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BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2007

Autumn Issue

Dear Colleagues,

Here we are in a new school year 2007-2008...the time continues to fly! Hopefully, all is going well for you and you are looking forward to a professionally satisfying year in the months ahead! Let's see if each of us could work to bring JUST ONE new school into our organization for next year as we move beyond our 80th year.

Again, the New England Music Festival Association, Inc. is holding three Solo and Ensemble Festivals in December. There is NO restriction as to your preferred choice for attendance at the Solo and Ensemble Festival. Let your calendar and travel distance be your guide. It is, however, MOST IMPORTANT, that you clearly indicate on your Solo and Ensemble Festival registration which site that you have chosen. On Saturday, December 1, 2007, the Northern Site will be at Hartford High School in White River Junction, Vermont. Also on Saturday, December 1, the Eastern Site will be at Belfast Area High School in Belfast, Maine. Finally, on Saturday, December 8, 2007 the Southern Site will be held at Smith Middle School in Glastonbury, Connecticut. We look forward to seeing you and your students at one of these sites.

The official NEMFA Solo and Ensemble Adjudication Lists have been posted on our website, www.nemfa.org. In order for your students to be considered eligible for 2008 Concert Festival selection, they must have performed a selection from the official NEMFA Adjudication List at the 2007 Solo and Ensemble Festival. Please consult the website for all of the details regarding the Solo and Ensemble Festival...rules and regulations, policies, electronic registration forms, etc.

At its December 8th meeting the Executive Board voted (5 for, 2 against, 1 abstention) to eliminate mailing *The Bulletin* to the membership. However, The Fall Bulletin, each September, will continue to be mailed. All other *Bulletins* (November, December, February and Spring) will be available on the web site at <www.nemfa.org>. Information regarding the scheduling of our 2007-2008 NEMFA events is included in this *Bulletin*. Please pay close attention to the deadlines listed...the organization works best when everyone pulls together and observes the deadlines that help NEMFA run as efficiently as possible. Please contact me if you have questions or comments or criticisms of the *Bulletin*.

THOMAS E. REYNOLDS
BULLETIN Editor

2007 - 2008 CALENDAR

June 2, 2007	Meeting, 10:00 A.M. Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA	Managers Must Present: 1. Conductors to be hired 2. Programs finalized for ordering music Solo & Ensemble Festival Planning Concert Festival Planning
September 8, 2007	Meeting, 10:00 A.M. Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA	Solo & Ensemble Apps. Due to Steffen Parker
November 2, 2007	ELECTRONIC DEADLINE \$100.00 Late Fee per school/sponsor After 11/9/07, no apps. Accepted	Mail (Certified) Completed Hard Copy Invoice, Student List & Payment* to Bill Sittard. *Pymt. Includes: Dues & S&E Fees or School P.O. guaranteeing pymt.
November 9, 2007	POSTMARK DEADLINE	Eastern Site John R. Cameron, Site Host
December 1, 2007	Solo & Ensemble Festival Belfast Area High School Belfast, ME	Northern Site Robert E. Gattie, Site Host
December 1, 2007	Solo & Ensemble Festival Hartford High School White River Junction, VT	Review Solo & Ensemble Festival and Concert Festival Procedures, Rules and Regulations
December 7, 2007	Meeting, 7:30 P.M. Hilton Garden Inn (860.659.1025) 85 Glastonbury Boulevard Glastonbury, CT 06033	Southern Site Patricia Lignelli, Site Host
December 8, 2007	Solo & Ensemble Festival Smith Middle School (860.652.7040) 216 Addison Road Glastonbury, CT 06033	Log in. Confirm participation of each student. Print out the Acceptance/ Invoice Form. Amt. due auto adjusts.
January 7, 2008	Electron. Confirm. Deadline	Mail (Certified) Completed* Conc. Fest. Material to Bill Sittard & Include: 1. Pymt. of Fees or School P.O. guaranteeing payment 2. Acceptance-Invoice Form 3. Student Agreement/Health Forms 4. Permission Forms 5. Return unused music
January 14, 2008	POSTMARK DEADLINE \$100.00 Late Fee per school/sponsor After 2/1/08 no forms accepted student participation denied. *Incomplete forms incur \$10.00 Reprocessing Fee.	Mt. Anthony Union High School Bennington, VT
March 13-15, 2008	Concert Festival Marjorie Rooen, Host	Managers Must Present: 1. Conductors to be hired 2. Programs finalized for ordering music
June 7, 2008	Meeting, 10:00 A.M. Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA	

