

## Orchestrating Success



## Welcome Back: 2015- 2016 School Year!

### WVMEA Student Spotlight: NAfME, All National Ensemble Members



### Ian Calhoun, Trombone

Ian is a student at Washington High School, under the direction of Donald Showen. "I've always loved how music has its own story to tell, its own message that wishes to be told. Music wants to evoke a specific emotion or feeling, such as anger, happiness, fear, or loss. As a musician, it is my job to bring these emotions out when I perform and to express how I think the composer wanted the music to sound. It's a wonderful feeling and it allows me to observe how the composer saw themselves and the world around them. I wouldn't trade that for anything."

*Please consider helping Ian get to Nashville to represent West Virginia nationally in the All National Concert Band. No gift is too small. Please send donations to: Washington High School, 300 Washington Patriot Drive, Charles Town, WV 25414. In the memo line, please write 'Band'.*

### Jules Kessler, Percussion

Jules is a member of the Spartan Band of Greenbrier East High School, under the direction of Mr. Jim Alder. "Music is a special and unique form in its accessibility. As a listener, music provides a profound soundtrack for our lives; as a performer, music teaches us to display our emotions in numerous unique ways; for me, music is a representation of all the beauty, love, and compassion in the world. Although not all music comes out of happiness and beauty, as some comes from the pain in our world, it all provides the vibrant colors to a formerly colorless world. For me, music is unique in its allowance of all participants to have their voices heard, and their feelings to be represented. I am so lucky to be able to communicate and represent emotion to the world

through musical expression. I would like to thank my parents, friends, Mr. Allder, and WVMEA for giving me this opportunity."

*Please consider helping Jules get to Nashville to represent West Virginia nationally in the All National Concert Band.*

*No gift is too small. Please send donations to: Greenbriar East High School, 1 Spartan Lane, Lewisburg, WV 24901.*

*In the memo line, write 'Band'.*



## Angel Robertson, Violin

"I started playing the violin in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, like many others in the Berkeley County Program. I fell in love with the violin because I could pour my heart and soul into the music that I play. I've worked very hard to get to where I am now, violin lessons, playing with college students in the nearby college, the school orchestra, and having the honor of being concertmistress. Music is the greatest thing to have entered my life. But just like any other musician, I've went through rough patches and had the feeling that I couldn't achieve certain things that I wanted to. With the help of my amazing teacher/director, and supporting family and friends, I pushed myself into something greater than I could ever imagine. Dr. Sturm got our HS quartet into many gigs, pushed and helped me audition for WVU Honor Orchestra, WV All State Orchestra, and now the National Orchestra. I couldn't be more grateful for my teacher and also my mother. I'm very excited to be a part of this and can't wait to see how much further music will take me."

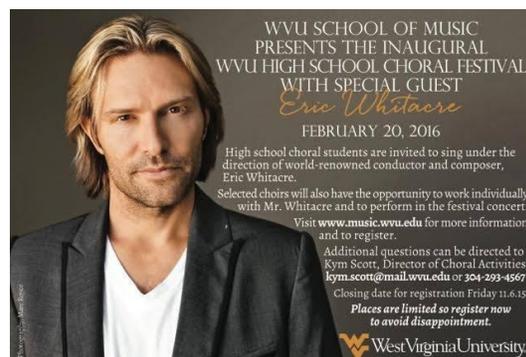
*Please consider helping Angel get to Nashville to represent West Virginia nationally in the All National Orchestra. No gift is too small. Please send donations to: Spring Mills High School, 499 Campus Drive, Martinsburg, West Virginia 25404. In the memo line, please write 'Orchestra'.*



## There's Still Time!

Music has an important role in education. It's collaborative, encourages critical thinking, and allows students to better understand themselves and the world around them. This year, see how you can give students the inspiration they need to learn and create in different ways.

It's NAFME's last year in Music City and they're out to make it our best yet! Join, one last time in Naf-ville, for more than **300** innovative professional development sessions, nightly entertainment, extraordinary performances from across the country, a thrilling Monster Mash Give a Note Halloween



## Amazing Opportunity: Calling Vocalists!

WVU School of Music presents the inaugural WVU High School Choral Festival with special guest Eric Whitacre. The festival will take place on February 20th, 2016.

High school choral students are invited to sing under the direction of world-renowned conductor and composer, Eric Whitacre.

Extravaganza, and tons of networking and in-depth learning.

**Need help justifying your attendance?** NAFME has put together a [Justification Toolkit](#) to help you make your case to attend the most exciting and inspiring music education conference there is! Click [here](#) for registration details.



## West Virginia Native to Deliver Clinic at the National In-Service

Jeremy Kirk is active as a performing artist, clinician, and adjudicator throughout North America and is currently Assistant Professor of Music at Southwestern College (Winfield, KS). Kirk has appeared at notable events such as the National Association for Music Education National Conference, Percussive Arts Society International Convention, Kansas Music Educators Association Conference, and various PAS Days of Percussion throughout North America.

He holds a Master's Degree in Percussion Performance from Marshall University and Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Glenville State College. Kirk is an artist, clinician, and consultant with Majestic Percussion, Mapex Drums, Vic Firth Sticks & Mallets, Sabian Cymbals, Remo Drumheads & World Percussion, and Black Swamp Percussion. Learn more at [www.ikpercussion.com](http://www.ikpercussion.com).

"I am very excited to help build your timpani knowledge in my upcoming session *Timpani Survival 101* at this year's NAFME [National In-Service Conference](#). My session will focus on the fundamentals of timpani performance, maintenance and repair, and building aural skills. We will look closely at the following topics that will give your timpanists the skills necessary to become "the second conductor." - *Jeremy Kirk*

Selected choirs will also have the opportunity to work individually with Mr. Whitacre and to perform in the festival concert.

