

The Broadsider

Newsletter of the New England Chapter of AOSA Special Edition



A Message from the President

Dear NE/AOSA Members,

Welcome to the 2012-13 NE/AOSA workshop series! Please take a moment to consider the remarkable dedication and passion of everyone here. It is something we should all be proud of!

As always, we have a great line-up of clinicians ready and eager to share their wisdom and experience with you, and we welcome volunteers for Chapter Sharing in December (a rare opportunity to share best practices with a friendly, receptive audience and to try your favorite lessons with talented adult musicians!). Six workshops may not sound like much, but – as most of you already know – the quantity and quality of materials we explore during a single season can be almost overwhelming!

I hope you will make the most of each workshop by participating fully while you are here, and by making a conscious effort afterward to incorporate at least one or two new ideas or materials in your classroom while the memories are still fresh! Avoid the temptation to file your notes for “later” because you don’t know where to start. Instead, challenge yourself to apply some of what you have learned in a manageable way.

For example, replace one “tired” lesson or unit every month with a new one inspired by a single workshop activity, or try new approaches to processing familiar songs or instrumental pieces. Identify and prioritize a small number of skills, strategies, materials, or concepts that apply most directly to your current program, and focus on them one at a time. Most important, be patient with yourself and your students, and don’t be afraid to take risks. A failed lesson is not the end of the world, but rather an invaluable learning experience! Leaving your comfort zone helps keep your teaching fresh and your students engaged (and you don’t have to leave it forever – small, temporary excursions are often the most successful!).

For further inspiration and a potentially life-changing experience (or at the very least a classroom-changing experience!) consider attending the AOSA national conference. This year’s conference is in St. Louis, Missouri from November 14-17 (find more info at www.aosa.org). We offer three \$500 scholarships to help defray the cost of conference attendance! Look for the scholarship application, which is due October 22, on our website www.neaosa.org. We WANT to give this money away so more of you will have the opportunity to go! The conference is truly inspiring, and it is difficult to describe due to the “intangibles” – the energy, excitement, and

Upcoming Workshops...

September 29, 2012

Meg Tietz

Playful Process

October 27, 2012

Cindy Hall

Orff Schulwerk: Playing With A Purpose

November 14-17:

AOSA National Conference
St. Louis, MO

Gateway to Exploration

December 1, 2012

Chapter Sharing

February 9, 2013

David Frego

Dalcroze Eurhythmics: Rhythm Flowing Inside of You

March 9, 2013

Sofia Ibor-Lopez

Children's Games in Orff Schulwerk: From the Child's Universe to Elemental Music

April 13, 2013

Barbara Watson

title tbd



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President's Message continued...

intensity that come from non-stop music-making with thousands of like-minded teachers. Comparing local chapter workshops to the national conference is like comparing regular exercise and diet to a weeklong health and wellness retreat: each offers unique benefits!

Please remember to thank our all-volunteer Executive Board, whose members work tirelessly to make these workshops run so smoothly. Also, please help us clean up at the end of each workshop if you are able to stay for a few extra minutes. Many hands make light work!

Please let us know if, in addition to NE/AOSA, you join AOSA for the first time – we will recognize your extra commitment to Orff Schulwerk with an additional discount on your NE/AOSA membership!

Members are entitled to one free guest pass per year. We hope you will take advantage of this special opportunity to introduce a colleague or administrator to Orff Schulwerk.

I look forward to our upcoming Saturdays together and hope you have a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Nick Wild



NEAOSA Executive Board

**President:**

Nick Wild

nick.wild@comcast.net

Vice President:

Jenn Dennett

Jennellen@gmail.com

Treasurer:

David Ruggiero

Daverugg@aol.com

Secretary:

Allyn Phelps

allynphelps@gmail.com

Registrar:

Karen Baken

kbaken@thenhcs.org

PDP Manager:

Lisa Gilman

l_gilman@sharon.k12.ma.us

Hospitality:

Judith Scally

[judyscally@netscape.net](mailto:judysscally@netscape.net)

Gina DePaoli

Ginadepaoli@hotmail.com

Members At Large:

Michael Jones

cool.rhythm@verizon.net

Bonnie Kelly

BKsharp@aol.com

Pamela Yanco

pamyanco@comcast.net

Broadsider Co - Editors:

Leigh Larkin

Leigh_Larkin@hotmail.com

Tom Rice

ricethomas@hotmail.com

Historian:

Scott Tarantino

ScottT315@aol.com

Equipment Managers:

Adam Epstein

Adamepstein@gmail.com

Paul Barringer

barringerpaul@hotmail.com