

SWKMEA Mini Convention
December 4, 2021
Instrumental Meeting
Rachel Trombley, President
9:00am Teacher Meeting

- I. Welcome
 - a. Rachel Trombley, Dodge City, President welcomed all!
 - b. Present: 32 in attendance
- II. High School Orchestra
 - a. Chairperson-Summer Miller, Garden City
 - i. Review of the day and student's work with clinician
 - ii. Any concerns that need to be addressed
 - 1. None addressed
 - iii. Thank her for her work the past two years.
 - b. 2021 NW/SWKMEA Honor Orchestra notes
 - i. 69 completed auditions (37 violins, 18 violas, 8 cello, and 6 bass)
 - ii. 66 selected for the ensemble – All 5 schools with orchestras are represented (Dodge, Garden, Great Bend, Hays, Beloit)
 - c. Clinician is Dr. Keith Dodson from Bethany College.
- III. High School Band
 - a. Chairperson-Jacob Miller, Dodge City
 - i. Thank him for his work the past two years
 - ii. Review of the day and student's work with clinician
 - 1. Feedback on unison etude
- IV. Ryan Partin, Ulysses, President-Elect
 - i. Any concerns that need to be addressed
 - 1. Timing of the due date for the instrumental auditions
 - a. Worried about overwhelming time restraints during marching season
 - b. Jason Richins, Dodge City would like to see it move a week later (at least)
 - c. Lyle Sobba, Garden City asked "what is the amount of time expected to have music ready to be here?"
 - i. Many students try jamming everything in 1-2 weeks before the honor group
 - ii. We can make Judging work in
 - d. Jacob Wright, Liberal suggested that put everything (music) in a digital folder and put online.
 - e. Ryan Partin, Ulysses, President-Elect thinking that 2 weeks later would work
 - f. Consider, some Small schools like how it is currently set.
 - i. School Musicals begin causing time constraints
 - 2. Concluded by stating we will take this change to the board in the summer of 2022
 - a. Today was a feel of the Instrumental Directors of SW KS

- b. Current deadline is the last Monday of October (October 31, 2022) Will look at: First Friday in November (November 4, 2022) Judges will be given three days to Judge ending Monday (November 7 at 11:59:59pm) and the Roster and Music will go out Digitally on Tuesday (November 8, 2022).
 - i. Possibly, if there are too many entries, we might need to extend a day to accommodate.
 - c. A quick survey of the room yielded: Yes = Unanimous
3. Jazz Band considerations
- a. Consensus in the room the Jazz Audition dates are a little early too
 - b. Jacob Miller, Dodge City suggested that a GoogleForm survey could be sent
 - i. Move the Jazz Band Auditions to the 2nd week of October?

V. KBA

VI. Any New Business

- a. Jazz Auditions-discuss concerns with new materials from the state
 - i. We have been using a unison etude for all and having our own district cuts
 - 1. Reason was to help students rehearse together easier
 - ii. Jacob Miller, Dodge City does not know what the state will be releasing.
 - 1. Looking at Original music in a 4 –year cycle
 - 2. It could level the playing field
 - 3. Would it be good if they release new music, should we just make cuts from what they have released?
 - 4. Angela Wilczek, Minneola felt that the Unison did not really achieve anything
 - iii. The music will go to the KMEA Board this summer (over 2 meetings) for a vote and then implemented during the 2023-2024 year (most likely)
 - iv. Did the unison etude encourage more to participate?
 - 1. Yes and No
 - v. Mac Knight, St. John/Hudson suggested that we go to just a District Audition and that might create more interest
 - vi. Keep unison etude, chromatic scale, the state
 - vii. Look at changing the date

SWKMEA Mini Convention
December 4, 2021
Vocal Meeting
Rachel Trombley, President
10:00am Teacher Meeting

- I. Welcome
 - a. Rachel Trombley, Dodge City, President welcomed all!
- II. Present: 24 in attendance
- III. High School Choir
 - a. Chairperson-Tori Koehn
 - i. Review of the day and student's work with clinician
 - ii. Any concerns that need to be addressed
 - 1. Review of new system for judging rubric online.
- IV. Numbers for this year compared to last year.
 - a. Pre-registered
 - i. 2018- 434 from 35 schools
 - ii. 2019 - 407 from 38 schools
 - iii. **2021 – 366 from 26 schools**
 - b. Scratches
 - i. 2018 - 111
 - ii. 2019 – 103
 - iii. **2021 - 70**
 - c. Total –
 - i. 2018 - 323 Auditioned
 - ii. 2019 - 304 auditioned
 - iii. **2021 – 296 Auditioned**
 - d. Voice Breakdown:
 - i. Soprano –
 - 1. 2018 = 110
 - 2. 2019 = 115
 - 3. **2021=104**
 - ii. Alto –
 - 1. 2018 =96
 - 2. 2019 = 78
 - 3. **2021 = 100**
 - iii. Tenor –
 - 1. 2018 = 44
 - 2. 2019 = 41
 - 3. **2021 = 43**
 - iv. Bass –
 - 1. 2018 = 73
 - 2. 2019 = 70
 - 3. **2021 = 49**
 - e. 2021 Honor Choir Total - **210** (2018-174, 2019 - 214)

