Inside: Educational Articles
Music for All Summer Symposium
Music for All National Festival
Bands of America Championships
Advocacy in Action Awards
and more!
STRATEGIES FOR AN EFFECTIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND REHEARSAL

By Keith Ozsvath | Summer Symposium Middle School Band Camp Coordinator

1. Be organized: physically and mentally; have a clear vision and goals.
2. Teach procedures well at the beginning of the school year and review periodically.
3. Set high expectations and follow your classroom management plan.
4. Give effective feedback by communicating clearly and efficiently.
Try: “Play softer and be kind to your friends playing the melody.”
7. Get off the podium & move around the room. You’ll notice more about your students.
   a. Create an aisle to reach students in the last rows.
   b. Use a bluetooth receiver to stream audio or a metronome app wirelessly from your smartphone.
8. Model often.
9. Change-up the rehearsal routine:
   a. Change seats
   b. Watch a fun and/or educational video
   c. Give students a voice in the decision process
   d. Assign students into groups or sections for small playing competitions
   e. Create & play a Kahoot game
10. Pick great music that musically engages the students. Find composers and pieces that write well for every section.

Pick great music that musically engages the students.

KEITH OZSVATH
Summer Symposium Middle School Concert Band Camp Coordinator;
Band Director at Rotolo M.S., Batavia, IL. A three-time NAMM Best Community for Music Education. He teaches Eighth Grade Band, Jazz Ensemble, and the Symphonic Band.
MELISSA THOMPSON  
Mrs. Thompson's son, Jack, was a camper at last summer's Middle School Concert Band Camp at the Music for All Summer Symposium, presented by Yamaha. Jack was one of 115 middle school students part of the total camp community of more than 1,700 students, band directors, faculty members, staff and volunteers. We talked with Mrs. Thompson about Jack's Summer Symposium experience—and hers.

How did you hear about the Music for All Summer Symposium?  
We live in a music-friendly city with passionate and talented music teachers. Our schools provide our children with exposure to professional educators who demonstrate what it takes to make music: hard work, grit, courage and even a sense of humor. My son, Jack, was reluctant to go to band camp in 7th grade, even after his director suggested it. Luckily, Jack attended the following year as an 8th grade student. We had heard of many music camps, but his director shared how much he thought Music for All would be a good fit for Jack.

What did your son like most about camp?  
As parents, we were very encouraged not to hear from Jack too often— a good sign that all is well. All parents should be told that when they drop their child off at camp. When we did hear from him, we received brief messages like, “I loved hearing Black Violin,” “Best food ever!,” and “I’m learning so much from the oboe teacher! This is amazing!” If you asked Jack what he liked most about his experience, he would share: that it was the music he played, working with the oboe clinician, the people that were present, and the evening concerts he attended.

What were your initial expectations of camp?  
Of course we expected Jack to grow as a musician and learn new music skills by going to camp. We also hoped that he would learn or solidify social and emotional skills like setting an alarm to get up on time, meeting new friends, and speaking up if he needed help during a lesson or rehearsal. And he did! Such great development to have happen before starting high school.

What parts of camp were you most impressed with?  
The most impactful was summed up in the presentation to the parents on the last day of camp. The Music for All staff discussed, what I like to call, the cycle of work ethic. We learned about three points that motivate musicians, or anyone working towards something they enjoy: Practice...success...fun. That “camp circle” is discussed often in our home.

The idea of deliberate practice taught by Jack’s oboe clinician can be applied with any skill or goal any of us are trying to reach. Jack also learned about flow or being in the zone as he played. Can you imagine your child being conducted by one of the best band instructors in the country? Or having a composer come and speak to the ensemble so that they understand why the music was written and the emotion behind the piece? How about the opportunity to play with master musicians? Music for All offers these opportunities at the right time for young musicians when their brains and abilities are soaring.

What would you tell another parent who is thinking about sending their child to camp?  
It can be so challenging to send your child away to camp. For many it is also costly. But for our family, it was one of the best things we’ve had the opportunity to provide for our child. Jack’s future with the oboe looks bright, and the Music for All Symposium has inspired skills that translate to all aspects of his life. Seeing our child grow as a result of his experiences at camp reminds us that band camp holds many more gifts and experiences than music. Is the musical training extraordinary? Yes! Is camp fun? Yes! Was it hard to send him? Yes! But the experience was positively life-changing, and one we are so glad our child had.

