\$450.00	1	\$450.00
Mus Dir 5 Day S2	\$750.00	2	\$1,500.00	Mus Dir 5 Day S2	\$750.00	2	\$1,500.00
Theory Dir 5 Day S2	\$400.00	1	\$400.00	Theory Dir 5 Day S2	\$400.00	1	\$400.00
Rhythms Dir 5 Day S2	\$400.00	1	\$400.00	Rhythms Dir 5 Day S2	\$400.00	1	\$400.00
Recreation 5 Day S2	\$125.00	1	\$125.00	Recreation 5 Day S2	\$125.00	1	\$125.00
Counselor 5 Day S2	\$450.00	10	\$4,500.00	Counselor 5 Day S2	\$450.00	10	\$4,500.00
Jr Counselor 5 Day S2	\$300.00	0	\$0.00	Jr Counselor 5 Day S2	\$300.00	0	\$0.00
First Aid 5 Day S2	\$650.00	1	\$650.00	First Aid 5 Day S2	\$650.00	1	\$650.00
Camp Dir 6 Day - S3	\$720.00	1	\$720.00	Camp Dir 6 Day - S3	\$720.00	1	\$720.00
Asst. Dir 6 Day - S3	\$630.00	1	\$630.00	Asst. Dir 6 Day - S3	\$630.00	1	\$630.00
Chamber Dir 6 Day - S3	\$600.00	1	\$600.00	Chamber Dir 6 Day - S3	\$600.00	1	\$600.00
Music Dir 6 Day - S3	\$960.00	1	\$960.00	Music Dir 6 Day - S3	\$960.00	1	\$960.00
Guitar Inst. 6 Day - S3	\$480.00	1	\$480.00	Guitar Inst. 6 Day - S3	\$480.00	1	\$480.00
Rec Dir 6 Day - S3	\$150.00	1	\$150.00	Rec Dir 6 Day - S3	\$150.00	1	\$150.00
First Aid 6 Day - S3	\$780.00	1	\$780.00	First Aid 6 Day - S3	\$780.00	1	\$780.00
Counselor 6 Day - S3	\$540.00	10	\$5,400.00	Counselor 6 Day - S3	\$540.00	10	\$5,400.00
Jr Counselor 6 Day - S3	\$360.00	0	\$0.00	Jr Counselor 6 Day - S3	\$360.00	0	\$0.00
Coach 6 Day - S3	\$600.00	9	\$5,400.00	Coach 6 Day - S3	\$600.00	9	\$5,400.00
Total Staffing for 3 Camps			\$29,880.00	Total Staffing for 3 Camps			\$29,880.00

Expenses	Amount	Qty	Expense	Expenses	Amount	Qty	Expense
Printing	\$500.00	1	\$500.00	Printing	\$500.00	1	\$500.00
Postage	\$600.00	1	\$600.00	Postage	\$600.00	1	\$600.00
Marketing/Website/Signage	\$500.00	1	\$500.00	Marketing/Website/Signage	\$500.00	1	\$500.00
Supplies	\$1,000.00	1	\$1,000.00	Supplies	\$1,000.00	1	\$1,000.00
LBLC - 3 Day S1 - Campers	\$150.00	85	\$12,750.00	LBLC - 3 Day S1 - Campers	\$150.00	85	\$12,750.00
LBLC - 5 Day S2 - Campers	\$250.00	85	\$21,250.00	LBLC - 5 Day S2 - Campers	\$250.00	85	\$21,250.00
LBLC - 6 Day S3 - Campers	\$300.00	85	\$25,500.00	LBLC - 6 Day S3 - Campers	\$300.00	85	\$25,500.00
LBLC - 4 Day S1 - Staff	\$200.00	16	\$3,200.00	LBLC - 4 Day S1 - Staff	\$200.00	16	\$3,200.00
LBLC - 5 Day S2 - Staff	\$250.00	16	\$4,000.00	LBLC - 5 Day S2 - Staff	\$250.00	16	\$4,000.00