1. Sop - 61
2. Alto - 62
3. Tenor - 38
4. Bass – 45

- V. Any positives or negatives about audition day?
- a. I've passed on feedback to Troy, he will work on those things for next year.
 - b. Late Entries?
 - c. Meeting/Hospitality Room in Festival Office
 - d. Number of Available Directors? Can we continue to do live?
 - e. How can we get more schools involved?
 - f. \$ for Troy Johnson for the new Audition System
 - i. Consensus is that it worked well
 - ii. Do we pay Troy Johnson a good will offering for using the program?
 1. Yes the room feels we should offer
 2. The Executive Committee will discuss and determine an amount
 - g. Each school represented rule?
- VI. Open discussion
- i. Cuts were really early, because of another district doing virtual auditions
- VII. Any New Business

SWKMEA Mini Convention
December 4, 2021
All Teacher Meeting
Rachel Trombley, President
1:00pm Teacher Meeting

- I. Welcome
 - a. Rachel Trombley, Dodge City, President welcomed all!
 - b. Present: 41 in attendance
- II. Piano Competition
 - a. This year only 7 competitors/11 the first year
 - b. Maybe not really serving the purpose that we began with for the event
 - i. To encourage students to play piano and return the SW District
 - ii. We wanted it in the Fall because pianists have contest in the Spring.
 - c. Brandon Wade, Pratt proposed the questions, “Do we want to continue with this?”
 - i. Summer Miller, Garden City, We would like more information
 - ii. Anna Draper, Dodge City, I have capable students, but cannot support the piano students as I’m an orchestra teacher.
 - iii. Abigail Martinez, Garden City, Could we get information to the actual piano teachers?
 - 1. Summer Miller, I second that.
 - iv. Wyatt Smith, Holcomb, We should have out mindset in May to prepare for comp.
 - 1. It will always be in October each year
 - v. The SW KMEA Board will take these considerations to the entire Board in June, 2022.
 - vi. Yared Romo, Liberal student, will play today as he is the SWKMEA Piano Comp winner this year 2021.
- III. Executive Report
 - a. Current Balance: \$13,177.91 prior to today
 - i. Still many fees out
 - b. We are building back a bit this year, however, numbers are down from past years.
 - c. We have begun paying out to the students who have won the past years in the Piano Competition
 - d. SW KMEA Scholarship \$300 award
 - i. Must be a graduate from a SW Kansas High School
 - ii. Jr/Sr enrolled in a 4-year college or University as a Music Major
 - iii. Former Teacher must nominate
 - iv. A Letter will be submitted by the student applying

- IV. Introduction of Mark Gard, KMEA President
 - a. Information from the KMEA State Board....
- V. On behalf of the KMEA Executive Council, I'd like to thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today. I'd specifically like to thank Rachel Trombley and Kelly Knedler for making this possible. If you do have any questions regarding KMEA, please feel free to contact any of us on the executive council. The Executive Council members are: Gae Phillips, Past-President - today visiting the NE District; Jamie Minneman, President-Elect - today visiting the EC District; and John Taylor, Executive Director - today visiting the SE District. Don't hesitate to reach out to us; we'd love to hear from you. Since 6 of the 7 KMEA districts are meeting today, assisting us are: Past-President Martha Gabel - today visiting the NC District, and Past-President Gretchen Bixler - today visiting the SC District. Our NW District meets next weekend.
- VI. To start by sharing good news -
- VII. Congratulations to our Kansas students that were selected to the NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles. We had 19 students selected to participate in Choir, Concert Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Jazz Ensemble, and 9 students were chosen as alternates. Concerts will be virtual again this year and broadcast January 22-24. Congratulations to all of these students and their directors.
- VIII. Congratulations to Pittsburg High School, KSHSAA Performing Arts Schools of Excellence Award winner for 2020-2021. KSHSAA staff collaborated with leaders from KMEA, the Kansas Speech Communication Association, and the Kansas Thespians to discuss high schools whose performing arts groups consistently receive high rankings/ratings in KSHSAA events and are consistently showing growth in their arts programs. Pittsburg High School was chosen as this year's winner, with five other schools being chosen as finalists - Lawrence-Free State, McPherson, Olathe East, Paola, and Shawnee Mission-Bishop Miege, and 30 other schools receiving commendations.
- IX. Congratulations to the 8 first ever recipients of the KMEA CODA grant. CODA stands for Creating Outstanding Development in the Musical Arts and is an opportunity for KMEA members to obtain a mini-grant for up to \$200 from the KMEA Fund for creative projects in their classrooms that enhance curriculum. Pull up the KMEA website, search for CODA, check out the projects that were funded, and consider projects that you could potentially have funded by this mini-grant. New grant winners will be announced in January of those members who applied by the last deadline of November 1st. Be sure to watch for the next deadline coming up in the spring. Manager for the CODA Grant is Past-President Jean Ney.
- X. Congratulations to Taylor Clark, from St. John, Kansas, who was selected as Miss Kansas this past summer. She is a senior music education major at Kansas State University and will be one of our featured guests at the In-Service Workshop in February where she will have an opportunity to share her platform - music for all.
- XI. We need more students going into music education. All of you are probably aware of the existing shortage of music teachers. If your school has a Tri-M Chapter, make sure those students get to the ISW to see what music education is about. If you don't have a Tri-M Chapter, consider starting one. There may be ways that you can get assistance for the initial start-up fees from either KMEA or NFHS. Also, if you don't have a Tri-M Chapter but have students who should be future music educators, contact KMEA and we will see that those students attend the ISW for free. We want them at the ISW and will make it happen. Just contact us.
- XII. Plans for the ISW, February 24-26, 2022 are now well underway. Performing ensembles were announced at the beginning of August, clinic sessions have been selected and are now being confirmed and, yesterday, the first planning session was held by the executive council with personnel from Century II. We are all thrilled to once again be meeting in person! I

