

TBA News

Michael Brashear, TBA Executive Director

Greetings from TBA! Thank you for attending our Virtual Convention this summer. I am excited to report that our attendance was up over 10 percent and we welcomed attendees from 43 states including Hawaii, as well as Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Singapore, and Thailand! Clinics and keynote sessions had a total of 32,841 individual views! The average number of views per session was over 550 and several sessions had close to 1000 views! The replays of our convention sessions will be available to registered attendees through December 31. We hope the information presented continues to help you during this fall semester.

As part of your registration, you will receive a printed copy of our *Bandmasters Review*, the quarterly journal of the Texas Bandmasters Association. Each journal will feature inspirational articles as well as pedagogy and practical information designed to meet the current needs of band directors. And what a different set of needs there are for this school year.

While we all missed the opportunity to gather in person for our annual convention, the virtual format did offer many positives. Clinicians from across the country were able to join us virtually. Artists such as the Canadian Brass, Julian Bliss, and Eric Marienthal offered live inspiration from across the country, Canada, and London! A live interview with Julie Giroux and Dr. Tim offered a personal touch and a look inside the life of one of our most successful composers. Recorded concerts by the "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, Mariachi Sol de Mexico, and the United States Air Force Band of the West jazz and woodwind ensembles inspired us all musically and reminded us why we do what we do.

I offer a special thanks to several groups who made our 2020 Virtual Convention such as success.

- TBA Board of Directors, under the superb leadership of Phillip Clements, who met weekly from March-July to plan the convention and find our way FORWARD!
- TBA Spouses Board led by Amy Clements for offering family members activities.
- Our 90+ clinicians who presented relevant and up to date information in such a positive, professional manner. Thanks for mastering the technology and devoting so much time to present the wonderful clinics.
- Our virtual exhibitors and sponsors for their continued support of TBA during these challenging times.
- Special thanks to Conn-Selmer for remaining our Patron Sponsor, sponsoring the Student Day and Booster Training, sponsoring featured artists and keynote speakers, and for offering technical support in the production of our Virtual Convention.
- Robin Tovar, TBA Exhibitor and Office Manager for outstanding work.
- Frank Troyka for coordinating and helping produce our Student Day and Richard Herrera for coordinating our Academy.
- Elisa Janson Jones and her company, Sovereign Business Consulting, for producing our event.

Visit our website www.texasbandmasters.org to take advantage of the many resources TBA offers: handouts from conventions and magazine articles (2002-present), online version of previous magazines, special resources for online instruction and COVID-19 related materials.



Meet your students where they are and be patient with them as we all navigate through this year. You can be the most positive teacher they encounter, and they need you now more than ever.

Have a safe and prosperous school year!