LBLC - 7 Day S3 - Staff	\$350.00	25	\$8,750.00		LBLC - 7 Day S3 - Staff	\$350.00	25	\$8,750.00
S1/S2 Training Day	\$50.00	16	\$800.00		S1/S2 Training Day	\$50.00	16	\$800.00
S3 Training Day	\$50.00	25	\$1,250.00		S3 Training Day	\$50.00	25	\$1,250.00
Staff Meals	\$500.00	2	\$1,000.00		Staff Meals	\$500.00	2	\$1,000.00
Storage Unit Rental	\$624.00	1	\$624.00		Storage Unit Rental	\$624.00	1	\$624.00
Camper T-Shirts	\$8.00	255	\$2,040.00		Camper T-Shirts	\$8.00	255	\$2,040.00
Staff Shirts	\$8.00	30	\$240.00		Staff Shirts	\$8.00	30	\$240.00
Credit Card Processing S1 (3.5%)	\$11.55	85	\$981.75		Credit Card Processing S1 (3.5%)	\$11.73	85	\$996.63
Credit Card Processing S2 (3.5%)	\$18.55	85	\$1,576.75		Credit Card Processing S2 (3.5%)	\$18.73	85	\$1,591.63
Credit Card Processing S3 (3.5%)	\$22.05	85	\$1,874.25		Credit Card Processing S3 (3.5%)	\$22.23	85	\$1,889.13
Insurance	\$1,500.00	1	\$1,500.00		Insurance	\$1,500.00	1	\$1,500.00
Misc.	\$300.00	1	\$300.00		Misc.	\$300.00	1	\$300.00
<b>Expenses Total</b>			\$90,236.75		<b>Expenses Total</b>			\$90,281.38
<b>Fixed expenses</b>					<b>Fixed expenses</b>			
<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Expense</b>		<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Expense</b>
Program Director	\$1,500.00	1	\$1,500.00		Program Director	\$1,500.00	1	\$1,500.00
Assistant Director Pre-Camp	\$800.00	1	\$800.00		Assistant Director Pre-Camp	\$800.00	1	\$800.00
<b>Total</b>			\$2,300.00		<b>Total</b>			\$2,300.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES W/STAFFING</b>			\$122,416.75		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES W/STAFFING</b>			\$122,461.38
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>Percentage</b>		<b>Total Income</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
\$127,150.00	\$122,416.75	\$4,733.25	3.72%		\$128,425.00	\$122,461.38	\$5,963.63	4.64%

**Question on Location for the Future (2028+):** We have a contract with LBLC for the next two summers. Is LBLC too far east? Do we want to explore a more central location? Most camp sites either have issues of room to rehearse and/or enough bunks for campers and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

**-Ted McDonald**

## Sponsorship & Advertising Coordinator

### September 2025 Report

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as the MASTA Sponsorship & Advertising coordinator. As reported in January 2025, there were \$4,130 worth of sponsorships in the 2024-2025 school year. For fall 2025, I have been in the process of reaching out to each sponsor contact from the previous year and then reaching out to businesses/institutions that had previously sponsored before but not recently. Lastly, if any members have a business they are working with (travel company, instrument vendor, publisher, etc.) that they think would be a potential sponsor, please email me at [brierem@salineschools.org](mailto:brierem@salineschools.org).

#### Sponsors from 2024-2025

- **Platinum Sponsors (\$1000):** Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Interlochen Arts Camp
- **Gold Sponsors (\$500):** Meyer Music, Baroque Violin Shop
- **Silver Sponsors (\$300):** Marshall Music
- **Full-page Advertisement (\$200):** University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University,
- **Half-page Advertisement (\$150):** Grand Valley State University
- **Quarter-page Advertisement (\$80):** Superior String Alliance

#### Action Items/Questions

- Are there any changes to event schedules that I should be aware of as I share information? Will there be a MASTA Party and Fiddle Jam at MMC?
- Several times now a sponsor has contacted me about sharing event details with membership. Is there a protocol for these requests? Should we consider this a service at a particular price level? Is this a social media use or an email use? A very recent example from Interlochen (Platinum Sponsor):

*I wanted to reach out and discuss renewing our sponsorship of MASTA, and also getting the word out about our [Instrument & Voice Festivals](#) coming up, specifically our [Strings Festival on Oct. 11](#).*

*This event is for students in 6-11 grade. Students will get to take lessons or clinics with Interlochen Arts Academy strings faculty, observe master classes from incredible guest artists, and listen to performances. It's free and can be accessed virtually if students can't make it in person.*



*I'd love to share this with your educator and student network. Is there a possibility of that?*

- Several times last year, there were issues with institutions processing checks. Many groups have gone away from cutting checks and are paying for services with electronic payment. Would it be possible to set up an electronic payment option through the MASTA Paypal account or should we handle these on a case by case basis, communicating with the Treasurer?

