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# MSVMA MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to educate and inspire all people to understand and value the art of vocal music and its lifelong impact on the human spirit.

## Important Websites

MSVMA  
[www.msvma.org](http://www.msvma.org)

American Choral Directors  
Association-Michigan  
[www.acdami.org](http://www.acdami.org)

Michigan Music  
Educators Association  
[www.michiganmea.org](http://www.michiganmea.org)

Michigan Music Conference  
[www.michiganmusicconference.org](http://www.michiganmusicconference.org)

Michigan School  
Band & Orchestra Association  
[www.msboa.org](http://www.msboa.org)

Michigan Youth Arts Festival  
[www.myaf.org](http://www.myaf.org)

Summer 2011  
Volume 45, Number 3

*The MSVMA Journal is published three times a year, in October, March, and June. Articles are welcome and may be submitted to the MSVMA office [msvma@msvma.org](mailto:msvma@msvma.org).*

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## President's Message

### Steve Hinz, President

How exciting to be greeting another summer! After the rush of the school year with all of its performances, evening rehearsals, opportunities at many festivals, travel with a choir over weekends and breaks.....I don't know of any profession, other than a choir director, that appreciates more the new pace that summer brings! Hopefully, you are finding time with your families and friends to enjoy the wonderful activities that make Michigan a wonderful place to work and play.



This summer also brings me the opportunity to look back and reflect on my tenure as President of the Michigan School Vocal Music Association. I look at the 6-year track as president as being the finest opportunity for professional development. So many of you have taught me the grace of resiliency as you overcame adversities, and continued to look for solutions to the many challenges of our profession. It's uplifting to see the recurrence of situations where the dignity and importance of our students were upheld.

I have also enjoyed the opportunities to be inspired by so many of your work, whether in warm-ups, rehearsals, festival performances, sight-singing at festivals, or viewing your work on You-Tube, Facebook and through live-stream performances. I have always believed that I understood the work that each of us have in our communities of Michigan. I now, however, have a new perspective on the extent of the impact on not only the life of each community where you all teach, but the profound effect that each of you have on 1,000's of individual students. It is impressive!

Speaking of excellence, what an honor it has been to witness the activities of our organization and its volunteers! We are blessed that many people have answered, "Yes" to the invitation of service for our association members and their students. Personally, I am indebted to the expert guidance given by our Past-

President, Dr. James Borst, President-Elect, Erich Wangeman, and Executive Director, Virginia Kerwin. I could not have found the success in my leadership position, without their support, wisdom, encouragement, friendship, and trustworthy professionalism. This is another specific example of the excellence we work with in our state.

I hope you continue to find new ways to give of yourself as an MSVMA volunteer and find its benefits of enrichment and growth. As we continue to face the changing picture of public school education, we must find ways to place MSVMA in the appropriate track to react and support vocal music education in the state. My professional goals over the next two years, as I move into the past-president position, include focusing MSVMA on the changing look of public school education and assisting with technology development. I truly feel that it is important that MSVMA solidly supports the growth of formal school programs, while ensuring that we help the growth of all young people that have an interest in vocal music. I also believe that MSVMA can provide leadership and increase the benefits of technology beyond our website and scheduler and further support vocal music education.

I'm very proud of our volunteers that planned, organized, and executed outstanding activities and operations including: repertoire and sight-reading material guidance, the Summer Workshop, technology development, choral festivals, online journal publication, solo/ensemble festivals, financial oversight, awards management, adjudication development, honors choir experiences, the Michigan Youth Arts Festival, the Michigan Music Conference and other professional development for our members. Many are aware of the faces of MSVMA because of the great products they see. I am keenly aware of the number of people who tirelessly work beyond the public eye, and quietly plan and bring to life our

**President's Message**  
*continued...*

mission and vision of MSVMA. I am honored to work beside such humble dedication!

Our executive and full boards will continue to guide the strength of our organization as they bring to life our vision statement:

MSVMA members actively and innovatively respond to the evolving facets of vocal music education through collaboration, advocacy, technology, and lifelong learning opportunities that meet the needs of a diverse population.

Ensure that MSVMA continues to meet your needs and communicate often with our leadership!

Our upcoming activities are exciting! First, I can't imagine missing the Summer Workshop with conductor, Joe Miller, from Westminster Choir College. What a great opportunity to work with a favorite "Michigan Conductor!" Secondly, next fall,

and at the Michigan Music Conference, you can join the MSVMA 75th Anniversary Choir under the direction of Francisco Núñez, of the Young People's Chorus of New York City. Be sure to register soon for this choir and look for other exciting celebrations of our 75th Anniversary.

Finally, it's interesting that now as I leave this leadership position, it's time for me to seek opportunities for formal music opportunities for my own children, ages 5 and 7. What a fun adventure this will be to seek out the finest of music education for them. I wish you the best as you enjoy your summer, work on your craft and artistry of music teaching, rejuvenate, and plan for the demands of your new student groups that come to you next fall. I look forward to seeing you soon.

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## From the Desk of Virginia Kerwin, Executive Director MSVMA

Summer Greetings from the MSVMA Office. Pam and I hope that you are all enjoying a well-deserved break from school responsibilities, and are enjoying time with family and friends. I know that many of you are attending colleges, universities, and workshops. I hope that you will consider writing a journal article for your MSVMA colleagues about your experiences. We have now been in our new offices at Ferris State University for one year and enjoy the setting and opportunities it affords. If you are in the area, please feel free to stop by and see us. The Summer MSVMA Office Hours are 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Monday through Thursday. We are also closed Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday September 5<sup>th</sup>.

This has been an emotionally challenging year for our state as many music programs have seen major cuts, and in some cases elimination, due to school financing. MSVMA continues to network with ArtServe Michigan with regular updates from MSVMA members. I will be attending the Arts Education Policy Forum in August at the Interlochen Center for the Arts. There will be dynamic speakers on arts education from the Kennedy Center for the Arts and the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education. Please continue to forward information to the MSVMA office and/or Mike Latvis [Mike@artservemichigan.org](mailto:Mike@artservemichigan.org) at ArtServe Michigan when you have questions and/or concerns from your district.