Learn more about the Middle School Concert Band Camp at the 2018 Music for All Summer Symposium presented by Yamaha on pages 7 and 8.
MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER TRACK AT THE DIRECTORS’ ACADEMY

The Middle School Track at the Music for All Summer Symposium, presented by Yamaha, is designed to deliver a curriculum that will arm middle school teachers with the tools you need. Our curriculum is designed to provide a “hands-on” education that will prepare teachers to thrive, not just survive! The program includes the full Directors’ Academy curriculum, world-class concerts and musical experiences, networking with the finest music educators in the country, professional development certification from Music for All, opportunity to register for Graduate Credit through Ball State University, and more.

Music for All offers ideas and resources that will allow you to achieve peak performance personally and for your ensembles. This is the place to get a head-start on next year’s thinking. Join us this summer and expand your knowledge base, build new relationships and collaborations, and learn and explore the latest in pedagogy, techniques, and technology – all in an environment that is enjoyable and sure to recharge or reignite your passion for teaching!

Control Your Own Experience: Customize your curriculum with choices focusing on a wide range of tracks and topics relevant to today’s band director in concert band, jazz, marching, and technology. Experience classroom rehearsal techniques, conducting, literature, marching band design, jazz band, pedagogy, technology, organization and administration, programming, and more. You also have access to observe all the student division classes, watching master teachers in all areas of instrumental instruction in action.

Band Director Master Classes: Our new series of daily Band Director Master Classes will provide time with master teachers. We’ll discuss issues from both inside the classroom and beyond, including working with boosters, administration, and work/life balance.

One-on-One Directors’ Lounge: Our Directors’ Lounge brings you a one-on-one personal consultation on your program, show design, conducting, concert programming, drill writing, and more. It’s like a private lesson with leading experts in the Master Teacher Lounge, Marching Design Lounge, and Technology Lounge.

Universal Pedagogy: Whether you’re experienced or at the start of your career; in a rural, urban, or suburban setting; at a small school or large one, the pedagogy offered is relevant to band directors from a wide range of teaching environments. Music for All presenters provide insight and expertise from directors dealing with real-world situations.

Great Facilities: Directors will stay in an outstanding residence hall on the Ball State campus, featuring state-of-the-art technology. Ball State also features free Wifi campus-wide.

Tracks within the Directors' Academy daily curriculum include: Marching Pedagogy, Middle School and Young Teacher Pedagogy, Jazz, Technology, Administration, Organization, Boosters, and Ethics.
At Music for All we know that the most influential element in the success of students and music education in general is qualified, knowledgeable, and well-prepared teachers. The Music for All Summer Symposium Directors’ and Instructors’ Academies are recognized as some of the finest and most comprehensive professional development experiences available. We strive to make them accessible to all directors!

Deep discount for teachers in first three years of teaching: If you are in your first three years of teaching, or a full-time college student, then you can attend the full week for just $360! Includes tuition, housing, meals, concerts, and a notebook of resources. That’s more than 30% off the regular price! Qualified participants can get that price by registering at any time before May 20. If you prefer to commute to camp, save even more with the commuter price of just $185 for college students/young teachers, which includes tuition, lunches, nightly concerts, and the symposium notebook of resources.

Attend at NO COST: Bring 12 students from your school and earn a scholarship for one Director to attend camp for FREE! Bring six to 11 students and earn a scholarship for one Director to attend camp TUITION FREE!

Professional Development: Music for All knows that continuing education and ongoing professional development is important. Music for All can certify your participation in the Summer Symposium to satisfy professional development requirements. Graduate Credit is also available for directors wishing to register for it through Ball State University.

2018 Faculty of Directors’ Academy Master Teachers include:
Greg Bimm
George Boulden
Bob Buckner
Lee Carlson
Michael Cesario
Gino Cipriani
Darrin Davis
Joel Denton
Rick Dietrick
Richard Floyd
Chris Gleason
Michael Gray
Ian Grom
John Howell
Paula Krupiczewicz
Jarrett Lipman
Jager Loyde
Mike Macintosh
John Mapes
Steve Meyer
Steve Peterson
Beth Peterson
John Phillips
Brandon Robinson
Anna Rodriguez
Richard Saucedo
Robert W. Smith
Susan L. Smith
Jeremy Spicer
David Vandewalker
Dean Westman
...and more

Practical hands-on knowledge and experiences that you can use in your classroom!