**Reminders:**

To all event chairs, please make sure to include our Platinum, Gold and Silver sponsors in the appropriate events. You can refer to the

[w MASTA Sponsorship & Advertising Packages.docx](#) document for specific events and details. Additionally, to any members please make sure to thank our sponsors for their continued support and let them know that you have seen their ads in the resource guide.

Although not technically required, a great additional gesture that began in recent years that we should continue is an updated “Thank you to our sponsors” poster/document featuring sponsor logos to be displayed toward the beginning of all applicable virtual events (if they happen), on the MASTA website, and printed in some form to be displayed at in-person MMC.

Respectfully submitted, Matthew Briere, MASTA Sponsorship & Advertising Coordinator

# **Chamber Music Festival & Competition Report**

## **Fall 2025 Report**

The 34th MASTA Chamber Music Festival & Competition was held on Monday, March 3, 2025, at Michigan State University in East Lansing. Thank you to all teachers, coaches, parents/guardians, and administrators, for making this year's festival a great success!

For the 2025 Chamber Music Festival & Competition, coaches focused solely on performing and coaching the ensembles. To ensure more transparent adjudication, two additional adjudicators were contracted separately.

Also, only the competing participants performed in the competition. Festival-only participants were invited to attend as audience members and join for a group photo at the end. This approach not only helped shorten the duration of the performance, but more importantly allowed non-competing participants to experience the competition and look forward to participating in future years.

This year's Faculty-Artists were the MSU string faculty Yvonne Lam and Mike Chen, and the ConTempus Quartet (Ji Hyun Kim, Sarah Patterson, Christine Bastian, and Jinhyun Kim), providing faculty performance and coaching for the student ensembles. Enrichment classes were presented by Elinore Morin (Alexander Technique) and Christine Bastian (Music Entrepreneurship/Improvisation). The competition was adjudicated by Octavio Más-Arocas and Rodney Page. The MSU Spartan ASTA student members (Yu-Chen Lin and Daniella Greene) assisted the host, Jean Lee, to help this event run smoothly.

We had 45 students participating in 13 ensembles for the festival. Each group received a coach's evaluation and individual certificates for their participation. Among the 13 ensembles, 7 advanced chamber ensembles competed in the final competition - Chelsea High School String Trio, A and M, Slatkin Quartet, Two Jellos, The Smith Quartet, Tasha Quartet, and YIMO Piano Trio. The winning ensemble was the Slatkin Quartet for their performance of the first movement of Antonín Dvořák's String Quartet No. 12, "American." Members of the Slatkin Quartet were: Isabell Johnson, Daniel Liu, Sophia Chacko, and Derek Han.

The winning ensemble was scheduled to perform on Friday, May 10, 2025, at the MSBOA Spring Honors Recital (Dalton Recital Hall, Western Michigan University). However, due to an unforeseen schedule conflict of one of the members, and having no honorable mention/runner-up chosen by the adjudicators, there was no winner's performance presented at the recital.

The participating fees was: \$53.00 per student for non-competing ensembles, \$63.00 for competing students, with a \$10.00 additional fee for non-MASTA teachers/coaches to enter an ensemble. All payments were processed through PayPal and the processing fee was added to the participating fee.

The 35th MASTA Chamber Music Festival & Competition will be held at the same location - Michigan State University College of Music. The proposed date is Monday, March 2, 2026.

### Proposed changes for the 2026 Chamber Music Festival & Competition:

- There will be a consent request added to the application so the winning ensemble musicians are indeed available for the recital. Also, the adjudicators will be asked to choose a runner-up and/or honorable mention, instead of making this optional.
- I am hoping to revise the required paperworks to have more uniformity in the format of each form, and move them entirely to an online format.
- Background checks of the coaches/teachers
- After one more festival in March, I would like to gather more feedback from teachers and fellow board members about the possibility of moving the date of the event to a different time of the year. One suggestion given by several teachers was moving it to an earlier date and possibly featuring the winning ensemble at the Michigan Music Conference instead of the MSBOA Spring Honors Recital.