During 2010-2012 I represented MSVMA:

- Summer Workshop – July
- People to People South Africa Delegation – August
- MSVMA Executive Board Meetings – July, September, January, May, June
- MSVMA Full Board Meetings – September, January, June
- District 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 Fall Meetings – September
- MYAF Meetings – September, February
- MMC Meetings – September, October,

November, January, March, April

- MSVMA Adjudication Clinic – October
- ACDA-Michigan Fall Convention – October
- MMC - January
- MSVMA District 2, 8 Festivals – February, April
- ACDA National Convention – March
- MSVMA East & South, State Solo & Ensemble Festivals – March, April
- MYAF Listening Panels - April
- MSVMA South, East, West, and Central State Choral Festivals – April, May
- MSVMA Finance Committee Meeting - May
- MYAF – May

### **Full Board**

MSVMA is indebted to the extraordinary leadership provided by the members of the Full Board. Retiring on June 30<sup>th</sup> are: Executive Board – James Borst, Susan Catanese; District Managers – Curtis Gulledge, Rosilyn Stearns-Brown, and Bert VanDyke. Mark Twain said, “To do right is wonderful. To teach others to do right is even more wonderful.” Thank you for your wisdom and mentorship during your tenure in these volunteer roles. You leave behind a better organization because of your leadership.

### **Adjudication**

This was an extraordinary year for festival events. MSVMA continues to explore new horizons with the piloting of the new Solo Adjudication Rubric in Districts 4 HS, 8JMS, and 12HS. The Adjudication Committee (Nancy Bray, Catherine Brodie, Bob Cindric, Greg Cleveland, and myself), meets in July, and I anticipate it recommending a state-wide pilot for 2011-2012 before implementation in 2012-2013. In addition to reviewing adjudicator evaluations and in-service reports, the committee will be considering statistics from state choral festivals relevant to the point spreads for final determinations at the district

**Executive Director's  
Message *continued...***

and state choral festivals. The agenda also includes aligning the choral festival sight reading rubric with the performance rubric. A site for the October 1<sup>st</sup> Adjudication Clinic has not been determined. Attendance at these clinics is open to all MSVMA members. It is a great in-service day!! State Choral Festival Adjudication was outstanding. An All-Star Panel enjoyed listening to great choral singing and the collegiality that MSVMA provides these out-of-state clinicians.

**Publications**

All MSVMA Journals are published online. Sight Reading Books from District Choral Festivals and State Solo & Ensemble Festivals are available for \$2.00 each from the MSVMA Office. Please contact Pam if you are interested [secretary@msvma.org](mailto:secretary@msvma.org). A NEW Compilation Sight Reading CD will be available August 1<sup>st</sup> for purchase from the MSVMA Office. This includes all MSVMA sight reading examples from 2006-2010. Cost is \$100 plus shipping.

**Elections**

The Elections Process for Teacher of the Year and Honors Choir Directors will proceed as follows this year:

**Phase One** - Bios will appear online and voting will also be done online.

**Phase Two** - Bios will appear online and voting will also be done online.

Current MSVMA members will be notified via email when the voting window begins and ends.

**Full Board Meeting**

The following actions were taken at the MSVMA Full Board Meeting on June 4, 2011.

**Proposal #10-22 (Tabled from January 20, 2011) Eliminate the 7-8-9 SATB State Honors Choir and create a 7-8-9 TTB State Choir in its place on a two year trial basis.**

***PASSED Beginning in 2012***

**Proposal #11-01 (Tabled from January 20,**

**2011) Replacement of 7-8-9 SATB Honors Choir with 6-7-8-9 Boys Choir**

***WITHDRAWN***

**Proposal #11-02 Intermediate School District Membership Category**

MSVMA will expand its school membership category to include Intermediate School Districts

***NO ACTION TAKEN - REQUIRES CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT***

**Proposal #11-03 Change the Format for 6-4-8-9 Honors Choir Auditions**

Singers auditioning for 6-7-8-9 honors choirs will audition individually.

***TABLED - January 2012 meeting***

**Proposal #11-04 Small Ensemble Performances at Michigan Youth Arts Festival**

MSVMA will develop a plan for the selection of small ensembles for performance at MYAF.

***PASSED***

**Proposal #11-05 Large Ensemble Selection for Performance Michigan Youth Arts Festival**

There will be one ensemble chosen at each MSVMA State Solo & Ensemble Festival Site for performance at Michigan Youth Arts Festival. Judges will rank order their 6 selections with the top ranked automatically advancing for performance at the festival. The remaining 5 ensembles will be advanced to the listening panel for selection.

***PASSED***

*The MSVMA Journal is published three times a year, in October, March, and June. Articles are welcome and may be submitted to the MSVMA office [msvma@msvma.org](mailto:msvma@msvma.org). In addition, a special election issue is published in December.*

# MSVMA Financial Report for the Period July 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>Total</u>
Accountant			Accountant	3000.00	685.00
Adjudication		120.00	Adjudication	3910.00	2444.11
Awards & Medals	50000.00	13467.50	Awards & Medals	45311.00	22745.15
Executive Board			Executive Board	9250.00	5451.36
Full Board		1273.28	Full Board	17000.00	12452.88
HS Honors Choir	59000.00	46704.00	HS Honors Choir	59000.00	38436.50
JH/MS Honors Choir	37000.00	33427.00	JH/MS Honors Choir	37000.00	27115.07
Legal Counsel			Legal Counsel	1000.00	
Membership	175567.00	193210.00	Membership	2500.00	1415.27
Miscellaneous	100.00		Miscellaneous	500.00	
MYAF	1750.00		MYAF	3000.00	2034.27
Pop & Chamber Festival	1000.00	265.00	Pop & Chamber Festival	1000.00	100.00
Professional Development	51000.00	25972.70	Professional Development	50500.00	30985.53
Publications	3000.00	3375.00	Publications		
Sight Reading	9000.00	5246.56	Sight Reading	7600.00	4760.01
State Choral Festival	60400.00		State Choral Festival	60400.00	1346.86
State Solo & Ensemble Fest.	55500.00	21093.00	State Solo & Ensemble Festival	55500.00	19231.24
Technology Development			Technology Development	10000.00	11241.42
Office Management	1700.00	1154.14	Office Management	138546.00	101028.68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505017.00</b>	<b>345308.18</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505017.00</b>	<b>281473.35</b>

The MSVMA Office has moved and no longer has room for the furniture pictured below. If you or someone would like to purchase the furniture, please contact the MSVMA State Office at 231-592-9344.

