

AOSA Advisory Board Meeting

Salt Lake City, Utah

November 21 & 22, 2019

Mission Statement

The American Orff-Schulwerk Association is a professional organization of educators dedicated to the creative music and movement approach developed by Carl Orff and Gunild Keetman.

Objectives:

- To demonstrate the value of Orff Schulwerk and to promote its widespread use.
- To support the professional development of our members, and
- To inspire and advocate for the creative potential of all learners.

OPENING SONG

AOSA Vice-President, Michelle Przybylowski led the Board members in singing “Let Us Sing Together” based on a Czech melody.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Advisory Board of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association was called to order by Michelle Fella Przybylowski, Vice President, on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 2:11 pm.

READING OF THE ETHICS STATEMENT

Michelle Przybylowski read the following statement of meeting conduct ethics:

“All AOSA National Board of Trustees meetings, as well as committee reports and recommendations, are open to review by all members of AOSA. We trust the judgment and the conduct of Board members and anyone else in attendance to be ethically discreet at all times when discussing personalities and issues. The American Orff-Schulwerk Association strongly encourages members to be positive and discreet when discussing our organization, specific courses and/or teachers, and the Orff movement. The very nature of the Orff Schulwerk philosophy embodies a broad spectrum of expressions, exploring different paths to arrive at artistic and educational goals. Members are encouraged to recognize and remain open to varied approaches and to celebrate both our differences and our similarities.”

PRESENTATION OF THE GRASSROOTS IMPACT AWARD

AOSA Vice-President, Michelle Przybylowski presented Ruth Ann Chiaraluce with the Grassroots Impact Award. Michelle explained that AOSA’s Grassroots Impact Award is intended to recognize and honor those who have supported the mission of AOSA through exemplary service at the local and regional levels.

AOSA Vice President, Michelle Przybylowski recognized AOSA past presidents in attendance and thanked them for the important role our past presidents have in our organization. Those in attendance were Tiffany English, Chris Judah-Lauder, Karen Benson, Julie Scott, Sue Mueller, Judith Cole, Carolee Stewart, and Judy Bond.

REGIONAL BREAKOUT SESSIONS and PAST PRESIDENTS' MEETING

AOSA Vice-President, Michelle Przybylowski directed the Advisory Board to places for their regional breakout sessions with instruction to return to the large group meeting place for the rest of the business meeting and to line up and for the Banner Roll Call. (A summary of the notes from the Regional Breakout sessions and the Advisory Board Breakout sessions held the following day are included below. Regional Representatives have shared more detailed notes with participants for each session.)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the November 9, 2018 meeting of the Advisory Board held in Cincinnati, Ohio were prepared by Karen Petty, AOSA Recording Secretary, and are posted on the member side of the AOSA website in "AOSA Governance Reports" under the "Member Services" tab. The minutes were read and approved by a three-member committee as per Robert's Rules of Order. The Committee members were: Rachel Grelle, Region IV, Jimmy Zenger, Region V, and Rebecca Hampton, Region VI. Thank you to these individuals for their willingness to serve in this leadership capacity.

The minutes of the 2019 Advisory Board meeting will be read and approved by Dan Gullick, Minnesota Chapter, Region I, Kevin Theilacker, Inland Counties Chapter, Region II, and Michael Vasquez, Central Texas Chapter, Region III. Thank you to these individuals for their willingness to serve in this leadership capacity.

The readers for the 2020 Advisory Board meeting in Kansas City, Missouri will be from Regions IV, V and VI.

INTRODUCTIONS

Carrie Barnette, Executive Director
Lisa Hewitt, AOSA President
Judith Thompson-Barthwell, AOSA Treasurer
Karen Petty, AOSA Recording Secretary

AOSA Staff:

Linda Hines, Editor of *The Orff Echo*
Anna Pack, Associate Director
Debbie Peck, Chapters Liaison
Ruth Schwartz, Bookkeeper
Brian Burnett, National Conference Director
Marjie Van Gunten, Communications Director
Karen Benson, Professional Development Director

2019 National Conference Co-Chairs: Rhonda Greeson and Linda Honn
2019 Local Conference Co-Chairs: Leslie Timmons and Jill DeVilbiss
2020 National Conference Co-Chairs: Constance Van Engen and Jennifer Donovan
2021 National Conference Co-Chairs: Tiffany English and Laura Petersen

Regional Representatives:

Jean Fox and Aaron Hansen, Region I

Desiree Coulson and Malia Walter, Region II

Beth Melin-Nelson and Meg Tietz, Region III

Mandy Gunter and Rosemary Pilonero, Region IV

Nick Wild and Lori Arner, Region V

Josh Southard and Kateri Miller, Region VI

Industry Representatives: Michelle Brady, Sam Marchuk and Erica Popp

Regional Representative Josh Southard introduced the newly revised Chartered Chapters Recognition Program. This new program is designed to create a streamlined program aligning with one of the current goals of AOSA, raising National Membership.

