

# Illinois Music Educators Association

## District VI

### Spring Newsletter

### May, 2010

Greetings! As we approach the end of another school year, I hope you have plans for some much deserved rest and relaxation with family and friends. I know this has been a challenging year for some fighting budget cuts and even program elimination. I just hope things in our state can improve and we all come out of this stronger than before! Rest assured that IMEA will continue hosting quality activities for both you and your students. Now is the time to begin planning for next year's IMEA activities, and this document will guide you through that process.

#### **Division Information**

Specific information for each division is available on the IMEA website ([www.ilmea.org](http://www.ilmea.org)). Please visit this site for the most up-to-date information.

#### **Dates – A Quick Glance**

September 29	Deadline for submitting entries online
October 11	Auditions at Highland Elementary School
November 6	Concert Festival at Edwardsville High School
November 13	Jazz Festival at Belleville West High School
January 26-29	IMEA All-State Festival, Peoria

#### **Please Share!**

It is important that EVERY music teacher in District VI receive this newsletter, so please provide them with a copy or a link to this document. It is CRITICAL that EVERY music teacher be registered in the RNS system. I understand that some schools like to have one person enter all information for the entire school, but having each teacher registered means they will receive specific information regarding their area of specialty.

#### **Site Reality**

Some of you may remember sitting in IMEA District VI business meetings a few years ago and hearing me express concerns about the use of the SIU campuses for our festivals, and that we need to begin thinking of alternatives. That reality has been realized, and securing festival sites has become more and more difficult. We were scheduled to be at SIU Carbondale for next year's event, but a construction project on that campus makes the Arena unavailable. There are even concerns about future years...music staff is very supportive but they need to work carefully with the athletic department. SIU Edwardsville was contacted to see if they could host this year, but facilities were unavailable there as well (also with concerns in future years). Numerous alternatives were considered to keep the north-south festival set-up we have enjoyed for the last several years (as long as I can remember), but there was

just no way to make it work. The administration and music faculty at Edwardsville High School agreed to allow us to use their facility again, so that decision was made.

To accommodate students in the southern portion of our district, I considered moving auditions out of Highland to somewhere south. There was only one school that had previously expressed interest in hosting auditions, but when asked they were unable to accommodate this year. So, we are back in Highland for auditions.

McKendree University and David Boggs in particular have been very generous for the last several years allowing us to use their facilities for the jazz festival. Due to scheduling issues (athletics, again, as well as admissions), they are unable to host next year. Tom Birkner, District VI Jazz Representative, offered his facilities at Belleville West High School, so we will be there for the jazz festival.

### **Special Needs Students**

If you teach a student with special needs and think they may audition in the fall, please go to <http://www.ilmea.org/SpecialLearnersSA.shtml> for more information. There are deadlines included that may mean you have to begin the process in the summer.

### **Professional Development**

JW Pepper Music, in conjunction with IMEA, will once again present a choral music reading session for CPDU credit in our area this summer. This event will be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights on July 10 and will feature music for elementary, junior high, and high school ensembles. You can visit [www.jwpepper.com](http://www.jwpepper.com) for more information and to register.

We are always looking for local workshop presenters for our fall festivals. If you are willing to present or have seen a clinic recently that you think might be beneficial to other educators in our area, please contact our District VI Professional Development Chair Cathy Stranc at [cstranc@ecusd7.org](mailto:cstranc@ecusd7.org).

### **Get Involved and Encourage Others**

Remember, this is YOUR association! Get involved, stay informed, and urge your colleagues and friends in neighboring schools to participate in IMEA activities. Their students will benefit, and we all know that increased senior level participation allows for more District VI students at All-State.

I challenge you to do two things:

- Right now (really, RIGHT NOW) call someone in a neighboring school who is not currently active in IMEA activities and encourage them to consider participating
- In the fall, contact a new teacher in your area and share information with them regarding IMEA and our wonderful activities

In addition, please consider leadership positions within our district as well as at the state level. ***We currently have an opening for a JEM (Junior-Elementary Music) Representative in our district.*** Division reps and chairs are always needed.

## **RNS (Online Registration)**

There are several things that should be done **BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDS**.