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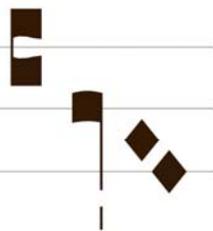
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Conference Table \$175  
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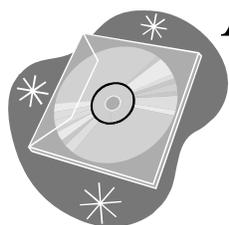
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## 2011 MSVMA Summer Workshop

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Sessions will be presented by Frances Brockington, Gabriella Hristova, Virginia Kerwin, David Rayl, Julie Skadsem and many other MSVMA and MMEA members and friends.

University Credit available through MSU

August 1-3, 2011  
Radisson Hotel  
Downtown Lansing

Registration is available online  
at the following link:  
<http://www.regonline.com/msvma2011>

*Congratulations to the following  
MSVMA 2011 Retirees*



**Cherry Westerman** received her undergraduate training at Yale College and the University of Michigan, and has completed her course work for the Masters of Choral Education at Eastern Michigan University. She started teaching Elementary Vocal Music in Belleville in January 1976, moving to the Ann Arbor Public Schools that September. Her six years at the Elementary level was rewarding, but it's the 29 years since at Slauson Middle School in Ann Arbor where she really found her niche, teaching adolescents to sing and explore music! Cherry has focused much of her time with the boys changing voices, benefitting from workshops with John Cooksey, Alan Glumm, and at the VoiceCare Network in Minneapolis.

MSVMA has played a big part in Cherry's professional life. Slauson's 8th grade choir, singing SATB repertoire, attended Choral Festival every year she taught there, earning consistent Excellent ratings and sight reading at Intermediate and Advanced levels. Her students have been selected for the State Honors Choirs each fall, and she was thrilled to have the experience conducting the 2010 SATB Junior High Honors Choir. She has served on the Music Selection committee, attended District and State Board meetings, and recently started adjudicating.



**Robert Hay** received his BA from Olivet College in 1974 and his MA from Michigan State University in 1980. He has done additional post graduate work at Vandercook School of Music in Chicago. As an MSBOA member, Bob has been sight host for the MSBOA District 6 Middle School and Junior High Band and Orchestra Festivals in the early 1980's and has assisted as sight host for middle school solo and ensemble festivals in the 1990's and 2006. As a member of MSVMA, Bob has been District Manager, hosted solo and ensemble festivals and has been the choral festival chairman. He is also a member of the ACDA. Bob has spent his entire 37 years of teaching in the

River Valley School District in Three Oaks. His wife Connie retired from River Valley in 2008 and their daughter, Kelly, currently teaches middle school band in Pasadena, Texas.

## FEATURE

### Rudyard Church Organist David Erfourth Honored for 50 Years of Service

By Ted Booker

Published in The St. Ignace News  
March 3, 2011

David Erfourth is a 1999 MSVMA Emeritus

Rich, melodious organ music echoes inside the sanctuary at St. James Lutheran Church of Rudyard every Sunday to begin each service, prompting parishioners to forget their everyday trials and prepare for worship.

They can't see him, but these parishioners know the music is played by David Erfourth, who is perched atop the balcony with his organ. Mr. Erfourth, 62, was honored by the congregation this fall for playing the organ at this small church for 50 years, a journey he started as a 12-year-old boy in October 1960.

But while Mr. Erfourth, a retired music teacher who taught vocal music at Rudyard High School for 23 years, is a masterful artist, he says that playing the organ at this church for a half century has enabled him to make the most of God-given talent. He sees himself as a vessel used to enrich the lives of people.

"This is a blessing that God has given me," he said, "and I'm going to play as long as I still can."

He first played the organ at the church as a youngster who'd been practicing the piano for four years. One Sunday, he was asked to fill in for the organist, who was leaving the church. At that time the hymns were still sung in Finnish, he said, and he remembers his mother, Helmi, coaching him when to play.

After being graduated from Rudyard High School, Mr. Erfourth studied music at Suomi College, now called Finlandia, in Hancock, after hearing about its highly regarded director. But when the director unexpectedly retired after his freshman year, he found himself at a crossroads about what to do with his education and career.

Steering his future in another direction, he decided to become a teacher and earned his bachelor's degree at Northern Michigan University, where he studied music education and piano.

"I had to decide what I wanted to do, and becoming a teacher was the best decision I ever made," he said, adding that, while he was a student, he continued to travel to Rudyard during the weekends to play the organ at church and work with the choir.

After teaching vocal music at Gladstone High School for three years, he jumped on the opportunity to teach at Rudyard High School near his hometown church.

The next two decades of his life would be spent inspiring students with a love of music.

Students who had Mr. Erfourth as a teacher will recall his passion and determination for excellence. When he first started teaching, the student choir received modest ratings of threes and twos in district performances.



**Feature Article**  
*continued...*

That soon changed, however, as the choir earned top ratings almost every year and the school became known for its music program.

Mr. Erfourth pushed his students to strive for excellence, never settling for mediocrity. In addition to singing, his students were also taught music theory. Junior high students will likely recall learning the five elements of music in class, he said, written in bold letters on the chalkboard for them to take notes.

“Music itself is dots on a piece of paper, but I used to tell my students they mean nothing until you put your heart, brain, and voice together to make those notes come alive,” he said. “You are painting a... picture of sound.”

His students never let him down, he said. Today, many of his former students have called him on the telephone to thank him for introducing them to the world of music, which has changed their lives.

But teaching students was only one side of the coin for Mr. Erfourth, who as an organist and pianist continues to fill St. James Lutheran Church with music every Sunday. The church has always placed a heavy emphasis on music, he said, explaining that its tradition harkens back to early hymns written to be sung by Martin Luther, the father of the Protestant Reformation.

By design, he said, the sermon and music on each Sunday complement each other like twin brothers, creating a worship experience that feels alive and true.

“The music intertwines with the sermon to make it effective,” he explained, adding that the organ is played during a prelude, are citation of the liturgy, hymns, and postlude after the sermon ends. Depending on the mood of the sermon or time of the year, the music can fall anywhere in the range of somber to lively and upbeat.

Mr. Erfourth’s music “really adds a lot to the worship,” Pastor Mike Mannisto said. “He’s a fantastic musician, and you can really tell he puts a lot into the music. It’s amazing how well he knows his hymns.”

Wendy Ehle, the church secretary, who’s known Mr. Erfourth for 30 years, said, “David gives it his all when he’s playing for the church and he gives all the credit to God.”