### 2025 MASTA Chamber Music Festival & Competition

<b>Expenses</b>	
Coach 1 - Yvonne Lam	400
Coach 2 - Mike Chen	400
Coach 3 - Sarah Patterson	400
Coach 4 - Jinhyun Kim	400
Coach 5 - (Ji Hyun Kim)	0
Additional Performer - Christine Bastian	50
Judge 1 - Octavio Mas-Arocas	0*
Judge 2 - Rodney Page	200
Director - Ji Hyun Kim	200
Administrative assistant - Jean Lee	200
Enrichment class teacher 1 - Elinore Morin	350
Enrichment class teacher 2 - Christine Bastian	350
Student workers - Daniella Green, Yu-Chen Lin	150
Piano tuning	0
Lunch for coaches/ teachers, snacks for participants	162.75
Supplies and Copies (Badges, Certificates..etc)	31.61
Prize money for Winning Ensemble	200
MASTA 5% surplus	174.72
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,669.08</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Festival Registration	2,872.62
Sponsorship revenue allocation	796.46
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,669.08</b>

\* One of the adjudicators, Octavio Mas-Arocas, has kindly donated his time to this event.

## Proposed Budget for 2026 MASTA Chamber Music Festival & Competition

<b>Estimated Expenses</b>	
Coach 1 -	400
Coach 2 -	400
Coach 3 -	400
Coach 4 -	400
Coach 5 - Ji Hyun Kim	0
Judge 1 -	200
Judge 2 -	200
Director - Ji Hyun Kim	200
Administrative assistant - Jean Lee	200
Enrichment class teacher 1 -	350
Enrichment class teacher 2 -	350
Student workers	150
Piano tuning	0
Lunch for coaches/ teachers, snacks for participants	175.00
Supplies and Copies (Badges, Certificates, Flyers..etc)	50.00
Prize money for Winning Ensemble	200
MASTA 5% surplus	183.75
<b>Total Proposed Expenses</b>	<b>3,858.75</b>
<b>Estimated Income</b>	
Festival Registration	2,900.00
Sponsorship revenue allocation	958.75
<b>Total Proposed Income</b>	<b>3,858.75</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ji Hyun Kim, MASTA Chamber Music Festival & Competition Chair

## **Membership Chair Report**

### Membership Chair Fall 2025 Report

MASTA currently has 304 members, up from 301 members this Winter. The 79 members whose memberships have lapsed have been contacted via email.

It is still true that the roster that National has available for state chairs is not always up to date. I often get emails back from people on the “membership lapsed” list saying they updated their membership weeks ago.

These are the new members since the Fall report.

Alexander Lane  
Andrew Raven  
Anna Lynn Myers  
Carson Vannoy  
Clarke Bonten  
Elizabeth Deibel  
Geunyoung Kim  
James Heath  
Jennifer Tuinenga  
Joshua Balogh  
LaNae Hostetler  
Madison Peters  
Nicholas Holmes  
Paige Baird  
Heather Lee

The new banner at the MMC booth was a nice addition to our MMC presence. We also had more swag offerings at the booth this year; it was a popular place for professional socializing. Thanks to Amy Marr and Jami Kleinert for helping coordinate the swag.

If anyone has ideas for things we should have at our booth this year, please email me.

Respectfully submitted, Linden de Leeuw, Membership Chair  
[linden.deleeuw@ferndaleschools.org](mailto:linden.deleeuw@ferndaleschools.org)

## **Michigan Music Conference Coordinator Report**

### **Fall 2025 Report**

Thank you to everyone who submitted a session proposal! In addition to our headliner's 4 sessions and the Teacher's Orchestra, we will be offering 14 sessions at this year's conference.

Our headliner is the dynamic and engaging Dr. LaSaundra Belcher. After members of the board and executive board attended her sessions at the ASTA National Conference this past March, we immediately sprang into action and asked if she would headline at this year's conference.