The Summer Symposium has allowed us to take our band program to a new level.

The Summer Symposium is a great experience, with quality educators!

“I love the Summer Symposium! It is a great experience, with lots of hands-on activities that make it fun and engaging for students and teachers.”

“Summer Symposium is an amazing experience. It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity to learn and share with other directors.”

Summer Symposium has allowed us to take our band program to a new level.

TEACHER REGISTRATION DEADLINES & FEES

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Get on the Bus!

Leave the driving to us...Music for All has developed routes scheduled to transport students to the Summer Symposium. It is a great way for your students to get to the new Middle School Concert Band Camp at the Symposium, while offering you free Directors’ Academy attendance!

Directors – Learn about the benefits of being a bus captain: As a bus captain, you’ll organize a bus with your students and promote the bus with Music for All’s help and marketing assistance to students from other schools. As a bus captain you will attend the Summer Symposium at no cost (up to a $610 value!). Learn more at www.musicforall.org/bus.
MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT BAND CAMP

June 25–30, 2018 • Enroll at www.musicforall.org/camp or call 800.848.2263

Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana
The Middle School Concert Band Camp at the Music for All Summer Symposium offers a week-long, immersive camp experience for middle school band students. Students will spend a fun and inspiring week with renowned teachers, exciting artists, and fellow campers from across the country. Designed from the ground up with the middle school student in mind, students will grow as both musicians and individuals. Their experience will be positively life-changing!

The Middle School Concert Band Camp is designed for students entering 7th or 8th grade, with at least one year of performance experience on their instrument.

Highlights include:
- Chris Gleason – Instrumental Music Educator, Patrick Marsh M.S., Sun Prairie, WI
- Arris Golden – Assistant Director of Bands, UNC-Chapel Hill
- William Owens, Andrew Boysen – Composers-in-Residence
- Student interaction with composer-in-residence
- Separate dining/dorm facilities for MS students
- 24-hour supervision by counselors/SWAG Team
- Low student-to-counselor ratio
- A positive, caring environment to meet the needs of the middle school student
- Two FREE camp t-shirts for every student.

Parents: Our Middle School Camp coordinators Keith Ozsvath and Greg Scapillato live the mission every day, as middle school band directors and also as parents. We know you are looking for a safe environment for your child, with exceptional teaching from a distinguished faculty. You also are looking for value. The Music for All Summer Symposium provides lodging, meals, tuition, materials, teachers, and concerts for a reasonable cost that is far exceeded in value and impact.

*The SWAG Team members are the Music for All camp’s counselors, teaching assistants, and superheroes. They are selected by vigorous application process, undergo a background check, and carry forward the 35-year tradition of ensuring safe, positively life-changing experiences for campers.

CONCERTS AND EVENTS EVERY NIGHT!

YAMAHA YOUNG PERFORMING ARTISTS
Monday, June 25, 2018
8 p.m. • Emens Auditorium

BOSTON BRASS PRESENTED BY YAMAHA
Tuesday, June 26, 2018
8 p.m. • Emens Auditorium

QUATTROSOUND
Wednesday, June 27, 2018
8 p.m. • Emens Auditorium

UNITED STATES ARMY FIELD BAND & SOLDIERS’ CHORUS
Thursday, June 28, 2018
8 p.m. • Emens Auditorium

DRUM CORPS INTERNATIONAL CENTRAL INDIANA
Friday, June 29, 2018
7 p.m. • Scheuemann Stadium

REGISTRATION DEADLINES & FEES

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Additional night’s housing is available for an additional cost for Sunday, June 24 and Saturday, June 30 if needed for travel. Student supervision by Music for All begins with the start of the camp – 1 p.m., June 25 for Full Week students – and ends at the conclusion of camp at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 30.

Leave the driving to us... Music for All has developed routes from many areas of the country with buses already scheduled to transport students to the Summer Symposium. Learn more at www.musicforall.org/bus

Get on the Bus!