And when he’s not playing music, she said, Mr. Erfourth also has a contagious sense of humor.

“He usually has a pun in the back of his mind that will always bring a smile to people’s faces,” she said.

Looking back on his time at the church, where he’s seen 12 pastors come and go over the years, Mr. Erfourth sums it all up by saying he was lucky to find his passion and make the most of it.

“We’ve all got some kind of talent,” he said, “whether it’s a teacher, policeman, nurse, newspaper reporter, et cetera. We may not discover it right away, but the secret is to discover that purpose early on enough so that we can use that gift to the fullest.”

## In Memorium

Cole Brooks Tyrrell  
MSVMA Member

Distinguished Educator, South Haven Public Schools

December 19, 1946 - May 2, 2012

## Time and Place

Saturday, September 3  
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## Run or Walk

Family-friendly and suitable for runners or walkers, our annual 5k raises money to support arts education in Michigan's schools! More than just a race, the day is a celebration of the arts - featuring live performances, art installations and more! Whether you're a seasoned runner or have never walked three miles before, we have a place for you! The course has a little grass, a little gravel, but is mostly paved roads on the tree-lined streets of Royal Oak.

## Do Art

**Artists of all ages** are invited to submit proposals to perform or install art at the event! We are especially looking for groups to perform along the route and in the park, visual and interactive art in the park, and creative awards to give to participants. Do you have a vision for a giant temporary sculpture? Does your choir like to sing al fresco? Download the artist participation guidelines online and submit a proposal.

## Volunteer

Race-day volunteers staff the water station, serve as course marshals, help with registration and check-in, and more. Anyone high-school-age or older can help! This is a great chance for school groups or scout troops to perform a service to the community. For a list of opportunities, contact: [stacey@michiganyoutharts.org](mailto:stacey@michiganyoutharts.org).

## Raise Money for Arts Education!

It's easy to become a fundraiser! Visit [crowdrise.com/artsinmotion](http://crowdrise.com/artsinmotion) to join our team! You'll automatically get a personal fundraising page to share with friends and social networks. You don't have to participate in the 5k to collect sponsorships, but running or walking for a cause is a great way to stay motivated and to inspire others!

## Arts, Beats & Eats

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# MSVMA Executive Board Updates

James Borst  
Past President

## ELECTIONS

The voting process for the special election of Honors Choir directors for 2013 closed in early June. The formal announcement of results will be given at the Summer Workshop.

All nominations for the 2014 Honors Choir directors were due to Past President James Borst on June 1. The voting process for this election will begin in September and completed in November, 2011

## CAROLYN LEEP SCHOLARSHIP

Carolyn Leep Scholarship applications are available on the MSVMA web-site. The applications are due to the new Past President by November 1, 2011.

## TECHNOLOGY

MSVMA continues to go green by being completely “paperless”. Exciting plans are being made to ensure teacher fluidity and efficiency on the web. Adam Wurst is the webmaster for MSVMA.

Erich Wangeman  
President Elect

During one of his sessions at the Michigan Music Conference last year Dr. David Brunner, our Headliner, utilized one of his most famous pieces, “The Circle Of Our Lives” to illustrate some important points about crafting music to fit the text. This text (and his beautiful setting of it) resonates with me each year at this time. The end of school is like the completion of a life circle. It gives us a chance to reflect on the year which has just past, and to look forward to the school year which will come. (All too soon in September.)

If you’re like me you make lists. My desk is cluttered with them. They include literature I’d like to do in the future, areas which need focus in order to improve the efficacy of the program, and a list of rules and regulations which need to be better enforced. (Items on this list look like this: “Too many lost bowties. Next year enforce monetary penalties more strictly.”)

The end of this school year marks the completion of a life circle for MSVMA. Over the summer Steve Hinz will transition from President to Past-President I and will take his place. I am truly honored to be able to serve MSVMA in this capacity and I look forward to working with all members to ensure the success of our organization in the challenging years ahead. I’ve no doubt that the future will require strength and tenacity from all of us as we weather the storm of continued economic crises in public education funding. The needs of our membership may change, the structure of our organization may require some alterations, and the paradigm of each event may shift, in order to keep up with the demands of the changing climate in our member schools. Throughout this change one thing is certain to remain, however. Our mission, to educate and inspire all people to understand and value the art of vocal music and its lifelong impact on the human spirit, must not change.

As President Elect I was in charge of the Membership portion of our Strategic Plan. One of our biggest goals was to involve our members more in the daily operation of our organization. (Many hands make light work.) As President I will continue to ask each member to serve our organization in some way. Doing so will ensure that MSVMA grows and changes in ways that fit the changing needs of its member schools.

This year each District Manager came to the Fall Meeting with a list of jobs each member could volunteer to help with. These jobs could be as large as hosting district choral festival or as small as bringing water to the spring meeting. (If you didn’t see a sign up list, ask your District Manager how you can

help.) We will utilize a document to record the number of member volunteers we had for the 2010-2011 school year. Our goal is to increase the number of volunteers serving the needs of our organization for the 2011-2012 school year.

Remember, MSVMA is YOUR organization! It is only as strong as the members make it. This means that we must all strive to help it meet our needs. It also means that you must volunteer your time to ensure its success.

I am looking forward to working with you for the betterment of this amazing organization. I thank you for electing me to this position, and I implore you to work with me to ensure its success in the future.

Rod Bushey  
Executive Board Treasurer

This will be a challenging year ahead and the finance committee took steps to assure a balanced budget.

As per approval of the full board, we will operate the coming year **without increasing membership dues**. We were able to reduce the expenditures in numerous categories because we are operating more efficiently with less postage, printing, and paper costs. By providing publications online, this reflects a significant savings to our association. When all is said and done, we reduced the budget from last year by \$5,000.00.

We are all aware of the challenging year ahead and we are maintaining the clinician/consultant program because of the demand. Also, the 75 years of MSVMA celebration, was reflected as a significant increase of \$25,000.00 ...because we are pulling out "ALL THE STOPS" to make this an event to remember. The money for the anniversary celebration is coming out of our savings account by will be reflected as a line item from membership.

Thank you to the membership for all you do to keep our organization in the "black". A HUGE thanks to Ginny and Pam for the many hours they work on finance items in the MSVMA office. Have a restful summer!