Dr. LaSaundra Belcher is a respected conductor, educator, and arts leader with over 20 years of experience in public schools, higher education, and community music programs. She is the Founder and Executive Director of the Wake Forest Community Youth Orchestra in North Carolina, where she leads initiatives that expand access to high-quality music instruction for students from rural and under-resourced communities.

Dr. Belcher is a sought-after guest conductor and clinician for All-State and Honors Orchestras across the country, with recent engagements in Montana, Georgia, California, Minnesota, Nevada, and North Carolina. She is also a featured speaker at major music education conferences, including the Texas Music Educators Association, Michigan Music Conference, and NAFME's Pacific Northwest Conference. In 2026, she will serve as an adjudicator for the American String Teachers Association's National Orchestra Festival.

In addition to her national presentations, she provides professional development for music educators, equipping teachers with practical strategies to foster student success, increase engagement, and strengthen music programs. Dr. Belcher teaches at Shenandoah University, where she equips aspiring arts entrepreneurs with the tools to build successful, sustainable businesses. Her work reflects a deep commitment to inspiring joy through music, fostering student growth, and empowering educators to create uplifting, engaging learning experiences for all students.

You can access the proposed session topic options [here](#).

Respectfully submitted by Jean Lee, Michigan Music Conference Coordinator

## **MASTA Social Media Coordinator Report**

20 September 2025

**Calendar ideas** - The google form I had discussed for sharing calendar events never really worked, some people have emailed me directly asking to put items on the FB page and most just post on their own. Rethinking this and looking for input — is it better to just free-for-all or is it better to filter calendar through a single person?

**Feedback from member/previous board member** regarding move from email communication to social media posts regarding events and participation, specifically concerned that posts on social media don't make it out to the folks who don't do social media (fair criticism). There should be a balance point between over-saturation for those who are social-media connected and those who are not, email + social media x multiple platforms may end up over-saturating, but seems like there needs to be some kind of newsletter.

**AI** is a hot topic in ASTA committees at the moment and can be a popular tool in social media land. I would like to discuss what others think about using the AI features in the MASTA Facebook group specifically for group posts — I've seen it used to good effect in some groups, and especially for educational and skill/technique focused discussion, it can increase engagement and help highlight discussions that start slow and gain steam after they've moved "below the fold".

**Balancing Studio and K-12 engagement** - would love some help / suggestions for engaging our studio teaching members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jami Kleinert

## **Website/Webmaster Report**

MASTA Fall Meeting | September 20, 2025

**[www.astamichigan.org](http://www.astamichigan.org)**

The website was recently updated with the current board members for 2025-26, and updated information for the 2026 ASTA National Conference. I will update our sponsors and calendar for this year as soon as they are ready, and any other event pages when I receive updated information. Please don't hesitate to let me know of any other updates or changes that need to be made. I'm always open to suggestions on how to improve the site or make it more useful.

**Email List** - We do our best to maintain an email list of current MASTA members, however this can be challenging since the membership list regularly changes as memberships expire and renew. If you are a current member and not receiving emails, please let me know and I can easily add you to the list. If anyone needs to send an email to the general membership, please send it to [members@astamichigan.org](mailto:members@astamichigan.org). I am typically able to approve posts within a couple hours, if not sooner.

**Website Traffic** - We averaged around 517 page visits per month over the past year, which is consistent with the past several years.

**Subscribe!** - Anyone is able to subscribe to receive email notifications when new blog entries are posted on the website. Go all the way to the bottom of any page on the site, and you'll find it under the search box. Many things that go on the website are not necessarily also sent out via the members email list, so this is a quick and easy way to get notified when there is a new posting. There are currently 63 subscribers.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Mosley

[mosleyn@monashores.net](mailto:mosleyn@monashores.net)

(231) 343-3098



## **MASTA Solo Competition**

## **Studio Teaching Chair Report**

**Subject:** Short Introductory. Taking the helm for Shawn Boucké as Studio Chair. Reminder and update for ASTACAP, with the projected date of February 22, 2026.

