

BUILDING BETTER BANDS

Missouri Bandmasters Association



You Are SO MUCH MORE: by President, Brad Hudson

Welcome to the month of BANDTOBER! Some bands have put away the marching drums, flags, and sousaphones, while others have a few more competitions and post season football games. My students, along with me, are feeling the stress of the season as well as the stress of the upcoming transition to concert band.

Of course you are going to feel this pressure; you are the band director. But, you are so much more than a band director to your students. So far this month I have had conversations with that are putting the stress of the entire band on their shoulders. I've also had great discussions with students who do not realize how important they are to their team. I've had to tell a class that a student has passed away and I've tried to help them process through the grief that many of the students are feeling.

We have the privilege to work with our students for four years, seven years, and in many of our 1A schools, for their entire public school tenure. Many of us know our students very well and we can tell when they are struggling, stressed, hurting, overwhelmed, and more.

As you continue this busy marching season or transition to concert season, take time to care for yourself. Also, take time to see what your students need.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 4-26, 2024

State Audition window open

December 7, 2024

State Band Auditions

December 17, 2024

All-State Paperwork Due

January 14, 2025

All-State Payment Due

January 29-31, 2025

Missouri All-State Band

June 15-18, 2025

MBA Summer Convention

A LOOK INTO HISTORY

MBA PODIUM MASTERS: BOB SCOTT

LISTEN TO THE INTERVIEW WITH HISTORIAN ANN GOODWIN-CLARK

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MBA 2024 Convention Sponsors: Ernie Williamson Music

Ernie Williamson Music has been a long time friend of the Missouri Bandmasters Association. Besides being a Diamond Sponsor last year, Ernie Williamson Music also donated the All-State Band Music, which was given away at the convention.

Ernie Williamson music with Donovan and Belinda Bankhead are great supports for music across the state of Missouri and Kansas. They have six locations, four in Missouri, to serve you. They also have knowledgeable and caring staff.

Thank you Ernie Williamson Music for supporting MBA in Building Better Bands!

Would you like to be an MBA Convention Sponsor?

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MMEA Mentoring Conference

The Missouri Music Educators Association held its Fall Workshops that included the Mentoring Conference, the NAFME C Workshop, and The Tri M Summit on September 15 and 16 with over 100 in attendance. Sessions were presented on classroom management and building relationships along with many other topics. Even if you did not come to the conference it is not too late to take advantage of the resources offered by MMEA. We offer both in person and virtual visits with successful teachers to help you with any issues you are facing. Don't forget to take a look at the New Teacher's Handbook on the MMEA website where you will find some helpful hints for your program. Consider joining the MMEA Facebook Mentoring page and the MMEA K-12 Educators Exchange. Finally, please reach out to Chris Sprague at mentoring@mmea.net with any need that you have. We are here to help!

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