



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

**LASMTA MEETING**

**Date:** January 10, 2012

**Official Meeting Time: 6:00 pm**  
SOCES

- I. Call to Order** by Julie West at 6:25.
- II. Attendance:** Dan Taguchi, Greg Robinson, Julie Corallo, David Yakerson, Cynthia Simonian, Lara Lee Custodio, George Carganilla, Brian Blanchard, Diana McConnell, Mark Johnsen, Julie West, Desiree Fowler and Jennifer Elliott
- III. Reports**
  - A. Approval of the Minutes from November
    - 1. Motion to accept November's minutes from David Yakerson, seconded by Mark Johnsen. Motion carried unanimously.
  - B. Treasurer's Report
    - 1. Dan Taguchi reported checking account balance as \$5,084.77. There were membership donations and an expense was for blue brochures of \$48.94. A petty cash envelope was found with \$21.
    - 2. Dan will check on the CD balance at the credit union this weekend. Estimated balance of \$11,789.02. Will get information on early withdrawal.
  - C. Secretary's Report
    - 1. The minutes were prepared by Jennifer Elliott and members were notified of tonight's meeting.
  - D. Vice President's Report
    - 1. Desiree Fowler reported that we are up to 43 members.
    - 2. There is a page on the website and an email was sent out for mentor and mentees. She asked Julie Corallo for names of teachers who may be helped by a mentor.
  - E. President's Report
    - 1. Julie West reported there was a board meeting to plan the rest of the year.
    - 2. There is a new Solo and Ensemble application packet that will be distributed tonight.
- IV. Best Practices:**
  - A. Cat Gold reviewed her best practice lesson from the last meeting. It was a worksheet for students who may not be able to participate in the ensemble for that day.
  - B. Mark Johnsen presented on advocacy. He provided a packet of handouts. He got much of it from the NAFME website (formerly known as MENC.) Ideas such as inviting local representative and board meetings to your concerts. "Did you know" little advocacy and education items in the concert program. Packet also includes top advocacy tips for administrators, teachers and parents. We need to make sure our principals, parents and the district know why our programs are important.
  - C. David Yakerson said that they take kids to the mall, swap meet and other places in the community to perform to gain support. They put up ads in local businesses.
  - D. Julie Corallo recommends putting information on your school websites. Adding advocacy and ways to help is an idea.



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- E. Julie West stated that taking kids to the feeder schools to perform helps to bring attention to your own school.
  - F. There was a discussion of school websites and whether they are through the district or other vendors.
  - G. George Carganilla showed teacherwebsite.com where teachers can create their own websites. Jupitergrades.com is used by some schools.
  - H. Diana McConnell had a question about California tracking music students and test scores as is done in Texas.
- V. Calendar Dates**
- A. Monday February 13 at Millikan MS.
  - B. March 13 at TBA
  - C. Wed. April 11 at TBA
  - D. May is TBA at the Grammy Foundation.
- VI. Old Business:**
- A. Greg Robinson gave a tax status update. State of California, a form was submitted. Form 199N was filed with the state and indicated our federal status. There are 2 forms we need to fill out annually. We are a non-profit with the state of California. The problem is with the Federal. Greg has been working with the law firm on this.
  - B. Solo and ensemble forms were distributed. Teachers must be a member to participate. It is being held at Hamilton HS on April 14, 2012. Cassette tapes will not be used this year and participants are being asked to make their own recording on digital devices. Greg Robinson and Julie West are asking for names of people who might be interested in being judges. If an accompanist is needed, get the application in early. Julie West is the main contact for this event.
  - C. Scholarship auditions are on May 5 at Cortines HS.
- VII. New Business**
- A. Julie Corallo reported that May 4 is a popular date for schools wanting to host festivals. Many band and orchestra festivals and 2 choral festivals. No one has offered to host a jazz festival yet. Discussion was had to have Dan Taguchi to host one if possible. Julie brought up the idea of doing a percussion ensemble festival. A suggestion was to send percussion groups to the LASMTA Solo and Ensemble festival. There is also a need for a guitar festival.
  - B. David Yakerson is hosting a choral festival during the day on May 15 at Panorama HS.
  - C. Julie Corallo reported that we did not get funded for the Wallace Grant due to lack of confidence in the California economy and changes in leadership. The worst case scenario budget came out with 70% cuts to the elementary program. It is unknown the status of the Arts Education Branch. They are advocating for at least the 4 specialists for the art forms.
  - D. The Laura Lee Custodio said that the SOCES choral library is open to everyone. There was a discussion of sharing library organization for the next best practices. She also has a great system for creating concert tickets. There was sharing of ideas on programs and program notes. Programming and staging ideas will be another topic for best practices for next meeting.
  - E. SCSBOA is conference on Jan. 28 in Riverside. The CMEA conference is on Feb 16-19 in Fresno.



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F. Brian Blanchard suggested donors choose and shared his good experience with it. Mark Johnsen shared his experience and had advice for how to fund your projects.

**VIII. Adjournment** Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 pm. Moved by David Yakerson and seconded by Dan Taguchi. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Elliott