### **Event Details:**

- Date and Time: February 22, 2026, from 9:00AM -2:00PM (subject to be adjusted)
- Location: Madison High School in Adrian, Michigan

**Student confirmation:** I have reached out to a few teachers who participated last year in ASTACAP which was held in Troy, MI. Only one teacher responded out of five teachers contacted. I will reach out to more teachers and send a general email when I have the go ahead from the board. Obviously, the location is different, so there might be fewer students who apply, and I might need to change the location for the future. But for this year, Madison High School is offering their building for free for this event which makes sense to me monetarily. So there are only about 12 students confirmed at this point.

**Location change:** Obviously, the location for ASTACAP will be different than last year. It will be held at Madison Schools in Adrian, Michigan. Because of this, I cannot determine the prospective numbers of students who will apply. I do know that there are ten students from my studio who are committed to this event and a few from one other teacher's studio, twelve in total. I might need to change the location for the future. But for this year, Madison High School is offering their building for free for this event which makes sense to me monetarily. If it makes sense and funds are there, I will maybe donate a small amount to the school if acceptable to the board.

**Adjudicators:** I have three adjudicators already lined up for this event from Hillsdale College, Michigan Community School of Music, and Albion College.

**ASTACAP application:** I am setting up the quick link for those who like the hard copy application form as well as a google form for those who prefer this. Nick Mosely has already been kind enough to help me get this set up. Moreover, I would like to add cello to this event. Shawn tried this last year and told me there were no applications for cello, but I think it is worth a try again. Currently, the form just says violin and viola.

Jillienne Bowers, Studio Chair for ASTA Michigan Chapter.

## **State String Outreach Report**

### **Action items:**

Decision on how to follow up on outstanding request.

Approval of new grant requests for the current grant cycle.

### **Budget/Request breakdown:**

PD/Program Grants budgeted amount is \$4,000 per fiscal year

Present requests total \$4,150

Program Grants \$2,900

PD Grants \$1,250

### **Outstanding request from last grant cycle:**

- Plymouth-Canton Comm. Schools (Mike Edwards): Commission from composer Jordan Jinosko in spring of 2025. \$500. Followed up in May and August; no grant report submitted.

### **New grant requests:**

- Program Grants
  - Grand Haven Lakeshore Middle School (Tatyana Walters) is bringing in an alt styles group, Langford Lads, for a clinic and concert with middle school students. Other funding sources: boosters. \$400.
  - Detroit Suzuki Academy (Allison Harris) wants to increase the number of private lessons they can offer through their library network program by adding a guest teacher. Currently 40 students enrolled. Other funding sources: various fundraisers and library network funding. \$500
  - Jenison High School (Joe Harmsen) is bringing in a guest artist/clinician for two visits and a performance. 171 students. Other funding source: boosters. \$500.
  - Marquette County String Society (Janis Peterson) is holding refresher workshops and ensemble classes for amateur adult players. Starting with 20-30 adults, plan to add beginners later. NMU and high school students will assist. Other funding sources: participation fees and donations. \$500.
  - MSU ASTA Chapter (Yu-Chen Lin) plans to bring in clinicians to hold workshops on various topics in string ed. 20-30 college and possibly pre-college students. Other funding sources: possibly other grants. Total project cost is \$500; \$500 requested, \$250 recommended.
  - Northville Public Schools (Johanne Ray-Hepp) is bringing in clinicians to work with beginners in the fall and to hold sectionals for middle and high school students in February. 191 students grades 6-12. Other funding sources: unknown; financial information incomplete. \$500.

- Professional Development Grants
  - Jami Kleinert (Rochester Comm. Schools) – ASTA/SAA Conference. \$250.
  - Andrea Yun – ASTA/SAA Conference. \$250.
  - Julie Huggler (Grand Blanc HS) – Midwest Conference. \$250.
  - Ingrid Pylvanian (Traverse City Area Public Schools) – Winter Dalcroze Workshop at Carnegie Mellon. \$250.
  - Johanne Ray-Hepp (Northville Public Schools) – Non-native string player seeking to take viola lessons for personal skill development. \$250.