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING. 2 JUNE 2007, BOXBOROUGH, MA

The meeting was called to order by President John Kuhner at 10:10AM. Also present were: Rob Gattie, Frank Whitcomb, Ed Owens, Steffen Parker, Jay Wilson, Laura Hilton, Bill Sittard, Tom Reynolds, and Sal Ciciarella.

The meeting was turned over to the incoming President, Frank Whitcomb, by Past President John Kuhner.

John was given a general acclamation for his fine work as President.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published.

The Treasurer's report was approved as published. Cash on hand was \$9,211.44. Money market funds were reported as \$26,641.98. Treasurer Bill Sittard reported that the year ended with a slight loss, mostly due to the additional cost of the Website.

Jay Wilson, Band Manager, reported that the Concert Festival Conductor will be Richard Clary from Florida State University. Jay presented two proposed Concert Band programs, the first of which was approved.

Ed Owens, Orchestra Manager, announced his appointment of Dr. James R. Tapia from Syracuse University as the Concert Orchestra Conductor.

Laura Hilton, Chorus Manager, announced her selection of Dr. Daniel Gordon from Southeastern University as Concert Festival Chorus Conductor. She also presented two proposed concert programs, the first of which was approved.

Motion by John Kuhner: That the invitation from the Bennington, Vermont Schools to host the 2008 Concert Festival be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

Marjorie Rooen, Host Chairperson from Bennington, Vermont was unable to attend. It was agreed to recommend a single 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon concert, with the Chorus performing last.

Steffan Parker, Co-coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble Festival, read excerpts from comments by directors on the recent Solo and Ensemble Festival. One item was discussed concerning the sizes of the performing groups. Also discussed was the make-up of the audition lists.

President Whitcomb said he will organize a system for directors to have an input in March on the current audition lists.

Rob Gattie, Co-coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble Festival, suggested moving the Eastern site from Belfast to Augusta, Maine for a more centralized location. He also is seeking adjudicators to travel to Augusta for the applicants there.

The Association policy concerning the mandatory inclusion of at least one student from each school for the Concert Festival was discussed, and it was agreed to continue with the current policy.

Tom Reynolds, Website Coordinator, commented on the state of the Website that was now much easier to maintain. President Whitcomb appointed him as permanent Editor of the Bulletin. John Kuhner congratulated him on his excellent work as Host Chairman of the 2007 Concert Festival.

Tom presented a printed accounting of expenses and proceeds from the 2007 Concert Festival. \

Motion by John Kuhner: That the Association pay half of the \$1,487.84 extra balance as printed on Tom's financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Sittard reported that he is seeking a better insurance rate for the Association and will report on this at the September meeting.

Motion by Rob Gattie: That the Association cover all of the \$824.68 out-of-pocket expenses paid by Tom Reynolds for hosting the 2007 Concert Festival. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Tom Reynolds: That as part of the Heritage Project, all of the archival materials be stored in the Harvard Public Library, which is willing to provide this service. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Sittard asked for advice on what to do with the \$525 donated to the Association in John Hansen's name. It was agreed to apply it to the support of the archival project regarding Association records.

It was agreed to continue with the use of the Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts as a site for future meetings of the Executive Board.

There followed a discussion on the subject of copyrighting as it concerns choral music online. This will be investigated.

President Whitcomb remarked on his project of refilling the Association's Music Library that is in his cellar,

Motion by Rob Gattie: That the Association procure a dehumidifier and shelving to help preserve the music library in the custody of Frank Whitcomb. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald L. Hermance
Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING. 10 SEPTEMBER 2007, BOXBOROUGH, MA

The meeting was called to order at 10 am by President Frank Whitcomb. Present were: Rob Gattie, Bob Frazier, Steffen Parker, Marjorie Rooen, Tom Reynolds, Ed Owens, John Kuhner, Sal Cicciarella, Jay Wilson, Talia Mercadante, and Bill Sittard.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was approved as published.

