

**AMERICAN STRING TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
National Executive Board Minutes**

Date: January 3-5, 2008
Location: Washington, DC

Present:

Board Members Present

Mary Wagner, President
Jeffrey Solow, President-Elect
Robert Gillespie, Past-President
Denese Odegaard, Secretary
Barbara Eads, Publications Chair
Judy Weigert Bossuat, Member-at-Large
Beth Gilbert, Member-at-Large
Kristin Turner, Member-at-Large
Neil Lilien, SI Council President

Staff Members Present

Donna Hale, Executive Director
Beth Danner, Deputy Director of
Conferences & Membership
Jody McNamara, Deputy Director, Finance & Administration
Mary Jane Dye, Director of Communications
Elizabeth Bookwalter, Development Manager
Kari Hahn, Director of Membership
Libby Dietrich, Meetings & Events Manager

Other Guests: Stephen Shipps
Absent: Lynn Harrell, Member-at-Large

Next Meeting Date: May 29-30-31, 2008

Future Meeting Dates:

Conference: February 29-March 1, 2008 Albuquerque, NM

Agenda Item	Discussion – Conclusion	Recommendations or actions
Meeting called to order by President Wagner at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 3, 2008		

1.A. Read and approve the May 2007 minutes	Change March to May for date of minutes	Motion: Approval of the May 2007 minutes. Eads/Lilien Adopted: Unanimous
1.B. Read and approve Action Agenda		Motion: Approval of action agenda. Gillespie/Eads Adopted: Unanimous
1.B. Interim board actions read into minutes		Motion: That Joanne May receive a Leadership Citation for her work on <i>The String Teacher's Cookbook: Creative Recipes for a Successful Program</i> and her contributions to ASTA. Solow/Odegaard Adopted: Unanimous
2. Information Agenda – Committee Reports	Committee Reports were reviewed and discussed.	Committee on School Orchestra and Strings – take out the word “universities” from the Mission Statement. Motion: To create a String Teacher Enrichment Program (STEP) Task Force to maintain, develop and promote the STEP program. Bossuat/Gilbert Adopted: Unanimous Committee on Studio Instruction – research data on the number of students involved in the Certificate Program for Strings. Motion: To accept the Information Agenda and its reports. Eads/Bossuat Adopted: Unanimous

<p>3. Foundation Report</p>	<p>Development Campaign reviewed</p> <p>Special Projects Grant – the number of applications are up because of better promotion</p> <p>Potter’s Violins – awarded to three students in October</p> <p>Merle Isaac – changed application date to January 15th</p> <p>Silent Auction – March 1, 2008. On track so far. 3 companies donated items for a gift bag to the first 300 people to arrive.</p> <p>Discovering Strings and Orchestra received a \$40,000 grant for promoting strings. 22 groups have contacted ASTA, groups that have conducted the sessions say they have gotten a great response. 5,000 color books have been printed. Symphonies have begun to donate tickets to concerts etc. A promotional DVD will be downloadable along with the lesson plans and coloring book.</p> <p>Outreach for underserved areas – NAMM grant proposal – Nuttin’ but Stringz will present 6 interactive concerts in several locations. Pre and post surveys to see attitudes towards strings before and after the program to see what student interests are and help teaches tailor make materials to get students involved in strings.</p> <p>Annual Campaign - \$50 for 50 campaign started. You can donate on the web. Reception for donors combined with the President’s reception at the conference.</p> <p>Endowment – Gala will kick off the event</p>	<p>Motion: To accept revised Outreach Program Guidelines. Turner/Solow Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: To discontinue the Giormenti Double Bass Competition. Solow/Eads Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Discovering Strings: Office will research how many students we’re reaching. Show the DVD at state leadership meeting, the bookstore and at the membership meeting at the conference.</p>
<p>Meeting adjourned 7:00 p.m.</p>		

<p>Meeting called to order by President Wagner, Friday, January 4, 2008 at 8:40 a.m.</p>		
<p>4. Discussion with Stephen Shipps - involvement of University Studio Professors in ASTA</p>	<p>Extensive discussion on AST and how it meets the needs of the membership.</p> <p>Offer accomplished accompanists for the solo competition.</p>	<p>An Advisory committee will be formed to study the Solo Competition.</p>
<p>5. Membership Report</p>	<p>Membership at meeting time is 11, 384.</p> <p>Grow the guitar membership through Mariachi growth, contacting guitar instructors and encouraging more involvement at the conference.</p> <p>Studio teachers and professional symphony players are being contacted.</p> <p>The formation of the Canadian Chapter is stalled until spring of 2008.</p> <p>Transitional 1st year professional member (student to teacher transition) is being offered to keep students engaged in this organization. Runs April 1-June 30, 2008 and membership is \$75.00. The conference registration will be offered at the collegiate cost for the first year.</p> <p>Discuss mentoring needs and ideas for state chapters with the state leadership. When 1st year teachers attend a conference, have a nametag ribbon that says 1st year teacher so that other members can engage them in the conference activities or help them make connections with other members.</p>	<p>Motion: Change the membership categories to include K-12 school string/orchestra teacher, higher education, music administration, performer, private studio teacher, retired, student and other categories. Under the K-12 category, there will be a sub-category list of elementary, jr. high/middle school, high school and multi-levels. Odegaard/Gillespie Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: To make the Transitional 1st Year Professional Member program initiated as a pilot program beginning April 1, 2008. Eads/Gilbert Adopted: Unanimous</p>
<p>6. Finances</p>	<p>Financial report included review of the audit and year-to-date</p>	