### ***UPDATE YOUR PROFILE***

1. Go to [www.ilalldist.org](http://www.ilalldist.org)
2. Select "District 6".
3. Select your school (for those at both a junior high and a high school, this must be done for each one).
4. Select your name.
5. Enter your password and click "Enter" (if you don't remember your password, e-mail me at [washburr@wesclin.k12.il.us](mailto:washburr@wesclin.k12.il.us)).
6. Click "Update Profile".
7. Check all boxes that are a part of your teaching assignments. You may select more than one. This insures that you receive information specific to each teaching specialty.
8. Enter/update all phone numbers. All numbers are confidential and will only be used for official IMEA purposes.
9. Enter/update your e-mail information. The "secondary e-mail" allows you to enter a secondary/home address...some school filters don't allow some of IMEA's communications to pass through and this additional e-mail will insure you receive all necessary information. It is state policy to not share your e-mail address with third parties.
10. If you are the primary contact, delete retiring teachers or teachers who are moving out of your school.
11. Click on "Update".
12. Click on "Exit".

### ***ADD NEW TEACHERS***

1. Go to [www.ilalldist.org](http://www.ilalldist.org).
2. Select "District 6".
3. Select your school.
4. Click on "Add New Director".
5. Enter requested information. You will need your school's faculty password to complete this process. Your school's primary contact should have this information or you can contact me.
6. Click on "Enter".

### ***DELETE RETIRING/RESIGNING TEACHERS (Can only be completed by the primary contact)***

1. Go to [www.ilalldist.org](http://www.ilalldist.org).
2. Select "District 6".
3. Select your school.
4. Login.
5. Click "Update".
6. Near the bottom of the screen, choose the director you want to delete.

**THINGS TO DO...**

<b>WHEN</b>	<b>WHAT</b>
Now	<u>Send School Participation Fees and Forms</u> Download a blank form at <a href="http://www.imea.org/documents/Form.JR.SRPart.Sch10.11.pdf">http://www.imea.org/documents/Form.JR.SRPart.Sch10.11.pdf</a> There are no longer Elementary Participation Forms, but you are encouraged to register your school and yourself online. <i>Please note that in addition to sending in these forms/fees, you should register your school and yourself on the RNS website at <a href="http://www.ilalldist.org">www.ilalldist.org</a>.</i>
Now	<u>Place IMEA dates on your school calendar</u>
Now	<u>Update your profile</u> and add new directors/delete old directors at <a href="http://www.ilalldist.org">www.ilalldist.org</a> – EVERY DIRECTOR NEEDS TO DO THIS TO KEEP INFORMED OF DISTRICT VI ACTIVITIES!
September	<u>Register your students</u> for auditions at <a href="http://www.ilalldist.org">www.ilalldist.org</a> <u>Pay audition fees</u> to the district president
October	<u>Auditions</u> After students are selected for the district ensembles, <u>pay participation fees</u> to the State office
November	<u>District festivals</u>

## **District VI Leadership**

President	Rodney Washburn Wesclin Jr/Sr High School 224-7341 ext. 1219 224-7234 fax <a href="mailto:washburr@wesclin.k12.il.us">washburr@wesclin.k12.il.us</a>
Band Division Rep	Keith Mitchell Freeburg High School 539-5533 x234 <a href="mailto:mitcheka@fchs77.org">mitcheka@fchs77.org</a>
Choral Division Rep	Lynda Marshall Edwardsville High School 656-7100 x20473 <a href="mailto:lmarshall@ecusd7.org">lmarshall@ecusd7.org</a>  Lisa Neal Collinsville High School 346-6320 x1235 <a href="mailto:lneal@kahoks.org">lneal@kahoks.org</a>
Orchestra Division Rep	Laura Plummer Alton High School 474-6967 <a href="mailto:lplummer@altonschools.org">lplummer@altonschools.org</a>
Jazz Division Rep	Tom Birkner Belleville West High School 222-7687 <a href="mailto:tbirkner@bths201.org">tbirkner@bths201.org</a>
JEM Division Rep	<i>This position is currently open. If you are an elementary music teacher and you would be willing to serve, please contact Rodney Washburn</i>
Professional Growth Rep	Cathy Stranc Cassens Elementary School 655-6150 x25362 <a href="mailto:cstranc@ecusd7.org">cstranc@ecusd7.org</a>