



Sonata

Central Coast

Recapitulation
Edition



KEEPING YOU IN TUNE WITH THE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS OF THE CENTRAL COAST SECTION OF CMEA

Vol. XVIII No. 3

The California Association for Music Education • Central Coast Section

Spring, 2008

From the
Podium
of Theresa Hruby
CCS President

Monterey Symphony Outreach

Submitted by Diane Cadei

I hope this spring brings you wonderful, musical concerts and even more opportunities for both you and your students' growth. I know many of us are inundated with one musical performance after another, and things are probably getting blurry at this point. Have no fear, summer camp is just around the corner! For many of us, "camp" means we will become students again in our endless quest to better serve our students. For others, it might actually mean taking a few moments off to relax and renew. Both are just as valuable. I hope you will take some time in your renewal and growth to take a look at these few books and recent reports on arts education that I found interesting.

The idea that "music makes you smarter" gained currency in the 1990's publication of a study that determined that college students performed better on some mathematical tests after listening to a 10 minute Mozart sonata. This led to several other research projects ultimately leading toward arts education advocacy due to the many benefits to include brain growth. The most significant study is now published.

On March 4, the Dana Foundation released a 2.1 million dollar report on art and brain research. The foundation study took place over the last three years, using neuroscientists and psychologists from seven universities in an effort to help scientists fully understand how training in the arts might contribute to improving the general thinking skills of children and adults. While there is more work to be done with research in this field, the results overwhelmingly conclude that there is a close connection between the cognitive processes for the arts and the cognitive processes of the sciences.

This research found that the arts enter the brain through the right hemisphere. In fact, most of our learning enters though the

(See Podium page 4)

Monterey Symphony serves students in many ways. On May 21 and May 22, 2008, six thousand students from Monterey, and San Benito Counties will attend the Monterey Symphony Youth Concerts at Sherwood Hall at the Salinas Community Center. This year's concert focus is Form in Music. Music Director Max Bragado-Darman will conduct the concert. The program includes classical selections by Wagner,

(See Outreach on page 3)

In This Issue . . .

From the Podium	1
Monterey Sym. Outreach	1
CCS Ballot	2
CCS Calendar	3
Old Gene's Prose	5
Words to ponder	6
CCS Board	7
Event Chairs	7
General Meeting	8



◆ CCS 2008-2010 Ballot ◆



CMEA-CCS
Open Positions & Candidates

President Elect (Vote for One)

- Barbara Priest: Pacific Grove Middle School: Band, Orchestra
- Write In: _____

Secretary (Vote for One)

- Steve Ettinger: King City High School: Orchestra
- Write In: _____

Treasurer (Vote for One)

- Mark Bidelman: Soquel High School: Choral
- Write In: _____

Board Member Candidates (Vote for Three)

- Glenda Bernhardt: Carmel High School, Carmel Middle School: Choir
- Brad Gronroos: North Salinas High School: Band, Choir
- Joe Johnson: Salinas High School: Band
- Willow Manspeaker: The Stevenson School (Pebble Beach): Choir
- Joe Ostenson: Rancho San Justo & Maze Middle Schools (Hollister): Band

This Ballot must be received by May 31, 2008, to be valid.

Please send to: Eugene Smith
E. A Hall Middle School
201 Brewington
Watsonville, CA 95076

Or email your vote to: easmith51@yahoo.com
Remember to include your MENC membership number

MENC # _____ Exp. date _____

CCS Calendar 2007-2008

Date	Event	Location	Time
Dec. 19	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	GBK	4:30 pm
Jan. 9	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Carmel H. S.	4:30 pm
Jan. 11-12	Bay Section Conference	San Jose State University	Two Days
Jan. 24-26	CCS H. S. Honors Event	Mello Center, Watsonville	Three Days
Feb. 7-9	CCS MS/JH Honors Event	Pacific Grove Middle School	Three Days
Feb. 13	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Pacific Grove Middle School	4:30 pm
Mar. 8	CCS Jazz Festival	Monterey	All Day
Mar. 13-15	CMEA Conference	Sacramento	Three Days
Apr. 5	Solo Ensemble • South & North	Santa Catalina/Santa Cruz H. S.	All Day
Apr. 9	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Santa Cruz-Zina	4:30 pm
Apr. 18	Large Group Inst. Festival H. S.	Hartnell College	TBA
Apr. 19	Large Group Inst. Festival M. S.	Hartnell College	TBA
Apr. 30	CCS Choral Festival	TBA	TBA
May 10	State Solo/Ensemble Festival	Sacramento State University	TBA
May 14	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Prunedale	4:30 pm
Jun. 7	<i>CCS Board Meeting</i>	Green Valley Grill	5:00 pm
Jun. 7	CCS General Meeting & Dinner	Green Valley Grill	6:30 pm

