

AVA Summer Board Meeting Minutes
June 27-28, 2021
Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Vestavia

The Executive Board met at 4:30pm on June 27th for set-up and to prepare for Meeting.

The board meeting of the AVA Governing Board was called to order by President Randall Fields at 6:08pm. In attendance were: Randall Fields, Meg Jones, Margaret Heron, Hilan Wilson, Jim Schaeffer(Fri only), Alice LaGrone, Cameron Weiler, Chris Brown, Holly Luke, Marla Jenkins, Zach Banks, and Kate Dupuis. Not in attendance was Amanda Slay.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

Board read All-State General Meeting minutes that were sent virtually and minutes were approved as read.

Meg Jones read and discussed the financial report. Meg reported that we are currently at a \$19,996 loss. Added to this loss will be Summer Board, which will be around \$3000-\$4000. She said that the executive board is working on diminishing the cost of all AVA events so that this loss is not repeated. Meg suggested that the board advertise and communicate with their district so that our participation in events increases.

Financial Report was accepted and will be filed for audit.

Advocacy Committee

*Randall said that Khristina Motley has done a lot of work on finding schools that are not involved in AVA events. She compiled a spreadsheet for districts to see what schools are in their district. District Chairs were asked to provide any information on the schools listed and send her any changes.

*Meg Jones said that she is going to organize a comprehensive mailing list that will be shared and updated every year by DCs instead of having directors to fill out a form each year, as the form has not been successful.

AVA Board Policies

Randall asked the Board to make sure they read and sign electronically the Board policies.

All-State 2022 Music Lists

****District 1-4: top District 5-7: bottom****

MS Mixed – Gretchen Harrison (Kansas City--Frontier MS / Allegro Choirs)

Sorída Rosphanye Powell (I Want to Be Ready – 2nd option)

Sing Out, My Soul Marques Garrett

Hope Lingers On Schneckenburger / arr. Ramsey

Jubilate Deo David Brunner

Amavolovolo arr. Rudolf de Beer

Dixit Dominus Vivaldi / arr. Liebergen

*The board was concerned about the “Sing Out, My Soul” as it was not a very good MS option and was too long. Also, this program is over the budget for instrumental allowance. The board voted to go with I Want to be Ready instead of Sorída.

MS Treble – Ashley Dame (Wylie East HS, Texas)

Regarde Se C'est Vrai Antognini

Jabberwocky Carolyn Jennings

Metsa Telegramm Uno Naissoo

Oh, Think of Me Hagenberg

Juntos Papoulis

*The Board had some concern for the amount of language—only one English piece and lots of texts in various languages. They suggested we ask for a replacement for the French piece. Randall will contact the clinician and ask if she would consider fulfilling this request.

HS SSA – Jaclyn Normandie (Knoxville, TN)

Akekho Ofana No Jesu Daniel Jackson

I Sing Because I'm Happy Gabriel / arr. Paden & Dilworth

Canticum Novum Ivo Antognini

*Alto 2 sing Alto 3, Alto 1 split by district; S2 sing S3 and S1 split by district.

Widmung Schumann / arr. Mulholland

Even When He is Silent André Arnesen

*Divide by district. (1-4 = top/ 5-7 = bottom)

*This packet was accepted by the Board with no changes.

HS TTBB – Matthew Oltman (Shenandoah University)

Brothers Sing On Howard McKinney

O Domine Jesu Christe Brumel/ arr. Oltman

O Qué Suave Santa Clara / ed. Russell

Cantique de Jean Racine Fauré / arr. Mulholland

Someone to Fall Back On Jason Robert Brown

Glory from Selma arr. Rogers

*This packet was accepted by the Board with no changes.

HS SATB – Jabarie Glass (University of South Carolina)

The Last Words of David Randall Thompson

Veni Sancte Spiritus Mozart

In His Care-O Dawson

Erev Shel Shoshanim Jadar / arr. Klebanow

Afternoon on a Hill Eric Barnum

Tuttarana Reena Esmail

*Board accepted this packet as-is and agreed it is a strong program.

ASSC

Cameron Weiler and a committee presented a proposed schedule for this event, beginning on Wednesday night and ending Friday night. Her main concern was that the Honor Choir needs a shell and the ASSC band cannot be heard with the shells in place. Cameron asked the board about auditioning in-person along with regular All-State auditions, as she felt the online audition lowers participation. Much discussion ensued and a vote was taken on keeping the online auditions for ASSC and it was decided to continue to have auditions online for this event.

ASSC Proposed Rehearsal Schedule**Wednesday, January 19****BJCC**

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Registration

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. 1st Rehearsal

Thursday, January 20**BJCC**

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 2nd Rehearsal

11:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch Break

1:30 - 5:00 p.m. 3rd Rehearsal

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Supper Break

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. 4th Rehearsal

Friday, January 21**BJCC**

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. 5th Rehearsal

11:30 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 - 3:30 p.m. 6th Rehearsal

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Break

4:30 – Sound Check/ Group pic

5:00pm - Concert

Randall made a motion that we accept this schedule, seconded by Alice LaGrone.
Motion approved.

****ASSC Clinician: Ly Wilder / Choreographer: Ellie Jordan**

What a Man Gotta Do arr. Mark Brymer

Say Something arr. Mac Huff

Imagine Ly Wilder

Shake a Tail Feather arr. Billingsley

*Packet was accepted by the Board and no changes were needed.