Jay Wilson, Band Manager, reported that all was going well with plans for the Concert Festival.

Laurie Hilton, Chorus Manager, was unable to attend, but President Whitcomb reported that her preparations were progressing well.

Ed Owens, Orchestra Manager, requested approval of the proposed Orchestra program of three pieces, which required a performance time of twenty-six minutes and twenty-five seconds.

Motion by Steffen Parker: That the proposed Orchestra program be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Marjorie Rooen, Host Chairperson, agreed that two concerts would be necessary (an instrumental, followed by a choral). Times for arrival, registration, general meeting, rehearsals, and ticket prices were discussed and agreed upon. A flat rate of \$10 per ticket was also agreed upon- The problem of adequate pianos was also discussed, and it was agreed that one piano would suffice. The Hampton Inn will be the headquarters site, and rooms are being reserved for supervisors. She also requested all the necessary information from Managers for inclusion in the program be submitted to her by December.

Tom Reynolds, Editor of the Bulletin, reported that the September Bulletin will include all the information necessary for the Solo and Ensemble Festivals. The possible publication of the Association's Constitution and By-Laws, especially for new members, was discussed. Also the idea of attending state meetings in Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island in order to enhance communications and seek new memberships was considered.

It was agreed that a short message from the President on the title page of the Bulletin would be welcome.

President Whitcomb sought approval from the Executive Board to contact Bob Miller about his apparent intention to forego continuing as a Dean, and also to appoint Frank May and Ruth Ann Heller as Deans.

Rob Gattie, Co-coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble Festival, reported that he was actively working on acquiring adjudicators. He also noted that there was a trend toward using live accompanists for the auditions, as opposed to pre-taped ones.

Steffen Parker, Co-coordinator of the Solo and Ensemble Festival, reported that the registration process was working well, and remarked on a recent problem of rating cello applicants.

Frank Whitcomb, Librarian, was happy to report that new shelves and an air conditioner were enhancing the preservation of the library.

Under Old Business, Bill Sittard reported no success in dealing with insurance companies, and suggested a less expensive type, that of event insurance.

Under New Business. Don Hermance requested opinions of members of the Board as to their feelings concerning the spate of tasteless public performances of the National Anthem. It was agreed that perhaps other music educators might be willing to raise a collective voice of disapproval and possibly effect changes. Also considered were: An appeal in the Bulletin, including a suggestion that others contact their newspapers about their concerns, and also to contact the Red Sox management in an attempt to obtain their cooperation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald L. Hermance
Recording Secretary

A LETTER TO MY FELLOW MUSIC EDUCATORS

I find that all the music educators to whom I have spoken agree that the current trend for the public performances of our National Anthem is to make of it a "performance" rather than a patriotic moment and perpetrate a mockery of the song. I've heard it done with incredible embellishments, wrong meters, inappropriate styles, **unsingable** keys, all of which make singing along impossible. To this end I wrote an open letter to our politicians for publication in the major area newspaper (see below) - and was denied!

I brought up my concern at the recent Executive Board meeting, and they strongly suggested I write this piece in the **NEMFA** Bulletin. Also that I contact the management of the Red **Sox** to see if they would consider taking positive action in this matter. And I shall.

I am only one small voice. If you feel strongly about this, I urge you to start by insisting that your students perform the National Anthem in the traditional and proper manner. And let your opinion be heard in your community. Send an article to the **op/ed** section of your newspaper. If you wish to use the paragraph below (or any portion or variation thereof) and send it to your local editor, please do. But do something! Together we may be able to affect a much-needed trend toward a proper respect for this national symbol. Thank you.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MY FELLOW AMERICANS

It has been my displeasure and that of many Americans to be witness to the desecration of "The Star Spangled Banner" at many public gatherings, and by this I mean performances that are anything not representing the traditional sense of the original version as adopted by this country during the last century, since it has been so often sung in the wrong meter, with the wrong notes, in the wrong keys, and especially with the wrong attitude.