(Outreach from page 1)

Mozart, Bach, Mouret, Strauss, as well as Ritchie Valens' *La Bamba* and Rubio's Jarabe *Tapatio*. Teachers have received packets to prepare their students for the concert.

Serving students in a different way is the \$5 student ticket program for Saturday Stage Door or evening concert. For participation in this program to occur, there must be a contact person in the school who will collect the ticket money and there must be a sale of 8 tickets or more. Your last opportunity to participate in this program for this season is Saturday, May 17. All teachers have to do to participate in this program is contact Education Coordinator

Diane Cadei. She will forward to the contact person a flyer for each concert and a list of guidelines for the program.

Lastly, the Monterey Symphony had a successful in-school demonstration program this season. The Strings and Brass sections of the orchestra each visited 18 schools, teaching students about their instruments and answering the students' questions. In the coming years the Monterey Symphony hopes to add the Percussion section to the school visits.

If you have any questions or comments, contact Diane Cadei at 831-624-8511 ext. 207 or e-mail her at education@montereysymphony.org. 

(Podium from page 1)

right brain. We have all heard that the left brain is responsible for much of the mathematical, language processing, scientific processes. However, what we didn't know is that without a strong right brain, it is very difficult to access the left brain.

During infancy and pre-verbal life, the child's right brain is used almost exclusively. The recognition of faces, facial expressions, voices and the satisfaction of all basic and emotional needs help to build a strong right brain. At the point of language development, the left hemisphere becomes more active. If the child has a well-developed right brain (through good parenting and experiences) then the "white matter" that connects the two hemispheres has made a strong "bridge" between the two hemispheres, and normal development can occur. If a child has been neglected, there can be significant delay in learning because the two hemispheres cannot communicate or cross-reference one another. Just think about how many of our students fall into the category of "neglect" or "at risk" from an early age.

The most significant impact of this study is that we now know that the arts help to build a strong right brain and the white matter that connects the two hemispheres. (This is a good opportunity to help those "at risk" students!) This ultimately helps the left brain to do its job of cognitive processing. For instance in one of the studies, research found that students with more musical training made faster gains in reading fluency than did students with no musical backgrounds. They also found that the white matter pathways were responsible for phonological awareness (the ability to pull apart and manipulate the sounds in speech) grew to be more highly developed in the children who were stronger readers than in those with weaker reading skills. A team at Stanford also found preliminary evidence suggesting a link between visual arts lessons outside of school and children's skill at math calculations, possibly because both activities involve recognizing patterns. There was a strong correlation found between music study and success in geometry. There were

hundreds of other important findings.

Though this study is 134 pages and I could go on (and on), the basic message I want to give you is that it's up to you to assimilate this information to all those that will listen.

With the threat that the governor will cut 10% from the entire education budget, NOW is the time to send e-mails or hand-written letters to the state office. The senate will vote on the cuts in within a few weeks.

Education is already cut to the bare bones. Please get involved in campaigning to stop more cuts. I believe that one of the significant reasons that education and scores are so low across the country is because funding has pulled the arts out, and the result is the effect of lowered scores. NCLB is supposed to "cure" this problem, but is perpetuating it by further squeezing the arts out of the schedule, driving scores farther down. This vicious cycle is preposterous!

To get involved, you may access the California Alliance for Arts Education website at www.artsed411.org. Go to the "Advocate" menu, and then to the Action Center. There is an EASY and quick format for you to send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger. During the first week of April, over 420 letters were sent. Your letter does matter! Please consider e-mailing education supporters the link so that they can also send letters.

For information on the mentioned Dana Foundation report, you can contact www.dana.org. Copies are available free of charge to educational institutions, or you can download it. I also highly recommend a couple of books I read recently: "Strong Arts, Strong Schools" by Charles Fowler; and Music With the Brain in Mind by Eric Jensen. Both are available on Amazon.com.