Doug Armstead  
Director  
Summer Workshop Awards  
MYAF Videotape Library

**The Summer Workshop** is ready for another great year. The team has worked extremely hard to put together three outstanding days of learning and fun. Our headliner will be Dr. Joe Miller. Joe Miller is conductor of two of America's most renowned choral ensembles – the Westminster Choir and the Westminster Symphonic Choir. As director of choral activities at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, N.J., he also oversees an extensive choral program that includes eight ensembles. Dr. Miller is also founder and conductor of the Westminster Chamber Choir, a program that offers professional-level choral and vocal artists the opportunity to explore challenging works for two weeks each summer on the Westminster campus in Princeton. Recent works have included Hawley's *Italian Madrigals*, Handel's *Dixit Dominus* and White's *Lamentations*. He also led the 2010 Westminster Choral Festival, which welcomed choral musicians from throughout the world and focused on Mozart's *Requiem*.

In demand as a clinician and guest conductor, his 2010-2011 season includes a conducting residency with the Berlin Radio Symphony Chorus and conducting the Virginia and Kentucky All-State Choruses. He also will appear as headliner for conferences presented by the Ohio Music Educators Association, the New Jersey American Choral Directors Association and the Michigan School Vocal Musicians Association. Recent seasons have

**Board continued...**

included a conducting residency at the University of Arizona, a master class for undergraduate conducting students at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Eastern Division conference and serving as headliner for the New Jersey and Kansas ACDA conferences.

This year's dates will be August 1-3, 2011 and will be at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, located next to the Capital in beautiful downtown Lansing. MUSIC PACKETS AND HANDBOOKS ARE ONLY GUARANTEED TO BE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO REGISTER BEFORE THE JUNE 12TH DEADLINE. Because of the cost of music, we simply cannot afford to purchase extra. This will help to keep the cost of the conference at last year's rate. The conference brochure will only be available online this summer. Please take a minute to download a copy to your iPad, phone or laptop. A schedule of each day will be included in each music packet.

Are you a new teacher? We have drop the rate to \$100 for any teacher in their first year, in order to encourage more new teachers to attend.

We are excited to welcome back Educational Tours, Inc. as one of our Workshop sponsors and Musical Resources as our new music sponsor. Please take a minute to stop at their booths to welcome them and to thank them for all of their support. Finally, Dr. Eph Ely, will be our headliner for 2012.

Susan Catanese  
Director  
State Events  
Pop & Chamber Festivals

It has been an honor and privilege serving as Director of State Events the past four years. I began my tenure under the leadership of our wonderful Past President James Borst, served under the inspirational, creative

spirit of President Steve Hinz, and have been privileged to experience the beginning tenure of our capable and sincere President-Elect, Erich Wangeman. Please welcome our newly elected Director of State Events, Pam Pierson from West Ottawa HS, in Holland. This position is in very capable hands indeed!

The 2011 State Festival season was a huge success, after a bumpy start with directors and supervisors alike, adjusting to the new online scheduling process. Once things got under way led with great tenacity by our newly appointed Technology Supervisor, Adam Wurst, all details fell into place. Many thanks to Adam, our dedicated supervisors and our host schools.

*Directors are reminded and encouraged to first contact their SITE SUPERVISOR with problems and questions, rather than directly contacting the Technology Supervisor, Director of State Events, or the MSVMA Executive Director. The SITE SUPERVISOR will contact the appropriate Executive Board member when necessary. THANK YOU!*

**Pop and Chamber Festivals**

Thanks to the leadership and organizational talents of Pam Pierson at the West Site (West Ottawa Performing Arts Center) and Julia Holt at the East Site (Oakland University), directors and students state-wide, enjoyed a night of shared, outstanding musical performances. For a mere \$25 application fee per school, your students can experience this non-threatening, non-adjudicated event. It can be a great way to kick off the school year. Applications can be found in the online MSVMA website.

**Dates for 2011**

West Site: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011 @West Ottawa Perf. Arts Center, 7 pm  
Pam Pierson supervisor  
East Site: Monday, November 14, 2011 @ Oakland University, 7 pm  
Julia Holt supervisor

**State Solo and Ensemble Festivals - 2011**

East Marge Payne, Supervisor  
Kevin Cornwell, Host @ Avondale  
HS - March 18-19, 2011  
TOTALS: 59 schools, 66 LE, 21 SE,  
296 Solos  
MYAF events: 32 large ensembles,  
65 solos

West Rick Gossett , Supervisor  
Barbara Witham-McCargar, Host @  
Aquinas College - March 18-19,  
2011  
MYAF events: 39 large ensembles,  
81 solos

South Mary Rashid - Walled Lake Central  
HS - April 15-16  
TOTAL events: 73 LE, 37 SE, 408  
Solos \$16,291.00  
MYAF events: 33 large ensembles,  
106 Solos

Cent. Juli Dick, Supervisor  
Katie McGinnis, Host @ Big Rapids  
HS - April 15-16, 2011  
TOTAL events: 40 LE, 14 SE, 221  
Solos  
MYAF events: 21 LE, 89 solos

U.P. Jan Brodersen – UP - April 15-16  
TOTAL Events: 41 events; 9 LE, 5  
SE, 27 Solos

**State Solo and Ensemble Festivals – 2012**

*Due to the statewide alignment of dates for Spring breaks we are forced to move State S&E festivals to one weekend in March and one weekend in April. Most schools are now going to the first week in April for spring break. This eliminates the first two weekends in April for festival. To comply with MYAF deadlines, we cannot go the last weekend in April. We can no longer use the last weekend in March because it interferes with MSBOA State S&E festival. This is a hardship on teachers, students, accompanists and parents. We will rotate these weekends between sites, i.e. Year 1 South Site is in March, Year 2 South Site is in April, etc. West & East sites will be held the same month, South and*

*Central will be scheduled together. Districts who have the March dates are reminded to schedule their district festivals earlier in the season.*

**Transfer Request Deadline:  
November 15, 2011  
Online Scheduling Deadline:  
Feb. 21, 2012**

South **March 23-24, 2012**  
Walled Lake Central (Host: Mary  
Rashid)  
Supervisor: Mary Rashid  
[mary.rashid@gmail.com](mailto:mary.rashid@gmail.com) 248-255-  
7070

Cent. **March 23-24, 2012**  
Big Rapids HS (Host: Katie McInnis)  
Supervisor: Juli Dick [dickj@ghaps.org](mailto:dickj@ghaps.org)  
616-850-6195

