

# BUILDING BETTER BANDS

## Missouri Bandmasters Association



### It is Time to Give Back by Brad Hudson, MBA President

Do you know many in our profession that are not servants? I do not. Band directors love to share ideas with their colleagues and new directors. We share literature and ideas for programming. Then, when we have a day off we often drive to another school and clinic someone else's group. Now, it is time to see who we can acknowledge for all they have done! Deadlines are listed on the left column for upcoming awards, office, and grants.

This is an election year for Missouri Bandmasters Association Vice President. This office will begin at the close of the summer convention. This is a 9-year term and follows a succession of offices. Vice-President for one year then two-year terms as President-Elect (All-State Band Coordinator), President, Past President, and Board Member.

At the summer convention a Missouri Band Director will be inducted into the MBA Hall of Fame. There are many outstanding band directors both retired and teaching.

We will also give the Butch Antal Service Award to an individual, organization, or corporation who/which has contributed in an extraordinary manner to the support of the Missouri Bandmasters Association and music education in the State of Missouri.

Finally, many retired directors have started young band director grants. This pays for a new or 1st-3rd year band director to attend the summer convention.

Look at the criteria [HERE](#) and nominate them.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### March 1

#### Application Deadlines

- Vice President
- MBA Hall Of Fame
- Butch Antal Service Award

#### April 1

#### Convention Pre-Registration opens

#### April 15

#### Young Band Director Grants Due

#### June 16-19, 2024

#### MBA Summer Convention

### A LOOK INTO HISTORY

#### MBA PODIUM MASTERS: JOHN PATTERSON

LISTEN TO THE INTERVIEW WITH HISTORIAN ANN GOODWIN-CLARK

# 10 Things I Learned From Watching Colonel Don Schofield

## by Sarah Sacco MBA President-Elect

### 10 Things I Learned From Watching Colonel Don Schofield

It's not often that a person as humble as the Colonel comes into your life and makes such a big impact in such a short amount of time. Watching him work with these students and inspire each and every one of them to create beautiful sounds with their peers from all over the state was impactful! Not only did he inspire the students to make music together, but he also inspired many of the directors that passed through his rehearsal rooms. Below are just a few of the things that directors took away from watching Colonel Schofield in action:

1. Don't be afraid to walk away from the ensemble and let them learn to trust one another. Don't conduct...just count them off and let them go! They will learn who to follow and how to trust each other musically. So often the trust relies on us as conductors to help pull the music out of them, but sometimes the most beautiful moments will happen when you step back and let them lead.
2. Depending on where you are in the ensemble your perspective is different. Move around...sit next to your trombones, stand in the percussion section, sit to the right of the horns, and by doing that you might find the exact person you need to lead or the exact problem you need to address.
3. Teach your students the expression you want and then do whatever possible to get them to show that expression without you conducting...even if that means bringing up an unexpected guest conductor who was just there to watch you rehearse.
4. You can push and push and push, but don't forget to compliment your students when they start to achieve the goal. You do not have to throw out compliments like candy, but rewarding them with positivity makes them want it more. This gives you the opportunity to continue to push harder and harder without the students burning out. Their fire is lit and your compliments just keep adding the fuel.
5. Reference "Actionable moments" in music as higher/lower; louder/softer; faster/slower. This is clear and can help you keep rehearsals moving quickly.
6. Have a balance of getting things done and getting to know your students. The Colonel's job was to prepare an all state band performance but he also took the time to get to know them and ask them questions. This developed a greater trust that he used in future rehearsals.
7. Make choices that are educational, not just musical. The Colonel took moments to explain everything to the students. He focused on the composer's intent, he had the students research and introduce each song at the performance, and in rehearsals he encouraged his students to communicate with each other something they could do better. These moments were about growing the student, not just the performance.
8. Be a servant leader. The Colonel was always asking for opinions from those watching. He wanted to make sure he was meeting the expectations that the director's of Missouri had of him. Couldn't we do the same for our students, our parents, and our administration.
9. Be humble but assertive. Do not let your pride get in your way, but also be assertive enough that your students know your high expectations. Also be humble, but assertive with your administration. You can control the narrative. You do not have to address the situation in a way that you are the one with a music degree and know best, but instead find how to deliver it to your administration in a way that also meets their mission.
10. Education of character can be just as, if not more important, than the music education itself. As the Colonel said during the performance "The All-State Band experience ultimately is not about the music, but rather about the process of individual growth." And I believe this same statement rings true about every band, we just have to make sure we remember it!

Thank you Colonel Schofield for having a profound impact on the students and directors of Missouri!

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## Sponsor Feature: Stanbury Uniforms and Phi Beta Mu Lambda Chapter

Our summer convention would not be possible without the support of our sponsors. This year, two of our Bronze Sponsors were Stanbury Uniforms and The Phi Beta Mu Lambda Chapter Bandmasters Fraternity

Stanbury Uniforms is located in Brookfield, MO and has been making band uniforms for the marching arts since 1917. Stanbury Uniforms has been a longtime supporter of MBA!

The Phi Beta Mu Lambda Chapter was formed in 1959. They provide scholarships, recognize outstanding directors, aid band programs that have suffered loss, encourage new band compositions through the Claude T. Smith Composition Contest, and more.

Thank you Stanbury Uniforms and Phi Beta Mu Lambda Chapter for being consistent sponsors of the Missouri Bandmasters Association Summer Convention

## Summer Convention Information

The summer convention will be held at the Margaritaville Resort in Osage Beach. Start your Professional Development Requests NOW! Daily Breakfast, two dinners, convention finale brunch, and evening receptions are included.

### PRE-REGISTRATION (April 1-June 1, 2024)

- Guest Room Rate \$149
- Active \$100
- Retired \$60
- First Year \$50
- Collegiate \$25
- Exhibitor/Sustaining Member \$150

## Click the link for more All-State Band Photos

The All-State Band experience ultimately is not about the music, but rather about the process of individual growth.

Growth in the areas of leadership, followership, facing adversity, responsibility, team dynamics, dealing with success and failure, risk management, how to have compassion, and what your role is on a winning team.

Music education is unique in our academic curriculum because not only does it teach critical thinking skills, listening skills, and fine motor skills, but it also provides a laboratory for students to learn to become leaders and responsible citizens.

— Colonel Don Schofield —  
 Commander and Conductor, The United States Air Force Band, Washington D.C.  
 Conductor, 2024 Missouri All-State Band

## MBA OFFICERS

- President Brad Hudson
- President-Elect Sarah Sacco
- Past President Kenny Hansen
- Board Member Paul Fliege
- Secretary/Treasurer Kurt Bauche
- Membership Doug Hoover



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- Collegiate Member: \$50
- First Year Teacher: \$0
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- Click here to join