This is my last article to you as your president, and I would like to thank you for all of your support these last two years, especially those of you that got involved with our activities. It has been such an honor to serve you and our music students. I wish our incoming president Gene Smith (his fourth term!) smooth sailing and much success.

My best wishes to you, and my heartfelt thanks. 🌸

Theresa Hruby

Old Gene's Prose for Teaching Pros

A FORUM FOR SHARING IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES USEFUL TO MUSIC EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

Great Expectations or Soapbox 101

by Eugene Smith, CCS President Elect

I am an inveterate Conference-goer. I got started with the CBDA Convention in Santa Cruz in 198__ and have never stopped. In fact, it was in a hotel room at the then Dream Inn that I met and had a long conversation with fellow tuba player and now CMEA Executive Director John Larrieu. I was in my 2nd year at Watsonville High School and feeling very alone in the world, and that conversation changed my outlook completely. And since my first CMEA Conference shortly thereafter, I haven't missed a one. I've attended six MENC Conferences, and loved every one. (Now if I can just find a way to the Mid West Clinic....)

As a young teacher I virtually lived in the sessions – the only thing I really knew was how much I didn't know. In those middle years I had enough time to come up for air and take advantage of the networking opportunities at a conference. Between that and being involved in the CMEA organization, I can look at any part of the state and find someone I know to help me with whatever I need in or from that area. Talk about invaluable! These days I look forward to some sessions, of course, and the networking, but also seeing long-time colleagues that I may see only once or twice a year. As Don Keller, long-time Aptos HS band director, one of the founders of the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival, and mentor to a much younger me used to say, "Get a few drinks into those old guys and they'll tell you their secrets!"

One thing that has been a constant through all my developmental phases, however, has been the once-a-year opportunity to see and hear the All State Honor groups. All of them, in the same location. Certainly I could attend ACDA to hear the choirs, CBDA to hear the bands. CODA to hear the orchestra, IAJE to hear the jazz groups – but who can take the time away from the classroom to attend FOUR

conferences?!? Even if someone showered you with the bucks to do it? Certainly not me, nor anyone I know.

Only CMEA encompasses all the musical disciplines. So the CMEA Conference is the place. Or used to be.

First CBDA baled with the All State Honor Band. We almost lost CODA. Now ACDA is leaving. (Just as an aside, how is anyone supposed to take music educators seriously if we can't even come close to speaking with one voice?) I just heard that CMEA will feature a brand-new Junior High/Middle School All State Choir. Good news! As someone who teaches band and choir (middle and high school) I'm really looking forward to hearing them. I suspect we'll have a goodly number of CCS kids in that group.

In the absence of the All State Honor Band we've had the CMEA Festival Band as one of the "marquee" performing groups of the Conference. It began as a political move: to be composed of students from every legislative district in the State. In that role it succeeded, for a short time. It developed into an All State Band substitute that just didn't make it. Being showcased as it was was probably unfortunate. Since membership was by director recommendation the quality was not—could not be—suitable for a state conference. 'Nuff said.

Now the Good News: CBDA has tendered a proposal to the CMEA State Board that would return a truly All State caliber band to our Conference. The details need to be worked out to the satisfaction of both organizations, but they can be. More importantly, They Must Be! A state conference without an All State Band is simply incomplete, and is not what the attending teachers expect, deserve, or need.

Amazingly, the discussion around the State Board

(See Prose Page 6)

(Prose from Page 5)

meeting table did not always keep this in mind. There has been a long history of not-quite genial relations between CMEA and CBDA, and this is a golden opportunity to not only build much-needed bridges, but to serve our membership.

It may be a difficult bridge to build, as it needs to begin on both sides and meet in the middle. CBDA has started, now it's our turn. As I said, details need to be worked out, but the first thing that must happen is that we must go into the discussion with the mindset that it will work out and the way must be found. (Kind of like that major work you attempt that doesn't come together too easily. You decide you're gonna do it, then you make it work. Or, as we mule skinnners say, "Sometimes you just gotta put your head down and pull!")

The "iron out the details" meeting is coming up. Please take a minute and send an email to the CMEA Executive Board asking that they do so. Their info is on the CMEA website, but – coincidentally – is also listed here. Please.