**Camp Scholarships:**

- Session I – 4 students
- Session II – 2 students
- Session III – 5 students
- AAPS Scholarships – Two \$100 scholarships awarded; students attended sessions 2 and 3
- Total amount awarded was \$2,900

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Van Eizenga, Outreach Chair

## **Northern Michigan Liaison Report**

### Updates:

- Marquette and Negaunee high school orchestra students will be performing in a side by side concert with the Marquette Symphony Orchestra on October 4th, 2025.
- The Big String Concert is scheduled for October 15, 2025. This concert involves orchestras from Marquette Senior High School, Bothwell Middle School (Marquette), Negaunee High School, Negaunee Middle School, Escanaba High School, Escanaba Middle School, West Iron County Middle and High Schools (Iron River), Northern Michigan University's Symphony Orchestra (Marquette) and Copper Country Suzuki Association (Houghton).
- Escanaba's new orchestra teacher is Lucas Aguado!
- Superior String Alliance Camp hosted a chamber music day camp in Marquette in July and two sessions of sleep-away camp in August. SSA's new sleep-away camp location is Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Crystal Falls, MI.

Respectfully submitted by Danielle Simandl, MASTA Northern Michigan Liaison

## **MSBOA Liaison Report**

### **MSBOA String Reading Session:**

This year's MSBOA String Reading session is Saturday, September 20. The west-side site is Lowell Middle School, hosted by Joe Oprea and the east-side site is at Novi Middle School hosted by Samantha Farmer. The MSBOA Mid-Level String Reading Session is an annual event run by the MSBOA VP of Orchestral Activities, sites and hosts are subject to change annually.

### **Mid-Level String Clinic:**

In our continuing effort to promote string instrument performance in Michigan schools, The MSBOA is again sponsoring string orchestra clinics for students **in grades 7-8-9**. Listed below are the available sites including clinicians and performing groups. All Mid-Level String Clinic sites will be hosted on **Saturday, October 25, 2025**. The fee per student is \$15 (\$20 with lunch).

#### **NorthPointe Christian, Aaron Tenney, Host**

- Kyle Pitcher, Orchestra "A" Clinician
- Mikaela Vanator, Orchestra "B" Clinician
- Lowell Fusion Rock Orchestra – Special Guest Performers

#### **Portage West Middle School, Dr. Joanna Steinhouser & Dennis Kozian, Host**

- Jean Lee, Orchestra "A" Clinician
- Justin Valla, Orchestra "B" Clinician
- Kentwood ABC Orchestra – Special Guest Performers

#### **Northville Hillside Middle School, Johanne Ray-Hepp, Host**

- Chad Hutchinson, D.M.A., Orchestra "A" Clinician
- Heather Wickman, Orchestra "B" Clinician

#### **Marquette High School, Eric Marta, Host**

- Keith Dodson, Orchestra Clinician
  - *There will only be one Orchestra at this site, and they will be playing the Orchestra "B" pieces.*
- Robin Bloomberg – Special Guest Performers

The musical selections for this year's Mid-Level String Clinic are:

Orchestra "A": Call of Heroes – Christian A. Williams  
Dragons Revenge – Dion Morales

Orchestra "B": Shiver – Randall Standridge  
Velocity – Brian Balmages

Best,

Maritza Garibay – MSBOA VP of Orchestral Activities

## **MASTA DATES**

### **2025-2026**

1. Elizabeth Green Award Nominations Deadline - October 1, 2025
2. ASTA Chapter Award Nominations Deadline - October 1, 2025
3. Michigan Music Conference - Jan. 22-24, 2026, Amway Grand
  - a. Executive Board Meeting - Wed, Jan. 21, 6:30PM, TBD
  - b. Full Board - Jan. 22, 10AM, Pearl Room
  - c. General Membership - Jan. 23, 8AM, Imperial Room
  - d. Teachers Orchestra Concert - Jan. 23, 7PM, Ambassador
  - e. Jam Session and Ice Cream Social - Jan. 24, 8:30PM-10PM, Ambassador
4. ASTACAP - February 22, 2026, Madison HS (Adrian, MI)
5. Chamber Music Festival - March 2, 2026, MSU
6. ASTA National Conference - February 25-28, 2026, San Francisco, CA
7. Spring Executive Board Meeting - TBD
8. MASTA Camp - Lions Bear Lake Camp
  - a. Session 1 - June 13-15, 2026
  - b. Session 2 - June 16-20, 2026
  - c. Session 3 - June 22-27, 2026
9. Summer 2026 Retreat - TBD

TBD:

Zoom with ASTA Advocacy leaders?

Others from discussion?