We observers are accustomed to seeing and hearing renditions by performers who are obviously not so much interested in the patriotic nature of the song, as in the individual style and stamp they place on their performances, and when audiences applaud these performances it is obvious that they are applauding the celebrity in question, not the song **itself**, or the moment. It is my conviction that the "Star Spangled Banner" may be personal, but should not be personalized

There is such a **thing as style** in the arts. and our National Anthem should not be performed in anything but a patriotic style, certainly not in pop, or rock, or country, or western, or jazz, or **any other style unbefitting this song**. It is because of such continued abuse that audiences are denied the opportunity of singing along with the music, as is their right and desire.

I know of no other nation in the world that accepts or tolerates such unpatriotic variations like those to which we are being subjected (imagine, if you will, proud American athletes on the awards platforms at the Olympic Games, demonstrating their pride as Americans while some pop celebrity sings his or her warped version of the National Anthem.)

Why do we protest vehemently **against** the desecration of our American flag, and not against the desecration of our National Anthem?

I readily admit that the song itself is not the best selection for its purpose because of the excessively wide range of notes. And many might question the relevance of some of the lyrics (with the exception of the last few lines which are **soul-stirring** to say the least), but **it is** our National Anthem and should be treated as such.

What we should expect from those who perform this patriotic piece is something that makes us want to stand up tall, perhaps place our hands over our hearts, remove our hats, look proudly upon our flag, and sing along with exuberance, as a moment of pride, respect and patriotic fervor. **Think** a state trooper from New Hampshire, or the vocalist at a Boston Bruins game, Robert **Merrill** in New York, or Kate Smith of former days. or a lone trumpeter, the United States Marine Corps Band, a high school choir, a special needs person, or an enthusiastic sixth grade singer. Think **goosebumps**, or a tear in the eye, and waiting respectfully for the end of the song before starting to cheer for the Red **Sox**!

To this point I offer the following resolution for your consideration:

That the National Anthem of the United States of America shall be performed only with the traditional melody, harmony and lyrics, in a traditional patriotic style, and in a manner and key which are **practical** for all Americans to sing along.

submitted by: **Don Hermance** donmar23@venzon.net

NEW ENGLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
2007 SOLO/ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL PROCEDURES

SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL REGISTRATION

Solo & Ensemble Online Registration – www.nemfa.org

The Online Registration for the 2007 Solo & Ensemble Festivals is now available the above link and going to the “Solo and Ensemble” section of the webpage. Click on the link to enter your sponsor and student information before the November 2nd deadline.

Solo and Ensemble Festival Coordinators:

For: APPLICATION, SCHEDULING, EVALUATION FORMS & INSTRUMENTAL QUESTIONS, Contact:

Steffen Parker
141 Butternut Road
Williston, VT 05495
Festival Phone : 802.343.6282 (cell & voice mail)
Home Phone: 802.878.2898

For: ADJUDICATORS & VOCAL QUESTIONS, Contact:

Robert Gattie
Hartford High School,

Hartford, VT
School: 802.295.8620, x136

Selection of piece

Students are not allowed to perform the same piece they performed in a previous Solo & Ensemble Festival, regardless of whether or not they were accepted to the Concert Festival, if they wish to be considered for the Concert Festival.

As of January 1, 2006, all music for adjudication must be selected from the current adjudication lists published by the Association in order for students to be eligible for acceptance to the Concert Festival. Selections from the NYSSMA Manual are no longer allowed for consideration for Concert Festival acceptance eligibility. Students performing music other than from the Association's list shall not be eligible for acceptance to the Concert Festival but will receive non-rated adjudications from the adjudicators. Students shall not perform any musical selection that was the basis for having been selected for the Concert Festival in any preceding year. In addition to Solos the Association allows the following ensembles: (1) Instrumental = Trios, Quartets and Quintets of mixed instrumentation, (2) Vocal = SSA, SSAA, SAB, SATB, SSATB, TTBB, (3) Special note: Vocal and Instrumental Duets are not currently allowed by the Association. Conducting an ensemble is not allowed. Music must be performed as it appears in the published parts with the noted instruments/voices. No teacher or student transcriptions may be used to allow a substitute instrument/voice in the ensemble. Performances which fall outside these guidelines are permissible. Said performances will receive adjudicator comments only and are not eligible for Concert Festival selection.

