

**Orchestra Division Meeting**  
**Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**Charleston Convention Center**  
**3:00pm**

**Welcome:**

Marsha Gross brought the meeting to order at 2:03 at the Charleston Convention Center.

**Announcements:**

Thank you to Colleen Marcou for a wonderful conference and to Sharon Doyle for her help with the organization of the conference. Thank you to Bernhardt Music for providing breakfast and constant support of our organization.

Please sign the book to let us know that you are in attendance.

Paul Buyer and Sarah Fitzgerald 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the minutes. They are to be amended and reposted.

**Conference, Colleen Marcou:**

Colleen Marcou commented on the Convention and plans for next year.

**Treasurer's Report, Sharon Doyle:**

Concert Festival and Solo and Ensemble money is not in yet. Our current balance is \$5380.22

**Concert Festival, Chris Selby:**

We have around 150 groups registered. Please communicate with your local chair to accommodate your needs. We need to look into staggering the region weekends in order to use each other as judges. We need to come up with a list of adjudicators for Concert Festival like we have for Region Conductors. We need to look at going to three judges on stage.

**Solo and Ensemble, Christine Hallett-** March 3<sup>rd</sup> is the postmark deadline for Solo and Ensemble. Please send the cover letter, paper work, and purchase order or check. The late registration is \$25. No entries after March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Region Orchestra, Phillip Pagal:** Phillip was not at the meeting and did not give a report.

**All-State Orchestra, Kathy Perry, Chris Corde and Patrick Murch:** There is an All-State duty sheet being passed out for choices of what volunteer for at All-State. The conductors of All-State are all driving to All-State this year, which helps with our expenses. We had a situation with the Viola Solo accompaniment for All-State not including many of our band students so we decided to hire Scott Weiss to work with the band students while the orchestra works with the soloist. The cost for Scott will be around \$850.

Johanna Pollock spoke about the issues of having a soloist at All-State.

Marsha Gross made the following statement:

Since the rules for the All-State Solo Audition are included in the standing rules of the SCMEA Orchestra Division-the Executive Board is responsible for making the decision on the inclusion or deletion of the All-State Solo. The membership's opinions are important and will help guide the Executive Board to make an informed decision. We will open the floor for a discussion of the pros and cons of the All-State issues:

Open for discussion:

Ann Buttimer-The solo was implemented when our program was young and now we have many opportunities for soloists.

Brian Gencarelli-When speaking with conductors of All-State, we are one of the few states that dictates the music to our conductors. This limits our music selection and deters from the students experience.

Jeff Kuntz-For a conductor that has to leave great music at home to do the concerto, this is not fair to them or the students.

Susan Baier-We have many more opportunities for concertos. I would love for my students to have more full-orchestra experiences, and this should happen at All-State.

Colleen Marcou-We don't begin to touch on the great literature out there and this is where it should be experienced, at All-State.

Paul Buyer-We need to look if we are teaching individual students or the broad whole. The concerto has been a great experience, but it is time to let it go.

Marsha Gross-The board will discuss this and report results at the meeting on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.

**All-State Auditions, Paul Buyer:** We had some behavioral issues in the audition room that involved the judges. Judges need to be professional. Room monitors need to take charge of the room. We need tuners in the rooms with students warming up. Some of the scheduling will be a bit different by eliminating the five zones, and mixing the students auditioning a bit more.

**Region Excerpts:**

Etudes, for region auditions, may not be altered from indicated markings and should be performed "as is." Teachers may supplement markings if nothing is present in the part but the intent of the excerpt may not be changed.

Teachers may alter bowings and fingerings in the solo that may suit the teacher's personal/professional preferences. Teachers may not alter indicated pitches, rhythms, and dynamics.

**All-State:**

We have 5 students that have dropped from All-State and there are ramifications of losing the privilege of auditioning for SCMEA events for a year. These students are breaking a contract.

Jeff Kuntz asked if the five students have been contacted. Paul said that he is waiting until Monday for them to make a decision. Paul will not be at All-State, he is expecting his son to be born.

**Web Master, Sarah Fitzgerald**

The 9-10 bass parts are now up on the web-site, the cello part was accidentally put up.

**New Business:**

We are looking at changing our venue from Charleston to Columbia.

Chris Selby spoke about checking out the sight in Columbia and it is a very nice sight. The Columbia venue, we believe, will be cheaper. There are a lot of pluses for changing the venue. We want to hear from you. We value the input.

Sarah Fitzgerald- Sarah stated that it is not the venue, but the people that make the conference.

Paul Buyer- Paul asked, "What is this convention center in Charleston doing to keep us?"

Chris Selby stated that checking on what the convention center is doing to keep us is the next step.

Chris Selby wants it known that we are not leaving due to the lack of service of the Charleston Convention Center. It is second to none, the price is the issue.

Jeff Kuntz- Jeff asked "Why can't we break our contract here to go to the less expensive venue?"

Chris Selby- Chris stated that we don't want to break our contract.

Susan Baier- Susan asked, "What is the stage situation in Columbia?"

Chris Selby- Chris answered that there are no stages in the Columbia Convention Center.

Kathy Perry stated that it may get more people to submit tapes for performances if it is a day trip.

Paul Buyer- Paul commented that there has been a \$.50 surcharge per student, will that continue.

Chris Selby- Chris answered that the executive board is looking at this and determining if we need it. We have had short falls in the past but we are not sure it is still needed.

Dottie Hanlin- Dottie mentioned that we are in a contract until 2015, it takes time to make a smooth transition to a new facility, we should use this time we have at the Charleston Convention Center to work on this transition.

It was a unanimous vote to move to Columbia.

Ann Buttimer- I would like to bring to the board's attention that a teacher was coaching their child in the warm-up room at All-State.

Christy Lewis- please give her badge holders to recycle.

John K. asked to adjourn and Colleen M. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Diehn