Enroll at www.musicforall.org/camp or call 800.848.2263
GOING BEYOND THE GRADE

By Chris Gleason | Instrumental Music Educator at Patrick Marsh Middle School, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

“OK class, today is practice chart turn in day.” Audible groans and murmurs came from the band. As I began collecting the monthly practice charts I noticed Spencer writing “20 minutes” in every box on the chart. I moved in on his position like a stealthy cougar ready to pounce. With a triumphant “A Ha!” I snatched his paper and told him to follow me into my office. I immediately picked up the phone and called his father. “Mr. Williams, I just witnessed your son filling out his practice chart and forging your signature.” With little hesitation Mr. Williams responded, “No, I filled it out and signed it this morning.”

How could this be possible? The child was lying and so was the father! My first instinct was to dock both Spencer and his father 10 points for a committing a crime against musicianship. Instead, I took a long hard look at what I was doing to create an environment in which kids lied about practicing and parents covered it up.

After many years of making mistakes, reflecting, and reading, I have come to a few conclusions:
1) Grades tend to diminish students’ interest in whatever they’re learning.
2) Grades create a preference for the easiest possible task.
3) Grades tend to reduce the quality of students’ thinking.

So how do we get students to stop focusing on the grade? How is assessment different than evaluation? What role does assessment play in my classroom?

Changing the Narrative

The word “assessment” has been used in different ways throughout the years. Regardless of the exact definition, the word has become toxic in education. Visions of long standardized, multiple-choice tests flood the minds of students when the word is evoked. Similarly, educators think of testing that in most cases does not reflect what is most important in their classrooms. Tainted with the view that everything worthwhile can be measured and reduced to a number, educators pressed for data have to battle an inner war of both valuing assessment and discouraging it. We need to take back this term and use it for good in our classrooms. Assessment plays a critical and vital role in the education process.

What is the Assessment Process?

Gathering Information: Assessment simply is a strategy for gathering data that is directly linked to your outcomes. The Assessment Process includes three steps (as seen in the figure below). The first step is to assess or gather information about learning. To be honest, as educators we are always assessing students. In fact, it is impossible not to assess learners just as it is impossible to stop assessing internal things such as hunger, mood, energy level, etc., or external things such as temperature and light. We are always taking the “pulse” of the class and individual students in an informal sense just as we are gathering in data about student performance, knowledge, and desires, beliefs, and connections. The key to the gathering stage is to consider what information is important since there is so much of it. It is very easy to get swallowed up by the data or to get lost in less-than-important facts and numbers.

Evaluation: The second step in the Assessment Process is evaluation.

Evaluation is defined as the process of analyzing or interpreting the data. When analyzing or interpreting the data we often compare the results to a set standard, others or ourselves. As most researchers would tell you, one data point does not provide a tremendous amount valid data. Acquiring data over time can help to identify trends yielding a clearer picture of stability, growth or decline. The question is how to collect reliable data over time and deciding what to compare it to.

Act: The third step in the Assessment Process is to act. Based on the assessment and evaluation several possible actions could result including (but not limited to) grades, reflections, strategy modification, etc. It is important to note that assigning a grade is only one of the many actions that could take place. Moreover, assigning a grade or number may be the least significant action to affect student learning. For example, you finish rehearsing a technical passage with your clarinet section and ask, “Clarinet sections show using your hand a number between 1-5 as to how proficient you are playing that passage.” This “data” can help inform you and the student if a sectional (or some other strategy) is needed. It doesn’t mean that you should grab a grade book and jot down responses.

Evaluation refers to gathering information about learning. Evaluation is the process of analyzing or interpreting data.
I embrace the belief that teachers can de-emphasize grades while building intrinsic motivation when we promote autonomy, mastery, and purpose.

How do we Assess?

**Summative:** Start with your outcome as this is the destination. Ask yourself:
1. What evidence is needed for me, the student, and others to conclude that the student has made it to the outcome? Does the assessment(s) that I have created really answer this question?
2. How much choice or autonomy does the student have in determining how they will show understanding?
3. What tool could be used to clearly communicate different levels of achievement? Also, do the students have input into creating this tool?

