



The String Section Spring 2015

Message from the State President

One of the aspects I love the most about performing and teaching music is the chance to meaningfully connect with other people. I love it when I have the real sense that my audience is engaged with the music I'm sharing with them- that somehow through this arrangement of pitches, timed articulations, and timbres I am able to communicate (without words!) something personal that is both real and meaningful to them. I get the same kind of excitement and personal satisfaction when I am able to help other musicians enter into this same kind of clairvoyant experience- to be able to help them discover the joy of performing and sharing music, and helping them find ways to communicate their ideas more effectively. When you take a moment and really think about it, this thing we do called "music" is pretty cool!

As string musicians, I think our capacity and desire to connect is second nature. Our entire business is about communicating- whether you are in a string quartet or drawing your cues from the conductor of an orchestra or still vibrato-ing after the last note of your recital has ceased to be heard by your audience. It's just what we do, and so when we come together in organizations like ASTA, the whole point is to meaningfully connect and communicate with each other like us who possess different passions, skills, resources, and perspectives. If you have a desire to expand your musical family, we encourage you to ask us (FLASTA) to help you, and please encourage your students and string colleagues to do the same. The more we communicate and purposely connect with others in our field, the greater the experience is for everyone.

Dr. Brian Powell

Treasurer's Report

ASTA CHAPTER TREASURY REPORT
June 2014- December 2014

Bank Balance June 30 \$5,138.49

INCOME

Rebates/Grants \$890

Fundraisers \$575.00 Luncheon
TOTAL \$1,465.00

EXPENSES

Conferences \$1,653.33
Service Projects \$2,442 Grant, Miami Dade Honors Facility Rental Fee
Meeting Expenses \$738.15 Hilton meeting expenses, Awards
Postage \$41.25 Money Order, Fax
Miscellaneous \$260 Website Services
TOTAL \$5,134.93

SUMMARY

June 30 Bank Balance \$5,138.49
Plus Income Total + \$1,465.00
Minus Expense Total - \$(5,134.93)

December 31 Bank Balance = 1468.56

Name: Angelica De Jesus
Title/Position: Treasurer

Miami-Dade Play A Piece

On Saturday May 16th, 2015, in coordination with the Donna E. Shalala Music Reach Program at the Phillip and Patricia Frost School of Music , FLASTA offered Play a Piece. Play a Piece is a fun and relaxed evaluation and performance opportunity for elementary string players. Students perform and receive positive feedback and advice from professional adjudicators, written comments, and a medal for their participation. Play a Piece has been offered previously in the past by FLASTA, and we are happy to have it back this year. We look forward to even more students participating next year!



The warm-up room



Karen Powell gives advice to a

young violinist



Judge Essilevi Nadal and Play a Piece participant



Judge Ariele Macadangdang and a happy participant

Middle School Honors Orchestra

It was another successful year for the Miami-Dade Middle School Honors Orchestra hosted at the UM Gusman Concert Hall and conducted by Professor Brian Powell. Special thanks to the committee of teachers that bring this project together every year!



Dress Rehearsal in Gusman Hall



Rehearsal at Arvida Middle

Jennie Lou Klim, Melbourne, FL

My method books can now be found on Amazon.com and are being sold to teachers in the USA, German, and England. In addition to the method books, "A Guide to Teaching Violin" is a sharing of my ideas and methods with both the novice and veteran teacher, from the knowledge I have accumulated over a lifetime in my private studio.

For my resume and further information, see my website at www.beachside-publications.com

One Step At A Time is a five-part method of teaching the fundamentals of music on the violin. It is written in a way that is logical, sequential, and easy to understand. The success of this approach is in its simplicity. The writing of this series is the culmination of many years of teaching, and is based on carefully considered pedagogical principles. The specific goal in Book I is to teach note reading on the E and A strings, without the distraction of letter names or fingerings. Fundamental concepts are introduced with simple tunes and exercises on uncluttered pages, with an emphasis on the Two-Three Finger Pattern.

Easy As Do - Re - Mi is a three-part method of teaching the fundamentals of music on the violin, viola, cello, and bass. The specific goal in Book I is to teach note reading on the D and G strings, without the distraction of letter names or fingerings. Fundamental concepts are introduced with simple tunes and exercises on uncluttered pages, with an emphasis on the Two-Three Finger Pattern.

Vivian Gonzalez was named for the third year in a row as a Grammy Music Educator Award Quarterfinalist.

The outreach program at the University of Miami Frost School of Music received a one million dollar gift from Phillip and Patricia Frost. Read more [here!](#)

Have a Wonderful Summer!