East **April 13-14, 2012**  
Avondale HS (Host: Kevin Corn  
well)  
NEW Supervisor: Sarah Stockton  
[sstockto@grandblancschools.org](mailto:sstockto@grandblancschools.org) 248-  
910-2797

West **April 13-14, 2012**  
Site: East Kentwood HS (Host: Carrie  
Hoeksema) NEW!  
Supervisor: Rick Gossett  
[rgossett@gpsk12.net](mailto:rgossett@gpsk12.net) 616-254-6351

U.P. **April 13-14, 2012**  
Site: Lake Superior Christian Church  
Supervisor: Jan Brodersen  
[jbrodersen@mapsnet.org](mailto:jbrodersen@mapsnet.org) 906-458-7783

**State Choral Festivals - 2012**

**Transfer Request Deadline:  
November 15, 2011  
Online Scheduling Deadline:  
March 20, 2012—UP Site  
March 30, 2012—West, Central,  
Southeast, & South**

U.P. **April 14, 2012**  
Supervisor: Jan Brodersen  
[jbrodersen@mapsnet.org](mailto:jbrodersen@mapsnet.org) 906-458-7783

South **April 26-27, 2012**  
Supervisor: Monty Bishop [mbishop@hpsk12.net](mailto:mbishop@hpsk12.net) 269-744-0522  
Host: Monty Bishop @ Holt HS

East **May 1-2, 2012**  
Supervisor: Marge Payne  
[mpayne7332@aol.com](mailto:mpayne7332@aol.com) 248-628-4947  
Host: Jolene Plotske @ Rochester HS

West **May 3-4, 2012**  
Host: Fairhaven Ministries  
Supervisor: TBA

Cent. **May 8-9, 2012**  
(HS/MS) Supervisor: Meghan Eldred  
[eldredm@dewittschools.net](mailto:eldredm@dewittschools.net)  
517-320-5699  
Host: John Jacobson @ CMU

S/E **May 17-18, 2012**  
(JH/MS) Supervisor: Wendy Treacher  
[2sing4u@modempool.com](mailto:2sing4u@modempool.com)  
517-206-2234  
Host: Jackson Community College

Dates for next year will allow for a 2-day festival, not 2.5 days and will accommodate no more than 64 choirs.

Many thanks to our outstanding supervisors and hosts schools for their time and dedication. They have devoted countless hours to the organization and the running of these festivals. Without their generosity our students would not have this outstanding opportunity.

Mark Krempski  
Director  
Honors Choirs

Summer has arrived! Preparations and planning for next year's Honors Choir are already nearly complete!! What follows is some important information you'll need to participate in Honors Choir for 2011-2012.

First, a debt of gratitude goes out to our two supervisors, Angel Gippert and Cheryl Gapinski, and the coordinators, Matt Laura, Ben Rodgers, Theresa White, John Beck, Ben Henri, Gail Worden and Jennifer Breneman. Through their hard work, these volunteer's ensured the success of the MSVMA Honors Choir program, by taking care of the not-so-fun logistical work, thus allowing students and conductor to focus on creating a true, educational and aesthetic choral experience. THANK YOU!

High School All State with Dr. Joe Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was a smashing success! If you missed the rehearsals and concert, you missed some amazing music making from the best High School singers in our fine State. Special thanks to:

- Nate Degner, Coordinator

Repertoire for next year's Honors Choirs has been reviewed by a committee of six former Honors Choir conductors and approved by the Executive Board. Look for the list in this Summer Journal, the Honors Choir website, and at the **Summer Workshop:**

- **6-7-8-9 Honors Choir Reading Session: Wednesday, August 3, 2:30-3:20pm**
- **HS Honors Choir Reading Session: Wednesday, August 3, 3:30-4:20pm**

**Region A** high schools will notice that auditions may be held in two locations – one on the west side of the state and one on the east side. MSVMA will determine whether you are a 'westy' or an 'easter' - just provide your preference in the registration form. The Regional event may also stay on the east side of the state in Flushing. Both changes are to accommo-

Board *continued...*

## 2011-2012 HONORS CHOIR INFORMATION

date the large geographic boundaries in this Region A, and ensure that every three years or so, it is in your area.

Communicating via email and through the MSVMA Honors Choir website this past year has worked quite well. We moved to 100% internet downloaded practice recordings!! We will continue to move toward a 100% online program. It is our hope to be able to have online registration. **As always, check the Honors Choir website for the most current and accurate information – it's ALL there.**

A few proposals concerning Honors Choir were submitted, presented, and voted or tabled on at the January Full Board meeting. The proposals focused mostly on a continuing trend of decreased participation in the Honors Choir program. Comments and questions from the membership were crafted into written proposals by the Honors Choir coordinators, supervisors, and myself, to directly address these concerns with the Full Board. I encourage you to read these proposals, and communicate your thoughts to your District Managers so they can vote your Districts views. Comments, questions, criticisms, and praise are always welcome as it is your organization, and the activities/events should reflect your input.

In order for MSVMA to continue such an amazing Honors Choir experience each year, just as this past year, we need your students to participate! The THREE-year consecutive ten percent decreases in participation has brought great concern to those running the program. Please encourage as many of your best students and those who would greatly benefit from the program to audition in October! Now go start advocating...

### **Executive Board**

**Director of Honors Choirs** – Mark Krempski

**High School Supervisor** – Angel Gippert

**6-7-8-9 Supervisor** – Cheryl Gapinski

**HS Region A & SSAA State** – Ben Rodgers

**HS Region B & SATB State** – Matt Laura

**HS Region C & TTBB State** – Theresa White

**HS Region D** – John Beck

**All-State** – Nate Degner

**6789 SA** – Ben Henri

**6789 SSA** – Gail Worden

**6789 SATB** – Jennifer Breneman

### **6-7-8-9**

**September 27** - Audition Registration  
DEADLINE

**October 22** – Auditions

**November 5** - Rehearsal & ALL Fees/  
Forms DEADLINE

**November 19** - Rehearsal

**January 7, 2012** – Rehearsal

**January 21, 2012** - State rehearsal &  
performance

### **HS**

**September 20** - Audition Registration  
DEADLINE

**October 15** - Regional Auditions

**October 25** - Regional Honors Choir/State  
Auditions Registration DEAD  
LINE

**December 3** - Regional Honors Choir/State  
Auditions

**December 9** - State Honors Choir Registration  
DEADLINE

**January 19-21, 2012** - State Honors Choir @  
MMC

**February 1, 2012** – All-State selection announced

**March 1, 2012** - All State Registration  
DEADLINE

**May 10-12, 2012** - All State Honors Choir @  
WMU

## 6-7-8-9 Honors Choir

### Deadlines:

September 27 Audition Registration  
November 5 All Fees and All forms

### Audition Date and Sites:

October 22 TBD and Monroe MS

### Rehearsal Dates and Sites

November 5 Northeast MS, Midland  
November 19 TBD  
January 7, 2012 Saline MS, Saline  
January 21, 2012 Amway Grand & DeVos  
Place, Grand Rapids