	<p>numbers. The board praised the office for fiscal responsibility.</p>	
7. Publications	<p>New proposed materials will be reviewed.</p> <p>Revision of the String Syllabus will include alt styles. David Littrell is serving as the editor.</p> <p><i>American String Teacher</i> Journal –2 positions will be created for articles editors which would be K-12 editor and Studio Teacher editor. Each editor would have the help of an advisory board.</p>	<p>Motion: As the Certificate Program for Strings program is now under the sponsorship of the national ASTA association, all CPS competitions must have the written approval of their state board on file with the national office. Eads/Solow Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Create an advisory board to help the editors seek out articles. That board will make contact with people to write articles.</p>
8. National High School Honors Orchestra	<p>The board discussed the need to review the National High School Honors Orchestra procedures..</p>	<p>Motion: To form a task force to study all aspects of the National Honors Orchestra including philosophy, state selection process and timeline. The task force will make recommendations prior to the May 2008 board meeting. Odegaard/Solow Adopted: Unanimous</p>
9. State Chapters	<p>State reports were reviewed. There are still some states that are not incorporated.</p> <p>Goals of the State Leadership meeting at the conference will include interconnecting chapters, sharing successful program and event ideas, liability insurance and continuity with state leaders.</p>	<p>Board members will contact state leaders that need to finish paperwork for affiliation and incorporation.</p>
10. Solo Competitions	<p>Discussion on the future of the competition reviewing location and time of year, performance facility, professional accompanists, and quality tuned pianos. Strategies for featuring the winner were also discussed.</p> <p>Any changes would be communicated to state presidents. The best</p>	<p>Motion – To form a task force to study and make recommendations for the national solo competition. Eads/Turner Adopted: Unanimous Amend Previous Motion (May 2007)</p>

	<p>solution to the questions is to form a task force to study the needs of the competition.</p> <p>2009 Atlanta — ASTA will provide pianists for finalists including a one-hour rehearsal.</p> <p>Alt Style Awards - Guitars will not be added to the 2009 alt styles competition.</p>	<p>Motion: The appointed competition chair will find a local site chair, identify six local judges, find quality accompanists to be paid by ASTA for a 1 hour rehearsal with participants at a standard fee, and competition quality harps with participants contributing towards the rental fee. (changes in bold) Odegaard/Eads Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: The solo competition and the alternate styles award will have equal entry fees of \$75 for 2009. Solow/Lilien Adopted: Unanimous</p>
Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. for the evening		
Meeting called to order by President Wagner at 8:45 a.m.		
11. Advocacy	<p><i>Advocacy for Strings</i> DVD is available to download or a DVD can be sent to members upon request.</p> <p>Research becoming a NAMM affiliate. 100 Best Music Communities needs to include strings in the criteria. Follow up with the white paper and communication sent to 100 Best Music Communities.</p> <p>Discussion regarding the development of a National String/Orchestra School Curriculum.</p> <p>The board approved a proposal in concept for an ASTA sponsored research study investigating factors contributing to successfully establishing new string programs in the schools. The</p>	<p>Motion: to accept the 2008-2010 Advocacy Priorities Plan. Eads/Lilien Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: That the research proposal as presented by Dr. Gillespie be accepted with the budget proposal to be presented at the May 2008 board meeting. Eads/Solow Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: Because the committee is always</p>

	board requested a financial proposal to carry out the study for consideration at its June 2008 board meeting.	<p>chaired by the ASTA National Immediate Past President, the Advocacy Committee will be granted exception to the ASTA policy of no committee members, other than the chair, being eligible to continue to serve on the committee. This will ensure continuity.</p> <p>Bossuat/Turner Adopted: Unanimous</p> <p>Motion: To establish a task force to begin to develop a National String/Orchestra School Curriculum. Bossuat/Eads Adopted: Unanimous</p>
12. Industry Report	<p>A six panel standards specification brochure draft will be reviewed May 2008. This brochure is for parents, students, and dealers.</p> <p>List benefits of string playing on the cover.</p>	
13. Conferences	<p>Future conference dates: February 27-March 1, 2008 Albuquerque March 18-21 Atlanta, Georgia February 17-20 Santa Clara, California</p>	
14. Overflow		
15. Meeting adjourned at noon.		