**Diagnostic:** Next, consider where your students are starting. Ask yourself:
1. What knowledge, skills or experiences do your students already possess? How could I find this information out?
2. Where will you begin so that you are capturing the majority of your class? For those students who do not fit into this box, what strategies do you have to support them? How can you identify these students?
3. How can you avoid the “curse of knowledge”? In other words, educators sometimes gloss over things that come easy to us. We need to have empathy for our new learners.

**Formative:** Great news! Every strategy you create for your classroom is already a formative assessment. The key is craft creative, varied, and rich strategies that lead to your outcome. Ask yourself:
1. What strategies will be best suited for student self-assessment?
2. What strategies will be best suited for peer assessment?
3. What strategies will be best suited for teacher assessment?
4. For all of the above - what strategies would best be saved or documents (formal) versus just observed or “taken in” (informal)?
5. What tool could be used to clearly communicate different levels of achievement?

Teacher, Take Heart!

Courage is necessary when assessing students. The wise teacher knows that they will learn a lot about themselves and about education from their students. True authentic assessment means to take a look at what is working and what is not working. When a class does poorly on a task is this a reflection of the teacher, the class, or a bit of both? It takes courage to look at the “data” and evaluate what went wrong. Often times, if an entire class does poorly it is mostly a reflection of the educator picking too difficult a task or not sequencing and layering skills/knowledge to get to the benchmark. Teachers with an open mindset will learn from this, reevaluate, and try a new approach. Teachers with a closed mindset will blame the students and refuse to look at their own teaching as the potential problem.

Consider this...

What and how we assess points to what we value. What we spend time and effort assessing ultimately tells our students what is most worthwhile about their experience in our classroom. We can speak about the importance of creativity, critical thinking, internal motivation, and process over product, but do these values shine when it comes to the assessment going on in your classroom? Do you assess what is easy to measure or what is actually most important? Do you utilize progressive teaching practices, but then run out of time for any meaningful feedback? Could your students explain your classroom assessment process to their parents?

Going Beyond the Grade

I embrace the belief that teachers can de-emphasize grades, while building intrinsic motivation when we promote autonomy, mastery, and purpose. For example I have my students take ownership of quarterly reflections and individualized self-assessments that are based on rubrics created by the student and teacher. Parents rave over the quality and depth of the multifaceted report that includes both student and teacher comments. I engage students’ distinct and diverse interests and intelligences by using authentic summative projects that are presented in a video prior to performances (or as we call them, “informances”). I educate students about their brains and myelin. Instead of demanding practice charts, I teach the value and characteristics of deep practice. I also teach the value and necessity of mistakes, something too often stigmatized in our product-focused education system.

As Ken Robinson stated in his 2013 Ted Talk about the growth of the human mind, “Curiosity is the engine of achievement.” We need to harness the research and strategies to create schools that spark children’s imaginations. As music educators, let’s take back the term “assessment” and use it to help our students achieve and succeed.
2019 MUSIC FOR ALL NATIONAL FESTIVAL

Application now open!

March 14-16, 2019
Indianapolis, Indiana
Application Deadline: June 5, 2018

The Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha, celebrates outstanding music-making by the nation’s finest high school, middle school, and youth ensembles. The Music for All National Festival is a non-competitive experience, with no ranking or ratings. A celebration of musical excellence, the Festival is an integral part of Music for All’s mission to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all.

The Festival includes the:
- National Concert Band Festival – TWO STAGES: Invited Bands with on-stage clinic with evaluation panel and Featured Bands on stage with post-concert clinic
- Middle School National Music Festival
- Sandy Feldstein National Percussion Festival
- Orchestra America National Festival
- Chamber Music National Festival
- Music for All National Choir Festival
- National Honor Ensembles: Honor Band of America, Honor Orchestra of America, Jazz Band of America

A Legacy of Excellence! Launched in 1992, the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival rekindled the concert band tradition as exemplified by the National Band Contest of the 1930s, which drew national recognition for a young director named William D. Revelli. Educators involved in the philosophical design of the National Concert Band Festival included Dr. Revelli, Frederick Fennell, John P. Paynter, Col. Arnold Gabriel, Anthony Maiello, Ray Cramer, Gary Green, and other master educators and conductors.