- 1) The Chapter Recognition Program will consist of *two* awards, and each will be based on National Membership.
 - a) **The Wildflower Chapter Award** will be awarded to ANY chapter growing their national membership. Even if your chapter grows national membership by one member, you will qualify for the Wildflower Award.
 - b) **The Gold Chapter Award** will go to any chapter that has 100% National Membership. Chapters that have 100% will also be eligible for *The Wildflower Award* if your National Membership number increases from the previous year!

In order for a chapter to be considered and qualify for either award, Chapter and Financial Reports must be submitted on time. Chapters receiving either *The Wildflower Chapter Award* or *The Gold Chapter Award* will automatically be eligible for the Chapter Recognition Grant drawing.

Michelle Przybylowski invited and encouraged Advisory Board Members to frequent the exhibits, to attend the Welcome Ceremony, Meeting of the Minds, President's Panel, Advisory Board II session, evening DSA spotlight sessions and the closing session.

AOSA Executive Director, Carrie Barnette, presented the Chapter awards for 2019. Over 50 chapters were a part of the recognition program this year.

Chapters of Merit Award:

Region I: Alaska, Inland Empire, Sioux Valley and Wyoming

Region II: Arizona, Inland Counties, New Mexico, Orange County and San Diego

Region III: Oklahoma
Region V: Northern New Jersey, Tidewater Area and Western New York
Region VI: Mid-Michigan

Chapters of Excellence:

Region II: Nevada Desert Valley, Northern California and Sierra Nevada
Region III: Central Texas and Heart of America
Region IV: Memphis, Middle Tennessee, South Carolina Foothills and Tallahassee
Region V: Berkshire-Hudson Valley, Long Island and Pittsburgh Golden Triangle
Region VI: Fox Valley, Greater Cleveland, Heart of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky
and West Michigan

Chapters of Distinction:

Region I: Black Hills, Evergreen, Great Plains, Idaho, Portland and Prairie Winds
Region II: Los Angeles, Rocky Mountain and Southern Utah
Region III: North Texas and Texas Gulf Coast
Region IV: North Florida
Region V: Connecticut, Maine, Middle Atlantic, New England and Twin Tiers
Region VI: Greater Milwaukee, Greater Chicago, and North Central Wisconsin

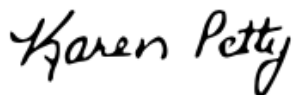
Michelle spoke about the role of the Advisory Board and the important information shared through the Chapter Annual Report. She thanked them on behalf of their Region Representatives. Michelle stated that many chapters across the country share similar concerns and questions and stated that one way we're addressing these concerns/questions is by tailoring the format of Advisory II to the responses on the Annual Report.

Michelle Przybylowski called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Megan Wilson, Evergreen Chapter and seconded by Joe DeWinkle, Rocky Mountain Orff Chapter (motion carried)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Michelle Przybylowski thanked the chapter leaders for their service to AOSA and dismissed them for the Banner Roll Call.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Petty
AOSA Recording Secretary

Advisory Board I – Regional Meetings

- Introductions / Attendance
- Congratulations to Chapter Award Winners
- Check out AOSA's new App and updates to the Website
- Request for nominations / names for LDN
 - You may ask people if they are interested in National service, but you don't have to do this in order to nominate them
 - Requirements for National Service: Level II Orff training, Service on Local Board or LCC or AOSA Subcommittee.
- Date changed from August to January 15th for the Grassroots Impact Award, Distinguished Service Award and Industry Service Award with a Google form for ease – linked on AOSA awards page of website
 - and for scholarships/grants
- Chapter Leadership Essentials (CLE)
 - All Chapter leaders should be getting this email every month
- Chapter Leadership Resource Center (CLRC)
 - This is a valuable resource which contains a lot of information and is a good starting place to look for answers to questions
- Chapter Leadership Page – Facebook “Chapter Leadership 2019-2020”
 - Most effective, quick answer to questions – JOIN
- Chapter donations to AOSA
 - All donations are greatly appreciated – to annual operating fund or a scholarship fund
 - Chapters may consider also consider sponsoring national memberships for their local chapter members
- Sensitive issues
 - When an incident happens, contact AOSA to help navigate difficult or sensitive situations. AOSA staff and Regional Representatives are here to help you.
- Successes to share
- Advisory II
 - Grouping by size of chapter - information about where to go tomorrow
 - Each Breakout session by size will address questions / issues arising from the annual reports:
 - Increasing Membership / Workshop attendance
 - Effective Use of Social Media
 - Attracting new / younger board members
 - Gaining and keeping an active membership and responsible board members
 - Financial stability-having enough money to run the workshops
 - Financial/electronic payment options
 - Presenter costs (airfare, honorarium, housing)
 - Developing and maintaining Board Leadership within the Chapter.
- Reminder to pick up their banners Saturday after 9 a.m. and by noon at the Market Place
- Banner Roll Call lineup

