



LOS ANGELES SECONDARY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (LASMTA)
P.O. BOX 34666 Los Angeles, CA 90034-9998

LASMTA End of the Year Gathering & Final 2010-11 Meeting
LOS ANGELES SECONDARY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (LASMTA)
P.O. BOX 34666 Los Angeles, CA 90034-9998
Date: May 25th, 2011
Official Meeting Time: 6:00 pm
Grammy Foundation

- I. Call to Order by Mark Johnsen at 6:30 pm on May 25th, at the Grammy Foundation.
- II. Attendance & Introductions:
 - A. Mark Johnsen, Desiree Fowler, Julie West, Greg Robinson, Jennifer Elliott, Vanessa Dokko, Graw Park, Joo Lee, Jose Medina, Brian Blanchard, Cat Gold, Michael Tramm, Yosuke Miyoshi, Dawn Smithey, Woody Murray, Yolanda Gardea, Margaret Asado, Cesar Quesada, & David Sears.
- III. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Unable to print April's Minutes, will approve at the next Official LASMTA meeting.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report
 1. All of the advocacy information is on a separate tab of our website: <http://lasmta.org>
 2. Encouragement & discussion of using these letters to give out to parents.
 - B. Vice President's Report
 1. Julie West reports that we currently have 50 Members. Last year at the end of the year we had 54 members & the year- 69 members.
 2. Julie West Notified the scholarship winners with a letter instructing them how to ensure their private teachers get paid.
 3. DVD for the Middle School Honor's Festival
 - a. If you would like to order one, please do so ASAP, the result of our funding and the cost of the DVD as it stands will profit LASMTA \$36
 - b. Contact Julie West if you can help distribute these DVD's to the appropriate school site.
 - C. Treasurer's report
 1. \$1250 was removed from the account to pay for the DVD's
 2. Deposited \$945 from Membership and the Solo Ensemble Festival fees.
 - D. President's Report
 1. Mark Johnsen thanks our host, David Sears for our meeting's wonderful location.
 2. David Sears informs the teachers that he has a piano that could go to a school in need and can pay for the shipping/movers. David@grammy.com
 3. Mark indicates that teachers can also call downtown Central Shops and contact Steve Ricabono.
 - E. In respect to our last meeting, Advocacy– David Sears encourages teachers to advocate for their programs. He discusses how our membership needs to grow if we are to gain any real power/influence. An effort to present or affect



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change with only 50 members will be overlooked, whereas, if we could present ourselves as representing all Secondary Music teachers, we stand a better chance. The bare minimum of what every teacher should do, is become a member, so that LASMTA's efforts have a foundation to stand on.

- F. There are currently 221 Secondary Music teachers and only 50 are members and we have an average of 10-15 people attend our monthly meetings.
- G. David Sears also explains: A few of the ways the Grammy Foundation Advocates for Music Education
 - 1. Grammy Signature Schools & Enterprise awards
 - 2. Grammy Camp
 - a. Scholarships are available, gave a little over \$200 thousand this year.
 - b. Expanded to NY this year
 - c. New Music Industry & Journalism Push
 - d. Next Year it will extend to Nashville
 - 3. Grammy Jazz Next Year
- H. President Report (cont.)
 - 1. With the help of Julie Corallo, we had 150 people attend the Advocacy meeting held at Central HS in April. At that meeting there was a powerpoint that contained facts and statistics about the value of music education as well as the true status of the RIFs and LAUSD's handling of them, and addressed things like the inequity of 45% of the RIFs being in one content area, music.
 - 2. Suggestions for helping the status of Music programs in LAUSD is to contact & influence a board member or two, asking them to write a resolution. The hierarchy of impact from most to least is: meeting face to face, making a phone call, snail mail, then email.
 - 3. Eloise Porter can provide advocacy buttons if interested
- V. Non-profit tax status
 - A. Greg Robinson reports that there is nothing new since March, as of a week ago we are still waiting to move onto the next step. We need a Federal Tax exception form filed or we will have huge financial trouble.
- VI. Due to the RIF's and the uncertainty of who will have a job next year, LASMTA Officer elections will be put off until the Fall.
 - A. Suggestion to ask our AP's to connect with the Local District representative and channel our advocacy concerns from the LD person to the top, the closer the Local District is to the school site- the more they know, the more likely they are to work in the school's best interest.
- VII. Membership for next year
 - A. Members, you may use last year's application to pay for next year's membership and get this year's price for next year.
- VIII. Performances by the Scholarship winning students followed by Celebratory Refreshments
- IX. Adjournment Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 pm Motion made by Ms. Fowler and Seconded by Jennifer Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Desiree Fowler



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