



President's Message

In many places unlike the state of Florida, the season of Spring represents "rebirth", or "regeneration". Bare trees suddenly sprout green foliage, beautiful flowers spring from the ground, you start to hear the sound of birds making music and children playing outdoors again. It is a time of hope and renewed optimism after a long dreary winter.

Here in the "Sunshine State", we do not keenly observe the benefits of spring weather as our northern counterparts. However when it comes to music outreach in Florida, I believe we are witnessing a sort of "String Spring", if you will. Over the past few months alone, Florida ASTA has supported and/or sponsored 11 string education outreach events from all corners of the state, bringing in renowned clinicians both from our own state and all over the country to work with our students. We have sponsored instrument days, chamber music camps, teacher training sessions, alternative performance venues, audition prep workshops- we are planting seeds everywhere!

In our String Spring, you can also hear the sound of music- and you can also see children everywhere playing, enjoying, and loving it more and more! We can be optimistic that, amidst all the menacing talk about budget cuts, string music education continues not only to survive but thrive, and it will continue to do so. But there is still much more work to do, and Florida ASTA remains committed to being a generative organization that wants to support *your* outreach efforts! We encourage you, as our fellow member, to become an active partner with us. Encourage your string colleagues to become members so that we can be even more effective and relevant to what matters to you and our profession. Let's create a



Join our mailing list



Visit our website

 Like us on Facebook



Forward to a Friend

[Treasurer's Report](#)

[FLASTA Board Report](#)

Congratulations

Katarzyna Bugaj,
FLASTA President-Elect

Announcements

Violin Fiestra", two-day Violin/Viola workshop at the University of Central Florida on October 4th & 5th. On the 4th of October, there will be a Suzuki workshop "Every Child Can!" with a guest Suzuki clinician, Ms. Carrie Reuning-Hummel, and there will be some

beautiful spring together!

Dr. Brian Powell

Cellobrations

Orlando Cellobration 2014 was a great success. Thanks to ASTA and Muni Strings for sponsoring our event and making it possible! Advanced students benefitted from FSU Professor Greg Sauer's expertise in both the Friday Master Class and Saturday rehearsals. Younger students learned from local cello teachers Abbie Collins and Rebecca Vega. Orlando Cellobration 2015 is tentatively scheduled for April 17-18, 2015 at Freedom High School in Orlando, FL.



Orlando Cellobration

We just recently had Cellobration at Lynn University. David Cole did a master class at the AG recital hall and David, Alan Hudson, and I did cello ensembles on Saturday at the WOLD PAC. The Conservatory sponsored it so all the facilities were provided free of charge. Even Claudio Jaffe stopped by and played and helped out.

Manny Capote

Viola Days

master classes on the 5th
by Dr. Yonetani and
others.

[A Guide to Teaching Violin](#)

The Amernet String Quartet, FIU's Ensemble-in-Residence, has had another banner year. The 2013-14 concert season saw the quartet undertake extensive tours of Colombia, Israel, and Serbia as well as visiting mini-residencies at Bowdoin, Gettysburg, and Vassar colleges as well as DePauw and West Virginia universities in addition to its two annual series at FIU on both the main campus and the new Miami Beach Urban Studios.

National Honors Orchestra Students



Raiden Thaler

My time in Louisville spent with the NHSO was by far the best experience of my life. Even before the rehearsal started with our amazing conductor Gary Lewis, I got to see snow for the first time in my whole life! Needless to say, it was a real treat, adding icing on a wonderful cake. The actual convention part of the trip was amazing; I played a Stradivarius, tried violas from



UM Viola Day Participants

ANNOUNCING the winners of the 2014 VIOLA DAY Solo Competition, held at Frost School of Music.
Senior Division: Stephen Huber Weber from Geneva, Florida. Alvaro Gomez, Private Teacher
Junior Division: Cameron Anai Williams from West Palm Beach. Richard Fleishman, Private Teacher

Viola Day was a wonderful event for all, including an Erythmics workshop given by Cassandra Eisenreich, Bowing techniques workshop, Ensembles rehearsals, and a final concert featuring all participants.

VIOLA DAY was hosted by Frost School of Music, presented by Pamela McConnell, and supported by FLASTA



Masterclass with Craig Mumm, Associate Principal Viola with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra

2014 found the inauguration of another FL-ASTA sponsored string day with the premiere of FL-ASTA Viola Day Tampa hosted by the University of Tampa on March 16, 2014. Guests included Lisa Mattson,

amazing shops, and talked to many string camp booths. Rehearsal was incredible: the level of skill and talent in that one room was indescribable, and our performance was perfect. I made friends, connections, saw people I knew, and my own high school orchestra placed 3rd in their competition! I was honored to be chosen to participate in the experience. It truly is something that I will never forget for the rest of my life.

Thank you so much for your support.

[Click HERE to read more letters from our Honors Students](#)

Naples Philharmonic and Professor of Viola at Florida Gulf Coast University, Kira Omelchenko, Professor of Orchestras at the University of Tampa, Myron Rosenblum, founding member of the American Viola Society, and special guest Craig Mumm, Associate Principal Viola with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Events included a viola ensemble read-through, a lecture/recital performance on the viola music of Richard Lane featuring Myron Rosenblum and several Florida based violists, and a masterclass by Craig Mumm for students from high school to collegiate level.

BassFest



Technique Class with Henry Peyrebrune

FL-ASTA, in conjunction with Florida Gulf Coast University, hosted the second annual FL-ASTA BassFest on January 26th, 2014. Guests included Kevin Mauldin, Principal Naples Philharmonic, Jamie Ousely, Professor of Jazz Bass at Florida International University, Matthew Medlock, Naples Philharmonic and Professor of Bass at Florida Gulf Coast University, Brian Powell, FL-ASTA President and Professor of Bass and String Pedagogy at the University of Miami, and special guests Henry Peyrebrune, Cleveland Orchestra, and Maximilian Dimoff, Principal Cleveland Orchestra. Bass students from throughout Florida were treated to rare opportunities including a bass ensemble read-through, a recital performance by the Naples Bass Ensemble, and a masterclass by Maximilian Dimoff for students from early high school to graduate level. The days activities were topped off by a performance of Florida Gulf Coast University conducted by Dr. David Cole with featured soloists Matthew Medlock and Brian

Powell performing bass concerti.

([+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+] [+]