Advisory Board II: (Grouped by Chapter Size)

The Regional Representatives facilitated conversations and presented information on topics selected from the most frequently asked questions or themes in the 2019 Annual Report responses.

During the Advisory Board II session, a drawing was held to select one Chapter of Distinction to receive a \$500 Chapter Grant - and the winner was. . . Maine.

- Welcome and Introductions
- Relationships: How to increase membership, leadership and recruit new board members?
 - What is the role and responsibility of the Chapter Board members to seek out and encourage leadership?
 - How do you recruit members-at-large?
 - What tasks/contributions do they make to the chapter
 - What are ideas for additional ways they can connect and get involved?
 - Offer college credit to encourage people to participate / PD Hours
 - New membership liaison, guest pass for prepaid members (1 free guest during the year)
 - Reaching out to school district contacts
 - Educating parents and administration about Orff Schulwerk
- Diversity & Inclusion: Bringing more diversity to membership, boards (local and national)
 - Reflect on your board demographics. Race, gender, age, sexual orientation, experience, etc.
 - Filling positions often comes down to whomever is willing to actually do the work.
 - Taking the first step toward bringing in PoC can be a challenge, but an essential primary connection.
 - Creating monetary pathways.
 - Thinking about the barriers- time, kids, space
 - Chapters may benefit from going “to” the community
 - Look into the possibility of bringing workshops in to local PD days.
- Finances
 - Clinician protocols
 - How to approach clinicians
 - When is a good time to set contracts?
 - Now, with reminders to have contracts returned
 - Plan a year or two in advance

- Sample contract on website
 - Sometimes a short conversation at Conference then followed by an email is a good way to contact a possible clinician.
- What is the typical range for clinician fees?
 - There is no set system
 - \$100-800, average is \$400-600. Many chapters / presenters have rules to stay under \$599 so as to not fill out tax forms
- Suggestions for contracts
 - Include a travel maximum amount
 - List a cap on airfare
 - Discuss/list clinician needs (i.e. privacy, meal restrictions)
 - Technology needs
 - Expected numbers of workshop participants
 - Chapter norms
- AOSA offers chapter grants
- Financial Planning
 - How much should a chapter ideally have in savings?
 - Enough to cover a year of expenses.
 - We are nonprofits. Make sure to not have too much in savings. Find a way to share the wealth appropriately: instruments for members to check out, donate to AOSA, etc.
 - Although you may face very limited finances as a chapter, AOSA still values your contribution, not just in terms of every little bit counts, but also naming that all of our chapters are vested in helping.
 - Donations can be monetary, any amount
 - Donations can be gifts of national membership to local non-members
 - Encourage local members to donate too.
 - It is ok to be bold in asking, can go to any fund. Consider rotating, as Keetman is typically well-funded.
- Social Media
 - AOSA SM subcommittee would love to highlight your chapter through the national account. Send them to social media to reshare. (David Row makemomentsmatter@gmail.com)
 - Ideas on things that are working well for your chapter. These can go to the leadership page
 - If you are having trouble with SM in your chapter, SM is willing to offer support at AOSA FB page.
- App Feedback
 - Find it's mostly working
 - Concerns shared about going to technology being a limiting thing
 - People without unlimited data and no wifi in conference center

- People with limited budgets that don't have smartphones are feeling excluded. Members were feeling put-off that there is no easy accommodation for people that aren't registering on the app
- Networking time
 - Time to share successes or ask questions

Please note: As a result of these discussions, Regional Representatives have created a Google Folder for Chapter Presidents - set up for each Region and for the three different chapter size groupings.