Point of Discussion: Since our ASSC is called an “All-State” choir, and students are no longer required to be a member of All-State choir to audition for ASSC, then those students who are only in ASSC can now audition for OCS.

A motion was made by Zach Banks that we allow the membership to vote on making a change to Article 13.1 and 15.2.A to add ASSC to the list of All-State membership pre-requirements for OCS/ME. Motion was seconded by Kate Dupuis. Motion passed.

Honor Choir

Hilen Wilson proposed that we do an a cappella/jazz choir instead of the standard Honor Choir event. There will still be a screening in each district. The board discussed the pros and cons of the change in direction for this event, as the overall goal would be increased participation from the membership. Possible clinicians: Christina Watson at Vanderbilt and perhaps someone from Lee University.

Hilen made a motion that we rename this event to “A Cappella Honor Choir” and keep the same schedule from the last Honor Choir event. Zach Banks seconded this motion and all approved.

All-State

- The Board discussed the option to have a hybrid situation for auditions. The membership surveys showed that it was a fairly equal division of those who liked and those who disliked the online audition process. Much discussion on equality and fairness ensued and the Board decided that the auditions will only be in-person this year.
- The Board meeting on March 9th will be virtual at 4:00pm. OCS/OA auditions will not be March 11th, but will be TBA. This will save money on hotel expenses.
- DCs should get to All-State on the morning of the event a couple hours before the students arrive

Audition Schedule:

Oct 31	District 1
Nov 1 – 2	District 5
Nov 3	District 4
Nov 4 – 5	District 2 & 3
Nov 8	District 6
Nov 9	District 7

OCS/OA/ME

- Alice LaGrone brought up the fact that the virtual audition process made this event much easier and more cost effective for students and teachers. The Board discussed that this made it easier to secure judges from other states.

Randall Fields made a motion to keep OCS / ME auditions virtual, and leave OA on-site, seconded by Alice LaGrone. Motion passed.

Fall Workshop

Schedule for September 10, 2021 Fall Workshop was discussed. The location is tentatively at University of Montevallo. The following schedule was proposed:

8:00-8:30	Registration
8:30-8:45	Welcome and Introductions
8:45-9:45	<i>Mindful Practices in Musical Life</i> Jaclyn Normandie
9:45-10:00	Break
10:00-11:00	Reading Session Matt Carey
11:00-11:45	District Meetings
11:45-1:45	Lunch break
12:00-1:00	New Teacher Luncheon
1:15-1:45	<i>#1 - Middle School All-State Information</i> <i>#2 - Take Aways from the Pandemic</i> Cameron Weiler & Alice LaGrone <i>#3 - Round Table Discussions:</i> A. The Ins & Outs of Show Choir Eron Smith & Dan Cater B. Inclusion in the Choral Classroom Zach Banks C. How to be Successful with Student Teachers Ginny Coleman
1:50-2:50	<i>Working With Male Voices When You're a Female</i> Jaclyn Normandie
3:00-3:45	General Membership Meeting
3:45-4:45	High School All-State Information
3:45-4:15	How to Tackle National Board Certification Jim Schaeffer & Hilen Wilson
4:15-4:45	<i>Building a Choral Program with Success</i> Conrad Webber

The Board accepted this proposed schedule for Fall Workshop.

Bids and Contracts

All-State Recording: Tim Batt retiring but will do this event one more year. His cost has increased almost \$2/student. The board discussed this increase and possibilities with digital sharing.

Alice LaGrone moved that this bid be tabled in order to give time to seek out other bids for this contract (seconded by Zach Banks). Meg will ask for a bid from another company and will go with the lower cost.

Other business: Eron Smith offered to make rehearsal tracks for All-State. The Board discussed the fact that Matthew Curtis pays AVA to advertise on the website, so we have to provide the link. However, this is free enterprise and the Board has never endorsed any of the third party providers. Therefore, the Board suggested that we allow Eron to advertise and sell his rehearsal tracks to anyone.

SCPA

*The Board discussed the problem of adjudicator's this year having a divide of 2 or more points on stage adjudication.

***Board Handbook currently reads (District Chair Duties for SCPA):**

"G. There is to be no conferring of adjudicators in regards to ratings unless there is an abnormal split of on-stage scores (I, II, III or II, III, IV). If such a split occurs the DC will go back to the adjudicators and (See Adjudicator Guidelines.)"

***The following motion was made by Zach Banks, seconded by Alice LaGrone:**

The wording in the Board Handbook will change to:

"G. There is to be no conferring of adjudicators in regards to ratings unless there is a split more than one rating between any two adjudicators (i.e. I, II, III or I, I, III, or II, IV, IV, etc.) of on-stage scores. If this discrepancy occurs, the DC will discuss with the adjudicators and find a resolve (See Adjudicator Guidelines.)"

→Motion passed.

DC Training on SCPA

- Randall explained to DCs the 15-min scheduling of SCPA
- Remind teachers that they will not be scheduled until their payment is received, not registration form submitted
- Randall discussed all the details of running the SCPA events successfully
- Meg reminded DCs that they might should have their own choirs perform on a different day/district to keep things running smoothly

Sight Reading for SCPA

* The board broke off into groups of two and reviewed the SR examples for each voicing that were composed by Ben Cook.

Closing Items

Zach Banks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Paul Edmondson at 7:22pm on June 28.