

TBA News

Michael Brashear, TBA Executive Director

Greetings to band directors everywhere as you enter an exciting and busy part of the spring semester. Whether preparing for contests or concerts, this is the time of the year when you can actually see (and hear!) the results of many months of hard work. Hopefully your students will achieve that “perfect” performance that we all desire. Remember that in many instances, the very best and most memorable musical moments occur right in the rehearsal room rather than on the concert stage. So as they say, “take time to smell the roses”. Enjoy the process of making music daily in your rehearsals while creating positive memories for your students. In my opinion, this is a key to having a long, successful career as a band director!

During the TMEA Convention, TBA President Brian Merrill invited several band directors to meet with the TBA Executive Board to reflect on TBA’s past and to look to our future. Many great thoughts and suggestions were presented which included:

- Providing the best possible convention clinics, concerts, and exhibits should continue to be the primary focus of TBA.
- The new TBA Student Day was a huge success and should be continued.
- Maintaining the “family-friendly” philosophy of TBA and including activities for families is crucial.

- Other topics discussed included marketing, encouraging more directors to attend TBA, expanding the college student section, and the further development of TBA Professional Development Clinics offered during the year.

TBA has a strong commitment to ongoing improvement so that we may continue to meet the ever changing needs of band directors. We thank those directors for their input and encourage you to contact us with suggestions at any time.

I hope you enjoy the informative articles in this *Bandmasters Review*. I am also pleased to present a preview of our July 25-28 Convention/Clinic. Please note the following highlights:

- **Tom Bennett**, University of Houston-retired, is our Featured Clinician and will present three sessions utilizing San Antonio’s Reagan and Johnson High School Bands. **Frank Ticheli** is the Featured Composer and will serve as guest conductor and clinician this summer. See page 17 for more clinic offerings.
- **TBA STUDENT DAY IS BACK AND EXPANDED!** Order tickets for your middle and high school students now! See page 16 for

information and page 32 for the Student Day registration form.

- Bring your entire family to the convention this summer! In order to help you stretch your budget dollars, ALL TBA MEMBERS

ARE ELIGIBLE FOR **DISCOUNTED TICKETS to Six Flags Fiesta Texas and SeaWorld!**

Information will be emailed on your registration receipt.

- DCI Southwestern Championship and the TBA Convention/

Clinic and are at the same time this year! Join TBA now and become eligible for a **discount on your DCI tickets!** (See page 18.)

- Bring your Band Boosters to the convention on Monday, July 26, for an in-depth day of training with David Vandewalker—nationally recognized band director and author of *Boosters to the Rescue*, *101 Ways to Harmonize the Madness for Music Educators*. Cost for boosters is **\$75 per school, no limit on number of boosters** from one school.

Make plans today to attend the 63rd Annual TBA Convention/Clinic on July 25-28.

Have a productive and enjoyable finish to your spring semester!