## High School Honors Choir

### Deadlines

September 20 – Audition Registration  
DEADLINE  
October 25 – Regional Honors Choir/State  
Audition Registration DEAD  
LINE  
December 9 – State Honors Choir Registration  
DEADLINE  
March 1, 2012 – All State registration  
DEADLINE

### Audition Date and Sites

October 15, 2011

Region A: TBD (east and west site)

Region B: Western Michigan University,  
Kalamazoo

Region C: Pioneer HS, Ann Arbor?

Region D: Escanaba HS, Escanaba

### Regional Date and Sites

December 3, 2011

Region A: Flushing HS, Flushing?

Region B: Western Michigan University,  
Kalamazoo

Region C: Pioneer HS, Ann Arbor?

Region D: Escanaba HS, Escanaba

### State Date and Site

January 19-21, 2012 SATB, SSAA, TTBB  
Amway Grand Hotel & DeVos Place,  
Grand Rapids

### All State Date and Site

May 10-12, 2012 SATB - Western Michigan  
University, Kalamazoo

## REPERTOIRE - MSVMA grade 6-7-8-9 Honors Choir - 2012

### SA

- El Cielo canta alegria - Pablo Sosa, arr. Roger Bergs, HL48018824 (in English) **AUDITION**
  - I Had a Paint Box - Z. Randall Stroope, Colla Voce, 48-96900 **CLINIC**
  - Daring to Be - David L. Brunner, Boosey & Hawkes, HL48018854
  - Lacrymosa - W.A. Mozart/ arr. Russell Robinson, Walton Music, HL08501587
  - Georgia on My Mind - arr. Ken Berg, Hal Leonard, HL08749613
  - I Dance to the Stars and the Moon - Cary Ratcliff, G. Schirmer, HL50486085
- 

### SSA

- Lift Thine Eyes - Mendelssohn, Theodore Presser 332-00820 **AUDITION**
  - The Rose And The Gardner - Eleanor Daley, Alliance Music, AMP-0600 **CLINIC**
  - Music Down In My Soul - arr. Moses Hogan, Hal Leonard, 08743329
  - Omnia Sol - Z. Randall Stroope, Heritage, 15/2135H
  - We Raise Our Voices - Amy Bernon, Roger Dean, 15/2171R
  - Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening - Ruth Artman, Hal Leonard, 35021878
- 

### SATB (789)

- Walk Together Children - Stacey V. Gibbs (available thru Musical Resources only) **AUDITION**
- Gloria in Excelsis - Antonio Vivaldi, Walton Music, HL08500628, W2043 **CLINIC**
- Your Song - Carl J. Nygard, Jr., Pavane Publishing, HL 08301904
- Hear My Prayer - Moses Hogan, Hal Leonard, 08744085

- What a Wonderful World – Mark Brymer, Hal Leonard, 08639541
- Turn the World Around – H. Belafonte, R. Freedman, Arr. Larry Farrow, Hal Leonard, HL08738687

**MSVMA HS**  
**Honors Choir - 2012**

**HS - SSAA**

- Quick! we have but a second - Thomas Moore, arr. D. Mooney, ECS Publishing, 6325 **REGIONAL**
  - Surrexit Pastor Bonus - Felix Mendelssohn, Tetra/Continuo, TC 929 **REGIONAL**
  - \*\*These Things Shall Never Die - Frank K. DeWald – Not published
  - Living In A Holy City - Stephen Hatfield, Boosey & Hawkes, HL48004954
  - Thula Babana - Xhosa Lullaby, arr. Hendrick Hofmeyr, Boosey & Hawkes, HL48005075
  - Rain Dream - Joseph Twist, Morton Music, MM2033
  - Vivos Voco - Joan Szymko, Santa Barbara, SBMP 615
- 

**HS - SATB**

- Homeland - Gustav Holst, arr. Z. Randall Stroope – Colla Voce, 45-21104 **AUDITION**
  - Haec Dies - William Byrd, arr. The Kings Singers - HL 08741999 **REGIONAL**
  - Wade In De Water - Traditional, arr. Allen Koepke - SBMP 227 **REGIONAL**
  - \*\*Music Keeps Us Here - Sean Ivory - Not published
  - Water Night - Eric Whitacre, Hal Leonard, HL08500040
  - Dashing Away With The Smoothing Iron - Traditional, arr. John Rutter, Oxford, 0-19-386237-1
- 

**HS - TTBB**

- Widerspruch - Schubert, ed. Shaw/Parker, Alfred LG00513 **REGIONAL**
  - Yes, Sir That's My Baby - arr. Hicks, SPEBSQSA YMIH #2, no. 6402150617 **REGIONAL**
  - \*\*Funga Alafiya - Jeffrey Cobb – Not published
  - I Want What I Want - Herbert, arr. Bennett, Lawson/Gould, 52320 P.O.P
  - Veni Veni - Traditional, arr. Davis, Dots and Lines, DL1988V P.O.P
  - A Hymn to God the Father - John Ness Beck, Beckenhorst BP 1170  
\*\*commissioned for this concert
- 

**HS – All-State**

- JUBILATE DEO - Giovanni Gabrieli , ed. Wallace Woodworth, Hal Leonard, HL50324580
  - PANGE LINGUA – Nunez, Boosey & Hawkes (Hal Leonard), 48004983
  - WITH A LILLY IN YOUR HAND – Whitacre, Santa Barbara Music Pub, SBMP 431
  - KOLENNA SAWA – Papoulis, Boosey & Hawkes (Hal Leonard) 48019388
  - SONG I SING - Stephen Flaherty & Lynn Aarons, Boosey & Hawkes (Hal Leonard) 48019948
  - GUAYACANAL – Nunez, not published
-

