

TBA News

Michael Brashear, TBA Executive Director

Thank you for attending the 2015 TBA Convention/Clinic! I hope that you left inspired, motivated, armed with new concepts, and ready to begin your best year ever. I am always amazed at the clinic attendance and the commitment band directors have for improving their teaching skills. From first year teachers at the TBA Academy to seasoned professionals attending clinics and concerts, the energy level and excitement of this year's attendees was amazing. I challenge you to keep that same excitement and energy as you work with your students throughout the year.

I am pleased to report that our attendance this year increased in almost every category. Our Active Members attendance was up around 12% and Spouses attendance was up 19%. Our TBA Academy had 104 band directors attend this year—a new record! If you total all of our members, demonstration, performing and reading bands, students, boosters and exhibitors, our attendance was over 8000. While attendance numbers alone do not tell the entire story, this positive report is an indicator of the health of the Texas Bandmasters Association.

While the TBA Executive Board and I will always be concerned with attendance and the financial security of our association, we remain focused on meeting the needs of band directors and fulfilling the opening of our mission statement: *assisting membership in achieving the highest standards of instrumental education.*

The annual convention is the primary way we fulfill our mission statement, but other resources are available throughout the year. This magazine, *Bandmasters Review* is published quarterly and provides articles of interest to the band director. Professional Development Outreach Program sessions throughout the year are listed on the back cover of this magazine. These educational opportunities allow attendees to spend a longer

period of time with the clinician and offer more opportunity for informal discussion. Under the Resources Tab of the TBA website you can access over 550 articles from past issues of the *Bandmasters Review* as well as over 400 convention clinic handouts dating from 2002. I hope all of these resources provided by TBA assist you in becoming the best band director possible.

If you would like to submit a clinic suggestion for next year you may do so using the link on our website. We welcome your suggestions. Have a great fall semester!