Visit [www.music.wvu.edu](http://www.music.wvu.edu) for more information and to register. Additional questions can be directed to Kym Scott, Director of Choral Activities. [kym.scott@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:kym.scott@mail.wvu.edu) or 304-293-4567 **Closing date for registration is Friday, November 6, 2015. Places are limited, so register now to avoid disappointment.**



## Copyright Corner

FAQ's answered by NAFME.

**Must a student purchase a second piece of music for his or her accompanist?**

Accompanists must have original music to play from. Copying a single page to alleviate a difficult page turn can be justified, but copying the entire work is copyright infringement.

**During juries and/or recitals, if a student has the original and the faculty wants to follow along with the music for assessment and grading purposes, may copies be made?**

Copying may be permissible, but ONLY if permission is granted by the copyright holders. Write to the publisher and explain your situation. Make sure to get the permission in writing. And remember, unauthorized photocopies are copyright infringements.

(If permission is not granted, perhaps students could borrow copies among their peers, from their teachers, or at a music library.)

### Back to School Bulletin Board Ideas:





Source: picture 1: Music Teachers Facebook Page, picture 2: [www.musicbulletinboards.com](http://www.musicbulletinboards.com)

**From Research and Grants** Greetings WV Music Educators,

My name is Julie Schultz, and I am the Choral Director and General Music teacher at Bridge Street Middle School in Ohio County. As Research and Grants Chair for WVMEA, I am excited to inform and assist you with both locating and writing grants to enhance your students' classroom experience. Over the past five years, I have received nearly \$60,000 in funding, and I will show you how easy grant writing can be.

Donorschoose.org is a wonderful resource for music educators. As the website explains, teachers ask, and donors choose. Simply decide what you would like for your classroom, write up the project, and post. I recommend starting small (between \$100- \$200). I have included the link to my teacher page where you can see examples of projects in process, as well as completed projects. Feel free to copy and paste from my page as you need. Once your first few projects are fully funded, you may find that you have donors who will follow your teacher page and who will donate time and time again. For examples on projects, check out my page on Donorschoose.org at <http://www.donorschoose.org/jschultz>

If you have any questions about Donorschoose.org, please contact me at [jaschultz@k12.wv.us](mailto:jaschultz@k12.wv.us) or [musicschultz@gmail.com](mailto:musicschultz@gmail.com)

Julie Schultz Research and Grants Chair



**String Education in West Virginia: An Introduction**

Dr. Jeannine A Sturm (Berkeley County Schools)  
 This is the first of four articles that I will present to the WVMEA members on the history and development of string programs in our state. Through research and surveys I have received responses from several string educators about their programs. I have been teaching in Berkeley County since January of 2013 and I have experienced growth not only in my own classes, but I have also seen string educational opportunities flourish across the state. The most recent accomplishment was the installation of the Middle School All State Orchestra at the 2015 In-service conference. Forty-four young musicians representing six counties (Berkeley, Harrison, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio and Wood) came together for form a wonderful ensemble under the direction of WVU Violin professor, Dr. Mikylah McTeer.

Dr. Donald L. Hamman (The University of Arizona) and Dr. Robert Gillespie (The Ohio State University) conducted a nation-wide study of public school string programs in 1995. Their results discovered that sixteen to thirty-one percent of schools in the United States offer string programs. Of the 55 counties in our state, approximately eight to ten have string programs in the k-12 system; just below the study's average coming in at fifteen percent of our schools. There are, however, several pedagogues that are working diligently to expose students to string instruments in other counties by working on their own, holding afterschool programs for students and teaching privately. This in of itself does increase the average.

What is it that is preventing the spread of string programs in West Virginia schools? I set out to search these answers out



**WV String Day 2015**

Spring Mills High School in Martinsburg will be hosting this year's String Day event sponsored by WVASTA. Guest conductor will be Dr. Robert Gardner from Penn State University. Questions about the event can be sent to the String Day Chair, Dr. Jeannine Sturm at [jsturm@k12.wv.us](mailto:jsturm@k12.wv.us). Visit the WVASTA website for detailed information.

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### **Job Opportunity Available!**

Immaculate Conception Parish in New Cumberland, West Virginia is seeking a Music Director/ Organist. Duties include playing for mass (Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM), directing the small choir, working with cantors, and planning music for all liturgies. Please contact the parish at 304-564-5068 or email at [iccp parish@comcast.net](mailto:iccp parish@comcast.net).

from my colleagues. Most stated it was from lack of space in the schools, scheduling issues, funding, lack of exposure to either orchestral playing itself or strings in general, and of the potential fear of starting up a new program and harming the ones currently in place. Hamman & Gillespie's study reflected the same concerns in 1995. Hamman & Gillespie did also discover that larger school systems in higher socio-economic areas offered string programs. While programs flourish in Morgantown, Charleston, Wheeling, and Martinsburg, they are so spread out that it hinders any influences in between. In summary, we are the few and the proud but we continue to grow. My future articles will provide a snapshot of several programs across the state for the WVMEA members. It is my hope that by bringing these programs to the forefront so we can all respect the immense amount of work that we all put into our programs by providing our students with a strong musical education that will represent our state proudly.

Works Cited:

Gillespie, Robert & Hamann, Donald L. The Status of Orchestra Programs in the Public Schools. *Journal of Research in Music Education*. Spring 1998, 46:75-86

*Dr. Jeannine A. Sturm holds a Ph.D. in Music Education from The University of Arizona and currently teaches grades 4-12 strings in Berkeley County.*

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