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2013-14
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From the Board

Richard Herrera, 2013-14 TBA President

Thank you Texas Bandmasters Association members and business partners for a fantastic 2013 Convention/Clinic. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I congratulate Fred and Heidi Vélez for their wonderful leadership as TBA Presidents for this year. A special thank you to Executive Director Michael Brashear and our very talented TBA office staff—Exhibitor / Ad Manager Robin Tovar and Director of Web Development Justin Young. I would be remiss

if I didn't mention the marvelous work that Priscilla Brashear, Sarah Brashear, Kimberly Young, and Chuck Kuentz did prior and during the convention. BIG thanks to Past President Charlie Munsell for his role as stage manager moving equipment from site to site and to Past President Brian Merrill for heading up the TBA Academy for new and young teachers. I am excited to begin my presidency with this wonderful team of experts at my side.

Past President Tom Harrington and his wife Shelley served on the TBA Board for seven years. In that time, they—along with their children Robert, Adam, and Amber—created long lasting memories for my family. TBA salutes the Harrington family for a job well done. I am excited to welcome John and Dena Morrison of Cypress, Texas—along with their children Brandon and Rebecca—to the TBA Board. I look forward to working closely with the Morrisons as well as the other board

members to bring our membership a quality TBA Convention/Clinic in 2014.

The 2013 TBA Convention/Clinic was a great success! The schedule included concerts by the Salt River Brass, Greater



Dallas Youth Orchestra Wind Symphony, Cedar Park Winds, Directors Band of San Angelo, and US Air Force Band of the West. The clinicians at the convention shared a wealth of knowledge that many of you will implement in the new school year. The

Exhibit Hall was packed thanks in part to sharing the dates with TCDA and TODA who were running their convention concurrently with ours. Thanks to the hard work of TBA Executive Director Michael Brashear and TCDA/TODA Executive Secretary Sharon Lutz, each organization retained their unique identity. Most importantly, TBA/TCDA/TODA made everlasting strides with our exhibitors with the combining of the Exhibit Hall. The new venue, food, jazz combo, mariachis, and free boat rides at our BBQ dinner capped off a great convention celebration. Boat rides with tourists are fun, but boat rides with other band directors are terrific. The Lonesome Dove and surrounding areas of the Convention Center was *spot on* for a beautiful night of celebration.

A middle school committee of directors met at TBA to have a conversation on the needs of the middle school director. The committee is comprised of Jennifer

Dillard, Tony Yarbrough, Jorge Garcia, Jennifer Kuentz, Criselda Marroquin, Ruth Allen, Marissa Gamez, Chris Brown, Ben Davis, Chris Pineda, Jed Maus, Mark Gurgel, Robert Herrings, John Hinojosa, and Meredith Bates. TBA will continue to offer valuable clinics to the middle school directors, but will advertise and tag clinics more efficiently to make it easier to find in our convention program and guidebook app. The TBA Board thanks the middle school committee of directors for their advice, recommendations, and service to their profession.

As president, I look forward to working with the TBA Board and staff to structure another fantastic convention in July 2014. We will plan a wonderful convention/clinic; however, the TBA experience is not the same without you. If you attended TBA 2013, share the great experiences with people who did not attend. Our job is to help band directors and the music industry stay connected. The best way to stay connected in this fast paced world of technology is still networking with others. You can't beat the face to face connection with colleagues. Since our founding 66 years ago, the goal of TBA has been to bring the best teachers, effective speakers, outstanding concerts, and a plethora of vendors to our membership.

TBA continues to host clinics throughout the school year designed to help you through our Professional Development Outreach Program. We are committed to providing this professional outreach with the help of two very generous sponsors: D'Addario, makers of ProMark/Evans/Rico products, and Texas Music Festivals. With their sponsorships, we are able to bring

excellent presentations throughout the state at a low cost of \$10 to all attendees. Check the TBA website to access clinic topics, presenters, dates, and locations. (A list is also printed on the back cover of this *Bandmasters Review*.)

Now is a good time to start planning to attend next summer's TBA Convention/Clinic. We have already scheduled a concert with the world famous Canadian Brass and are excited to have Conn-Selmer sponsor this premier concert. Members of the Canadian Brass will also be participating in clinics and student day activities. Dr. Gary Garner will be the featured clinician. Dr. Garner served as the Director of Bands at West Texas A&M University (formerly West Texas State University) and will share an insight into his long and successful teaching career. Willie Owens will be our featured composer. Mr. Owens is a favorite composer of Texas band directors, not only for his outstanding concert band pieces, but for his melodic lines in his UIL sight-reading compositions. So, save the dates July 27 through July 30, 2014. As the school year progresses, check our website for more information on the 2014 Convention/Clinic.

It is truly an honor for my wife Lucinda and me to serve this incredible organization as your president. Throughout my career I have taught at a Class A school at Rankin, a Class 3A school at Brownfield, and two Class 5A schools in San Antonio: Warren High School and Brandeis High School. It is my hope this wide range of experience will help me serve TBA members at all levels. Best of luck to you as you start the new school year.

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.