Les Rowsey  
Director  
Repertoire Sight Reading

As I reflect upon the semester just passed and look forward to some R 'n' R, I think about all that has transpired in Jenison in the past four months. Our Fine Arts staff presented *Collage*, in which all our secondary music students, Elementary Honors Choir, visual arts classes and theatre program collaborated in a concert/presentation/auction to an audience of nearly 4,000. Ten days later, our community passed a \$32 million bond issue, including approximately \$20 million for a community Fine Arts Center. Our top band, top orchestra and top two choirs joined forces with the Grand Rapids Symphony in a side-by-side concert, giving our students an opportunity to perform alongside one of the great regional symphonies in the United States. Interspersed with these events were S/E festivals, large ensemble clinics, instrumental and vocal jazz festivals, our Spring Musical, a two night jazz "Club Night" program, concerts and theatre presentations at each elementary school, a benefit recital and our respective Spring Concerts.

Whoa!

Many of the above students were in choir *plus* band or orchestra *and* theatre. They also were in student council, were honor students taking multiple AP classes, playing sports, with church or volunteer commitments, some holding down a job.

The above describes a dizzying array of activities, including many fine opportunities to be sure! Having (barely) lived through this, however, I'm now embarking upon a new strategy: Only one 'special' additional event may be added per semester, and if I choose to add an event I must also take one 'regular' event away.

Why? The rationale is simple, and two-fold. One, it will help me to prioritize and judge the relative value to the kids--and the program as a whole--of the special event *before* I add it. Two, it will help me pace myself to better handle—and enjoy—the events in which we *do* participate. We accomplished a lot of things this semester, but much of it was not as fun as it should have been. Instead, it was stressful.

As I get older, I'm realizing more and more that I have only a limited amount of energy for each day. I need to spend that energy and time wisely at my job, so that my students get the maximum benefit. I also must leave that job each day with something left to give my family and those others precious to me. I need to strike a better balance in my life.

This is a concept I continue to re-learn. In sharing it with you, I hope to stimulate some honest reflection that might benefit you, dear friends and colleagues. We approach our art with passion and resolve, and sometimes we just put our heads down and 'soldier on'. If you're like me, perhaps it might be time to question what we are doing and why we are doing it. Again.

**Now, on to some important reminders:**

\*As soon as you know you are teaching students with vision special needs, please e-mail me and your District Manager. **We need time (weeks to months!) to accommodate requests for conversions of sight-reading to Braille. The more requests, the more time it takes.**

\*Please suggest titles for collections to be added to the **Solo Required List** if you come across something that you feel is excellent. The more great literature, the better!

\*The same can be said for titles you feel worthy to be added to the **Choral Required List**. Kelli and Mandy are always in search of relevant, useful choral repertoire. Help them help all of us. Thanks!

\*The Executive Board, in conjunction with the Full Board, is preparing a Policies document that is intended to--in a single place--clearly state current MSVMA policies on a broad range of issues and activities. Our aim is to make participation in MSVMA activities easier and better for all!

\*Plan to pick up your copy of **MSVMA Sight-Reading, Vol. 2 (2001-2005)** at the Summer Workshop. See you there at the Lansing Radisson in August!

Thanks for the honor of serving you for Repertoire and Sight-Reading. If you have suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact me. Have a wonderful summer!

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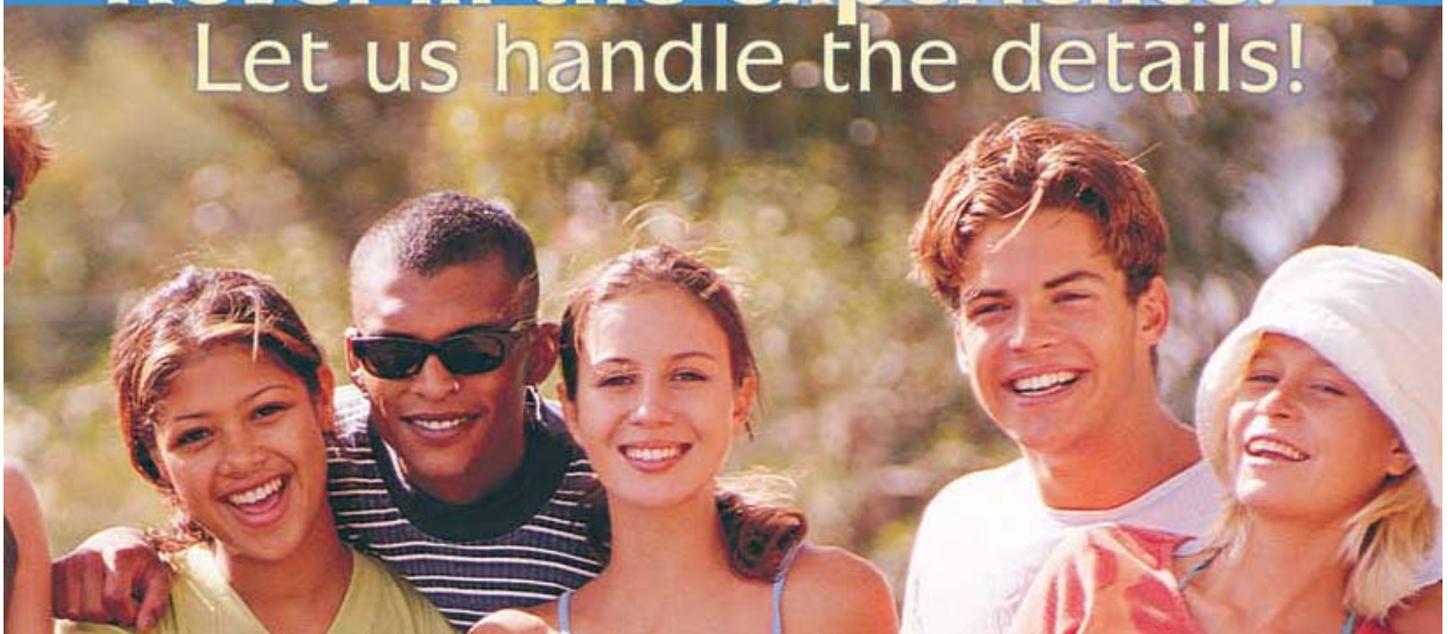
Kristina Collins  
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### **Executive Board**

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