

# “...and so it will be...”

**Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser**

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Friedrich Nietzsche wrote: “Out of chaos comes order.” If so, then our professional community has predictably answered the call with a sense of *purpose-n-mission* beyond measure. Mother Nature’s wrath wreaked havoc on our colleagues in Texas and Louisiana and within minutes the phone lines were overflowing with concerned people centered on the prevailing universal theme: **“WE ARE READY AND WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET YOUR LIVES BACK IN ORDER. YOU CAN COUNT ON US.”**

None of us had a college class entitled “PROPER RESPONSE TO A NATURAL DISASTER 101.” Course syllabus would include the keys to surviving and thriving following the unprecedented devastation of a powerful, record-breaking hurricane and the beyond-comprehension resulting damage.

Even if such a (hypothetical) curricular requisite did exist, it could not adequately prepare anyone for the reality of Hurricane Harvey’s uninvited visit. With that said, we now begin to witness a groundswell of support focusing on putting the pieces of the puzzle back together, and—in doing so—realizing: ***“The synergy of cooperation can (and will) win-out in the restoration process.”***

The quick response of TMEA, TBA, TCDA, TODA, ATSSB, and TMAC stands as a positive testimony to the pro-action needed to embrace the challenges at hand. It is a bold reminder of the invincible heart-

and-soul of our music family. Music educators everywhere have set aside their present-moment agendas to aid in the rebuilding process, and—if you will—**is the genesis of bringing ORDER to the CHAOS.** Without question, the PHOENIX will rise from the ashes and the unlimited potential of people-helping-people will be evidenced time and time again.

*HARMONY: Agreement and concord between people and groups.*

The HARMONY we seek in our ensembles is also the driving force that fuels this larger-than-life marathon that lies ahead. Who better to tackle the steep climb than those who understand what it takes to create and sustain HARMONY. Music educators are MASTERS at transforming dissonance and cacophony into harmonious beauty, and they refuse to give-up or give-in. Instead they reveal a level of commitment and dedication unexpected in common hours as they courageously persist until the job is done...***and so it will be.***

Texas music teachers are synonymous with setting the standards and going above and beyond the call of duty. The personal resolve demonstrated throughout your history is the fabric of excellence...and what a grand tapestry it is.

**The spirit of music  
reigns supreme.**

*Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser is a trusted friend to anyone interested in working with young people in developing a desire for excellence and a passion for high level achievement. His career involves ten years of successful college band directing and three years with McCormick’s Enterprises working as Executive Director of Bands of America. In 1981, he created Attitude Concepts for Today, Inc., an organization designed to manage the requests for presentations. Dr. Tim presently serves as Vice President of Education for Conn-Selmer, Inc., Senior Educational Advisor for Music for All and NAMM (The International Music Products Association) and is an adjunct faculty member at Ball State University (Earl Dunn Distinguished Lecturer), Indiana-Purdue/Ft. Wayne University, and Butler University. In addition, he serves on The Midwest Clinic Board of Directors and the Western International Band Clinic/American Band College Board of Directors.*

Rudyard Kipling said it best in his well-known poem,  
*The Law of the Jungle.*

***Now here is the LAW OF THE JUNGLE,  
it’s as true and as blue as the sky;  
And those who obey it shall prosper,  
but those who deny it shall die.  
As the serpent who slithers the tree-trunk,  
the LAW runneth forward and back—  
For the strength of the pack is each wolf,  
but the strength of each wolf is the pack.***