CMEA Executive Board

Jeff Jenkins, President
Steven Venz, Vice President
Theresa Hruby, Secretary
Norman Dea, President Elect
Cheryl Yee Glass, Past President

jbjenkins@cox.net
stevenvenz@yahoo.com
maestrahruby@aol.com
normdea@yahoo.com
Paws4chief@yahoo.com

By the way – you should attend the CCS Spring Dinner Meeting. There may be a resolution by then and I'll let you know! 🌹

Words to ponder from
a couple of respected
musical friends.

We must learn to teach music - not band, not orchestra, not chorus, but music itself... Choosing music is the single most important thing a band director can do, and is the only thing a band director can do alone.....

Frederick Fennell

I firmly believe that music will someday become a 'universal language.' But it will not become so as long as our musical vision is limited to the output of four European countries between 1700 and 1900. The first step in the right direction is to view the music of all peoples and periods without prejudice of any kind, and strive to put the world's known and available best music into circulation. Only then shall we be justified in calling music a 'universal language.'

Percy Grainger

CCS Board of Directors 2007–2008

Position	Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Email
President	Theresa Hrubby-Percell	831-663-5979	831-915-5601	maestrahruby@aol.com
Pres. Elect	Eugene Smith	831-761-1425	831-761-6693	easmith51@yahoo.com
Past Pres.	Willow Manspeaker	831-588-8486	831-625-8339	wmanspeaker@rlstevenson.org
Secretary	Joe Johnson	831-757-7347	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
Treasurer	Mark Bidelman	831-761-0756	831-429-3909x142	mbidelman@scs.santacruz.k12.ca.us
Member 1	Glenda Bernhardt	831-646-0633	831-624-2785 x401	glenda_bernhardt@comcast.net
Member 2	Steve Ettinger	831-385-0973	831-385-4884	setting@kcsd.org
Member 3	Drew Lewis	831-345-1413	831-423-0658 x45	dlewis@kirby.org
Member 4	Barbara Priest	714-401-0527	831-646-6568	time4music@earthlink.net
Member 5	Zina Urquhart	831-685-1748	831-429-3860 x107	yurquhart@sbcglobal.net
Member 6	Tony Dehner		722-8718 x154	tonydehner@mvcs.org
Spec. Rep.	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	Retired	jcbone@surfnetusa.com

CCS Event Coordinators 2007–2008

Event/Project	Coordinator	Work Phone	Email
CCS H. S Honor Band	Dave Hoffman	831-646-6590 x204	dhoffman@pgusd.org
CCS H. S. Honor Choir	Cathy Findley	831-649-1042	cfindley@mpusd.k12.ca.us
CCS H. S Honor Orchestra	Jennifer Parker	831-583-2060	jparker@mpusd.k12.ca.us
CCS MS/JH. Honor Band	Nancy Fowler	831-624-2785x127	nfowler@monterey.k12.ca.us
CCS MS/JH. Honor Choir	Zina Urquhart	831-429-3883 x107	yurquhart@sbcglobal.net
CCS MS/JH. Honor Orchestra	Steve Ettinger	831-385-4884	setting@kcsd.org
CCS Choral Festival	Willow Manspeaker	831-625-8339	wmanspeaker@rlstevenson.org
CCS Jazz Festival	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
CCS Large Group Inst. Festival	Joe Johnson	831-796-7400	jaojohnson@comcast.net
CCS Solo/Ens Festival-North	Zina Urquhart	831-429-3883	yurquhart@sbcglobal.net
CCS Solo/Ens Festival-South	Theresa Hrubby	831-899-7028 x234	maestrahruby@aol.com
Data Base Manager	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	jcbone@surfnetusa.com
Newsletter Editor	Jon Christian	831-335-3565	jcbone@surfnetusa.com
Medals Chair	Mark Bidelman	831-429-3909 x142	mbidelman@scs.santacruz.k12.ca.us

CCS Spring Dinner & Meeting

RSVP by May 31, 2008 to:
Eugene Smith
E. A. Hall Middle School
831-761-6693
or email
easmith51@yahoo.com

Green Valley Grill
40 Penny Lane
Watsonville, California
Board Meeting: 5:00 pm
Social Interlude: 6:00 pm
Dinner & Meeting: 6:30 pm

June 7, 2008
\$30 per person
Spouses and S. O. are invited

P. G. Middle School - Music Dept.
835 Forest Ave
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
CMEA-CCS
7141 Hihn Road
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

Non Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 31
Pacific Grove
California

