

# TBA Academy 2015

**Brian Merrill**

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*“I was feeling nervous and scared about my first year of teaching. This all day session helped me now feel surrounded by a community which is supportive and I am excited to start my career.”*

Kelsey Brennecke, First Baptist Academy  
Rhodes Middle School, San Antonio ISD

*“Coming from out of state, the TBA Academy has given me extremely valuable insight and information about being a music teacher in Texas.”*

Tim Lyen, Lamar CISD

*“I feel refreshed, reassured, and ready to rock my first year!”*

JaRod Hall, Frisco ISD

*“The TBA Academy is a wonderful opportunity for new teachers to become aware of important information our professors didn't have time to cover in class. I am so glad this resource is available to me and I highly recommend all new teachers attend.”*

Stephen Van Hooser  
Richardson ISD

All day Thursday at the convention, as directors listened to recordings, attended clinics, and got reacquainted with colleagues from around the state, over 155 young teachers and directors new to Texas took part in the fifth year of the TBA Academy for New Band, Choir, and Orchestra Directors. The Academy is an intensive, daylong session that connects the dots between university training and the expectations on the job. Topics included classroom management, discipline and motivation, legal issues facing music teachers, communicating with administration, the role of TMEA, UIL and TEA, professional growth, dealing with parents, booster clubs, proper money management, professionalism, and taking care

of your personal finances. Special thanks to the Academy's "All-Star" faculty: Brad Kent, Robert Floyd, Tom Waggoner, Dianne Brumley, Reagan Brumley, Mary Havenstrite, Jeremy Strickland, Holly Wardell, Rick Ghinelli, Christina Walk, JD Janda, Joe Clark, and Tim Lautzenheiser. Additional thanks to Bruce Beach, Billy Talley, Jason Thibodeaux, Mike Brashear, Sharon Lutz, and Academy Coordinator Brian Merrill.

The TBA Academy will be back again for 2016. Everyone involved in the hiring of new teachers should encourage attendance to the Academy. Young directors that have been through this training are better prepared to assume the professional responsibilities of a music educator.

*“This is my second time to attend the Academy. I find the information invaluable as a young director. The Academy addresses topics I wouldn't have considered and points you in the direction of resources and materials. I cannot recommend this session enough to anyone new to teaching.”*

Daniel Person, Northside ISD

*“If you are looking to start off your first year at your absolute best, the TBA Academy is a no-brainer, non-negotiable resource!”*

Alex Johnson, Keller ISD