- would also like to take this opportunity to once again thank Past-President Gae Phillips for taking on the incredible task of putting together a virtual ISW this past February with her remarkable tech team.
- XIII. COVID protocols @ KMEA –ISW have been released.
 - XIV. Thursday afternoon, February 24, of the ISW will look a bit different this year. Opening session will still be at 1:00 and will be followed immediately by a social time held in the lobby area outside of the Hyatt Ballrooms. We wish to celebrate being back together in person with a time of socializing with light refreshments and music. That will be followed by 3 short rotating sessions led by nationally known clinicians Marcia Neel, Charles Menghini, and Tim Lautzenheiser. With the opening of the exhibits at 4:00, it will really feel like we are back. Thursday evening will be our university/college concert night featuring a couple of outstanding groups followed by a new addition - an interactive late night jazz jam session.
 - XV. Other guests invited by KMEA to the ISW will be James Weaver from the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) and Craig Manteuffel from KSHSAA. Both will give updates on what's happening with music within the state of Kansas and nationally. Craig has some awesome data on student participation in the fine arts nationwide.
 - XVI. We have 2 new performance opportunities for student musicians starting this year at the ISW: the All-State String Orchestra, and the 12A Honor Band. The All-State String Orchestra gives more string players the opportunity to take part in a state ensemble and they will share a Friday evening concert with the All-State Full Orchestra. The 12A Honor Band is an outcome of the Small Schools Initiative started by Past-President Phillips and Small Schools Chair Vesta Jo Still.
 - XVII. A couple areas that we are starting to focus on - Middle Level Music and Access to Music. With Middle Level Music we hope to offer more support to those teachers, more sessions at the ISW, and possibly more performance opportunities for those students. We now have 3 Middle Level Advisors on the KMEA board, one for each area of band, choir, and orchestra. With Access to Music, we want to look more at DEIA - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access - and currently have 1 of 2 new advisors on the KMEA board. We also want to look at how Redesign and other programs are affecting music programs across the state. You should be hearing more about those focus areas starting in the spring.
 - XVIII. We are experiencing some growing pains. We now have 12 All-State or Honors groups performing at the ISW and we continue to juggle rehearsal spaces as well as performance times and places. We as an organization do feel strongly that we need to have outstanding performing opportunities for all of our students. When you are at the ISW this year, you may hear some talk about the future of Century II. For the past few years, Wichita has been trying to figure out what to do with Century II - renovate or tear down and rebuild. As one of Wichita's largest conventions, with usually around 6000 people attending as educators, participants, or spectators, KMEA tries to stay involved in the conversation about future plans.
 - XIX. Registration for the ISW is now open and until the end of December is \$80. For the month of January, registration goes up to \$105, and in February registration goes up to \$130.
 - XX. Instrumental Live Auditions will be January 8 at Salina-Lakewood Middle School. Weather contingency date is January 15. Please stay up on any changes to auditions that may now be in place.
 - XXI. New teachers - Remember that the KMEA Virtual Mentoring Conference has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 22. Mentoring is always a focus area of KMEA and there are a lot of resources available to help. Thanks to our state mentoring team of Janelle Brower, Holly Taylor, and Lynn Unruh, and also thank you to Shara Bane, SW mentoring chair. We are appreciative of the work all of the district mentoring chairs do. Be sure to look for the new teacher opportunities at the ISW and be sure to connect.

- XXII. Don't forget about the great music advocacy helps available on the KMEA Advo-Angle website - www.advoangle.com - set up by our advocacy chair, Kelly Knedler. There is a lot of information posted there that is easy to access and ready to use. Find ways to make your music program an essential part of your community.
- XXIII. Also don't forget to check out the online Kansas Music Review (KMR). Take time each month to go online and read great articles that are written by your Kansas colleagues, submitted by guest writers, or gleaned from other national publications. Also stay informed by frequently visiting your district's website and the KMEA website.