“How to Apply
Application is online. Download the application brochure with full Festival information and application/audition requirements at: musicforall.org/festival

"The epitome of music festivals in the world.”
Col. Arnold Gabriel, Conductor Emeritus, U.S. Air Force Band

Photos courtesy of Jolesch Enterprises
The 27th Annual Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha, was held March 15-17 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Festival included 71 invited school ensembles.

The Festival included these Festival programs for middle school and high school ensembles:

- National Concert Band Festival for high school and middle school bands
- Orchestra America National Festival
- Sandy Feldstein National Percussion Festival
- Chamber Music National Festival
- The Premiere National Choir Festival
- Indianapolis School Music Festival with ensembles from Indianapolis and Gary, IN public schools

The Festival included three national honor ensembles for high school players: the Honor Band of America, Honor Orchestra of America, and Jazz Band of America.

Congratulations to the Middle School ensembles that performed at the Festival:

- Bayside Intermediate School Wind Ensemble – League City, TX; Kyle Mapp, Director
- Beck Junior High Chamber Orchestra — Katy, TX; Barbara Nelsen, Director
- Dickerson M.S. Percussion Ensemble — Marietta, GA; Scott Brown, Director
- Friendswood Junior High Symphonic Band — Friendswood, TX; Sarah Bennett, Director
- Hudson Bend M.S. Honors Band — Austin, TX; Ryan O’Donoghue, Director
- Kinard Core Knowledge M.S. Symphonic Band — Fort Collins, CO; Mike Perez, Director
- Krimmel Intermediate Symphonic Band — Spring, TX; Sharon Kalisek, Director
- Mason M.S. Symphonic Winds — Mason, OH; Jason Sleppy, Director
- Salyards M.S. Flute Ensemble — Cypress, TX; Joe Glass, Director
- West Ridge M.S. Wind Ensemble — Austin, TX; Susan Glover, Director

Special guest performers included Yamaha Performing Artists Sean Jones and Rex Richardson, the United States Army Brass Quintet, The Oakwood Aeolians, NOTUS from Indiana University, members of the Ball State University Orchestra, and Vandoren Emerging Artists David Milazzo, Ryan Toher, and Julian Velasco.

More than 3,800 student musicians, teachers, faculty, volunteers, event staff, and family and friends participated in the 2018 Festival.
October 6
Northern California
(Stadium TBD)

October 20
Powder Springs, GA
McEachern HS

November 2-3
San Antonio, TX
Super
Regional
Alamodome

November 3
Southern California
(Stadium TBD)

November 7-10
BANDS OF AMERICA
GRAND NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS

Indianapolis, IN
Lucas Oil Stadium

musicforall.org/boa

INSPIRE, MOTIVATE YOUR STUDENTS!

Student Group Ticket Discount
We invite you to join us for the Bands of America Championships this fall and bring your students for a memorable, exciting, and fun field trip. Research suggests that students are more motivated to do a task when it taps into at least one of four key factors, two of which are “when they’re interested in the task or see its value and when doing the task makes them feel more related to a peer group or someone they admire.” (From The Power to Motivate, article by Jack Jennings, Founder, Center on Education Policy.) Bringing your band students to experience a Bands of America Championship this fall taps into both of these key factors. Your students will enjoy performances by outstanding marching bands from across the region and country, providing motivation and fun!

How to order...
Order group tickets at musicforall.org/tickets for all Bands of America Regional, Super Regional, and Grand National Championships and to place your order. Order by phone at 800.848.2263.
Richard Saucedo to Direct the BOA Honor Band in the ’21 Rose Parade
The 300-member national BOA Honor Band will include students selected by audition from schools across America, who will meet in Southern California the week prior to the 2021 Rose Parade for rehearsals with an all-star staff and special performances. The Bands of America Honor Band made their fourth appearance in the Rose Parade on January 2, 2017. The band also performed in 2005, 2009, and 2013. Application for the BOA Honor Band 2021 Rose Parade will open in mid-2018. Coverage of the 2017 BOA Honor Band is at musicforall.org/roses.

