

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Texas Bandmasters Association, Inc. is to:

Continually assist its membership in achieving the highest standards of instrumental music education.



Promote the place and value of music education in our society and the important role instrumental music plays in our cultural, intellectual, and social lives.



Foster goodwill, fellowship and a collegial, fraternal spirit among its members.



Provide its membership with an annual Convention/Clinic which introduces new music, tried and proven teaching methods and materials as well as instruments and equipment.



Provide Educational Publications of instructional methods and materials for TBA members and aid them with their personal development and leadership.



Provide information for the university music student preparing to become a band director.

From the Board

Tom Harrington, 2011-12 TBA President

Happy summer! I hope your year went well and I hope your contest proved to be a positive learning experience for you and your students.

Getting connected; we have been doing it at TBA for over 60 years. Networking with other band directors is often the best way to get fresh ideas about new ways of doing things. Just being connected online with friends or visiting a message board is not enough. There is just too



much to learn. Marching band and color guard are constantly evolving. Teaching beginners and keeping them motivated can be a complete mystery. It's almost impossible to grow as a teacher if you stay at home. It is vital to our careers to get out of our band halls and gather with the larger community of band directors. The TBA staff and Board of Directors have worked very hard to present a summer convention for you to renew, recharge and rededicate yourself for the next school year.

I couldn't be more pleased with how well the events and clinics have fallen into place. First, the feature concert this year will be "The President's Own" United States Marine Band from Washington, DC. We first started visiting with conductor, Col. Michael J. Colburn in December of 2010. It has been six years since the President's Own has played

at the TBA Convention/Clinic and he is excited about returning to Texas. If you have not heard some of their recent recordings I encourage you to get on their educators CD mailing list. You will receive all of their new recordings free of charge, when released. Recent concerts at The Midwest Clinic and the American Bandmasters Association convention have been extremely well received. This concert is a premier event for the Marine Band so you will not want to miss out. It will feature the debut of a new composition as well as a new arrangement of "Pictures at an Exhibition". In addition to the Marine Band there will be a concert by the U.S. Air Force Band of the West. Also, new this year will be a unique concert from the Houston Brass Band as well as several other wind and percussion ensembles. And finally, one of our favorite events will again be the DCI Southwestern Championship on Saturday.

This year we are honoring Philip Geiger as the Texas Bandmaster of the Year. As many of you already know, Mr. Geiger was the director at Westfield High School from 1982 until his retirement in 2005. During his tenure, his band's list of accomplishments are impressive, to say the least. Two class AAAAA honor bands, a 2003 Bands of America Grand National Champion and the winner of the UIL state marching contest five times. Mr. Geiger continues to be active in

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our profession by helping several young directors in the Houston area. He has a true passion to motivate students to approach everything they do with the highest standards. You can read more about Mr. Geiger in the March 2012 issue of the *Bandmasters Review*. (Go online if you don't have yours on hand.)

This year's featured clinician will be the conductor of the Michigan State University Wind Ensemble, Dr. Kevin Sedatole. Before teaching in Michigan, Dr. Sedatole was the director of the UT Longhorn Marching Band and the Baylor Wind Ensemble. Did you also know he taught middle school in Klein and Austin? He was also the drum major at Spring High School in 1979-80. It's great to host a clinician with a national resume and strong roots in Texas. I look forward to learning more about music from his years of experience.

In addition to our featured clinician, we will have over 50 clinics specifically for band directors. Clinics on marching band, ensemble skills and fundamentals, technology, jazz and instrument pedagogy. New this year will be clinics specifically programmed for teachers in low income schools as well as clinics on doing more with less. These are topics that many directors have been suggesting to me all year and we are proud to bring them to you.

TBA will again sponsor the Student Day activities that have become a huge success. Frank Troyka will take your band students through some engaging leadership activities and they will also

have an opportunity to attend the clinics on the All-State music. Last year over 1,700 students were in attendance so reserve your students' place soon. Student Day will be on Sunday.

We have some exciting changes for the spouses' events that many of you will want to be aware of. We moved the location of the spouses' luncheon to a beautiful new room in the convention center, located on the river level. The Lonesome Dove Room will be able to host a maximum of 300 attendees for lunch. Spouses must pre-register by July 1 to ensure that they have an opportunity to attend. Our featured guest speaker will be Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser. The Style Show will be held at Macy's Rivercenter following the luncheon. What a great way for your spouse to get connected with TBA.

This year, the convention will be the weekend of July 20-23. Backing it up a few days has some potential benefits. Many directors have told me this change means they will not have conflicts with summer band. It could also make it easier for non-band director spouses to get away from work and perhaps bring the family. Remember that TBA has free child care and a teen game room! I encourage you to get connected with your profession.

Come to the TBA Convention/Clinic this summer and attend some of the over 50 available clinics, incredible concerts, and one of the largest exhibitor shows in the music business.

I hope to see you in July.

Texas Bandmasters Association 2011-12 Board of Directors

Tom Harrington President

Spillane Middle School
13403 Woods Spillane Blvd.
Cypress, TX 77429
281-213-1782

thomas.harrington@earthlink.net

Alfredo Vélez III President Elect

Lone Star College-Kingwood
20000 Kingwood Drive
Kingwood, TX 77339-3801
281-318-4335
email@alfredovelez.com

Richard Herrera Vice President

Brandeis High School
13011 Kyle Seale Pkwy.
San Antonio, TX 78249
210-397-8300

richard.herrera@nisd.net

Bruce Beach Treasurer

Franklin High School
900 N. Resler
El Paso, TX 79912
915-832-6608

beachbeachmus@aol.com

Steven Moore Secretary

Lindale High School
P.O. Box 370
Lindale, TX 75771
903-881-4140

mooresw@lind.sprnet.org

Jeff King

Sergeant-at-Arms

Duncanville High School
900 W. Camp Wisdom Road
Duncanville, TX 75116
972-708-3732

kingjeffrey@hotmail.com

Don T. Haynes, Jr. Past President

LBJ High School
7309 Lazy Creek Drive
Austin, TX 78724
512-414-7032

donhaynes2@aol.com

Michael Brashear Executive Director

Texas Bandmasters Association
1002 Central Parkway South
San Antonio, TX 78232
210-492-8878

mbrashear@texasbandmasters.org