

From the Board

Steven Moore, 2015-16 TBA President



By now, the school year is off and running! Hopefully you and your students have found that groove that keeps everything moving forward, and your band is making progress each day. The remarkable thing about our profession is that we get the chance to impact the lives of the students we see each day and build relationships that last a lifetime. I have been teaching for 25 years now (all at Lindale) and each year, more and more of my former students walk through the band hall doors with a new sixth grade band student in tow. The greeting always begins with a big hug followed by my former student introducing their child to me and going on and on about how much fun band was and how they cannot wait for their child to have that same experience. Therein lies the true reward in what we do. So as you progress throughout the year from marching contest to all region tryouts, parades, concerts and all the other things we do, remember that you make a difference in the lives of each and every student that crosses your path.

The 2015 Convention/ Clinic was a huge success. I would like to thank Presidents Bruce and Alma Beach for their work and dedication in putting together a wonderful event for our directors, students, families and business members. The schedule included concerts by the

Boston Brass, US Air Force Band of the West, and five community bands including the Naperville Community Band from Naperville, Illinois, which has been in existence since 1859. In addition, there were over 60 clinics (designed to help directors at every level to be their best), a packed house for Student Day, and a great Academy workshop for our newest teachers. This year also included two new events for the Spouses: a demonstration at the Garcia Art Class Studio and a tour of the Jingu House and Japanese Tea Garden. As you can tell TBA has something for everyone and should definitely be on your list of things to do next summer.

A special thank you goes out to TBA Executive Director Mike Brashear, Exhibitor and Ad Manager Robin Tovar and Director of Web Development Justin Young for their professionalism and dedication to TBA. We are fortunate to have this incredible team that not only organizes a wonderful convention but helps run TBA throughout the year. I would also like to thank Priscilla Brashear for her leadership of the TBA Spouses Board. TBA is unique in that we not only put an emphasis on helping the band directors across the state to reach their full potential, but we also promote family. The TBA Spouses Board does a wonderful job of fulfilling this mission and could not do it without Priscilla's help and

leadership. During the convention, we are blessed to have the help of several other individuals who are a vital part of running a successful convention. I would like to thank Past President Brian Merrill for his work with the Academy, Frank Troyka for his work with Student Day, Chuck Kuentz for facilitating our clinicians and logistics, Past President Charlie Munsell for his work as stage and equipment manager, and Kimberly Young for her help with registration. What a great team we have at TBA!

Each year at TBA we say hello to a new board member and bid a fond farewell to our Past Presidents. Richard and Lucinda Herrera, along with their son Baylor, leave the board after seven years of service. It has been a privilege to serve with this family and to be able to call them friends. On behalf of the TBA Board, Staff, and membership, let me say thank you for your leadership, service and friendship. You will be missed! I am also excited to welcome our newest board members, Roland and Jackie Sandoval, and their son Nathan to the TBA Board. I look forward to working with them and the other Board members to bring you a wonderful convention in 2016.

Speaking of the 2016 convention, now is a great time to begin making your plans to attend! The dates will be July 21-24 which is the Thursday through Sunday format we had this past summer. We have already started making plans and can share a few things with you. First, we are pleased to announce that DCI will be back in San Antonio and we are working with them to be a part of our convention. We have invited the East Texas Symphonic Band to perform as a part of our Community Band Series. The ETSB was named the 2014 Outstanding Community Band of North America and is the 2015 recipient of the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Silver Scroll Award. Our featured composer is Eric Whitacre and our Featured Clinician is Gary Green who recently retired as the Director of Bands of the University of Miami's Frost School of Music. Let me also encourage you to submit clinic topics and possible clinicians for next years' convention. Texas is a large and diverse state and we want to be sure we are helping to meet all of your needs. So mark the dates on your calendar and check the TBA website for continuing updates.

In addition to our 2016 Convention/Clinic, TBA will host clinics throughout the school year designed to help you. The TBA Professional Development Outreach Program is made possible by sponsors D'Addario Woodwinds, ProMark, and Evans. With their sponsorship, we are able to bring excellent presentations throughout the state at a low cost of \$10 to all attendees. This year's schedule is listed on the back cover of this magazine and check the TBA website to access additional information.

Finally, it is truly an honor for my wife Monica and me to serve on the Board of Directors of the Texas Bandmasters Association and to be your next President. TBA has been a special part of our lives and my career. I remember when I first began teaching and Butch Almany told me to pack my bags because we were going to the TBA convention. All it took was one time and I was hooked. Since then I have attended 26 straight conventions and would not even think about missing one. I look forward to serving the band directors and students of this great state and wish all the best throughout this school year.