Dr. Jeremy L. Earnhart joins Music for All as Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Jeremy L. Earnhart joined Music for All as Chief Operating Officer in January 2018. As COO, he will be a member of Music for All’s executive leadership team and oversee Music for All’s programs and events and their implementation by its 30 full and part-time employees. Dr. Earnhart was the Director of Fine Arts for the Arlington (Texas) Independent School District (AISD) 2013-2017. He was a member of Music for All’s Board of Directors, and adjudicated numerous Bands of America and Music for All programs and events. Dr. Earnhart was director of L.D. Bell High School Band, and served on L.D. Bell’s faculty from 1998-2009. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Music and Masters of Music Education, holds certifications in International Baccalaureate Music, and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Dallas Baptist University.

Sarah Loughery was added to Music for All’s Indianapolis staff as Controller. Loughery is a Certified Public Account with a corporate accounting background that spans over 20 years. As Controller, Loughery is responsible for the oversight and management of all finance and accounting functions.

Mark Sternberg was promoted to Events Manager in December 2017. Sternberg has been a part of the Music for All events team since 2013, first as an Events Coordinator, and most recently Senior Events Coordinator. Prior to joining the Music for All staff, he was a band director & music teacher in central Indiana for 10 years. Sternberg earned Bachelors & Masters in Music Education from Butler University.

Emily Ambriz has been promoted to Marketing Coordinator, focusing on email marketing and social media campaigns, as well as web, digital, and print design and marketing projects. Ambriz joined Music for All in May 2017 as the Administrative Assistant/Receptionist. She graduated from Ball State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations.

Conlon Griesmer has joined Music for All as Events Coordinator. Griesmer previously interned with Music for All & Drum Corps International. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resource Management from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Music for All Launches New Channel for Archived Performances
Music for All has contracted with the Scholastic Performance Network (The “SPiN Network”) to provide access to on-demand videos of scholastic music performances. SPiN has agreed to fund the restoration and digitization of Music for All video archives (including Bands of America performances) to allow them to be enjoyed by students and parents, and used by instructors for educational purposes. SPiN subscriptions are $25 per year and provides access to all channels on the SPiN Network, which will soon include the Music for All channel.
Music for All inducts music educators into the Bands of America Hall of Fame

Four educators were inducted into Music for All’s Bands of America Hall of Fame, Saturday, March 17, during the Music for All National Festival Gala Awards Banquet.

“These four music educators represent the very best in education and continue to inspire new generations of teachers,” said Eric L. Martin, President and CEO of Music for All. “Their involvement in Music for All and their leadership in music education and the performing arts have helped make this organization what it is today.”

Kevin Ford is the founder and Director of the Leadership Conservatory for the Arts at Tarpon Springs High School. As Director of Bands for over two decades, he oversees the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band, which won the Bands of America Grand National Championships in 2014 and has also participated in the Music for All National Concert Band Festival.

Randy Greenwell is the retired Director of Bands/Performing Arts Department Chair at Lawrence Township High School. While at Lawrence, his bands earned national honors, with the marching band winning the Bands of America Grand National Championships in 2001 and 2004.

Matt James is Director of Performing Arts at Lawrence Central High School and an award-winning drill designer. His designs have received numerous honors, including two Bands of America Grand National Championships in 2001 and 2004.

Dean Westman is Performing Arts Department Chair and Director of Orchestras at Avon High School in Avon, Indiana. Dean is an Educational Consultant for Music for All.
Advocacy and driving awareness are vital to the success of scholastic music programs. Teachers, students, and parents are music education’s best advocates, and they have a responsibility to take the lead and advance the conversation. The Advocacy in Action Awards program is designed to collect, recognize, and share effective practices and initiatives that support music education in our schools. We hope that by celebrating these programs, we can inspire others to lead by example and take action in their own programs and communities.

Take the lead and show the world your advocacy in action!

CATEGORIES INCLUDE:
- Recruitment & Retention
- Parent & Booster Involvement
- Community & Decision-Maker Engagement
- Marketing & Promotion
- Fundraising & Sponsorship

All scholastic music programs are welcome and encouraged to apply.

For more information, visit advocacy.musicforall.org
We Take Full Responsibility — For Music Education Advocacy

We believe every child deserves music education and the opportunity to play an instrument. That’s why Yamaha advocates for music and arts education at local school boards, state capitols and in Washington D.C. And, since learning music improves test scores, builds self-confidence and fosters future success, music education leads to a brighter future for our children.

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