Performance Adjudications

Each adjudication shall be of ten minutes duration, and consist of a complete, uninterrupted performance of music of the student's choice.

Piano accompaniment for music so published is optional, but preferred. Music designated as unaccompanied must be performed thus. Pre-recorded accompaniments may be utilized whenever live accompaniment is impossible or impractical, the responsibility for supplying playback equipment resting with the applicant. The Association reserves the right to use adequate electronic keyboards when deemed advisable.

The Association adheres to all current copyright laws, especially where it concerns the use of illegal copies of music. During the adjudication, performers using music must perform from legally published, uncopied music. In the instance of a bad page turn, it is permissible to use a facsimile of that page. Each performing student or ensemble at the Solo and Ensemble Festival shall provide an original copy of the music to the adjudicator. When this is not possible, a facsimile may be provided, but it will be collected at the end of a school's adjudication(s) and destroyed by the adjudicator.

All students are expected to observe the following dress code. Girls: Dresses, blouses (no bare midriffs) and skirts, dress slacks, or school uniforms. No jeans. Boys: Dress slacks with shirt and tie, suits, jacket/sport coat with shirt and tie or turtleneck, or school uniform. No jeans. Athletic shoes are not acceptable.

Adjudication performances may be attended by any interested persons. Because it is a performance festival, it is acceptable for any interested person, including supervisors and students to audience performances at the Solo and Ensemble Festival. Audience members must conduct themselves appropriately at all times. They shall not distract the performer(s) and/or the adjudicator and, under no circumstances, are they permitted to interrupt a performance by leaving early or arriving late.

Current rules regarding registration for, number and types of performances shall be enforced.

Adjudicators of the best quality available will be employed, and in the interest of fairness and consistency, every effort will be made to utilize the same adjudicators at the two adjudication sites.

Copies of adjudicators' scores and critical comments will be mailed to supervisors as soon as possible after the Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Acceptance into the Concert Festival organizations will be determined by the Managers, their committees and may include members of the Executive Board. Acceptance is based

upon adjudication scores from the Solo and Ensemble Festival and any other criteria currently in effect.

Registrants at the Solo and Ensemble Festival receive ratings in the following areas: TONE, INTONATION, TECHNIQUE, INTERPRETATION, MUSICAL EFFECT, ACCURACY, and BALANCE (if applicable). There are also additional opportunities for optional adjudicator's comments. It is the supervisor's responsibility to inform students of the elements used to formulate ratings.

Instrumental Ensembles

Students may also perform in instrumental ensembles for an adjudicator and to be considered for the Concert Festival. To be considered for the Concert Festival, the ensemble must be a Trio, Quartet or Quintet and must perform music listed on the NEMFA list for that ensemble. The music must be performed as it appears in the published parts with the noted instrumentation. No teacher or student transcriptions may be used to allow a substitute instrument in the ensemble.

Instrumental Ensembles of other configurations (duets, etc.) or performing music not listed in the NEMFA list or performing with a different instrumentation than noted, may perform in the Solo & Ensemble Festival to receive adjudicator comments and feedback. Their performance will not be considered for acceptance into the Concert Festival.

Percussion Ensembles

Due to the special nature of percussion ensemble music, the use of the Solo & Ensemble Festival adjudication as a precursor to the Concert Festival and the importance of equity within that selection process, there is no NEMFA percussion ensemble listing.

Should a music educator have a Grade V or VI percussion ensemble piece (3 to 5 players only) that features a mixture of snare drum or accessories, timpani and mallet parts AND would like to have their students perform that piece in the Solo & Ensemble Festival for consideration to the Concert Festival, they need to contact Steffen Parker to discuss this specific piece. Together a determination will be made about that particular piece's use in this purpose.

Of course, any percussion ensemble may perform at the Solo & Ensemble Festival for evaluation only.
Steffen's email

Cadenzas

Students should not perform the cadenzas that are included in their performance pieces.

Accompaniment

Students are encouraged to perform their performance piece accompanied if it is written that way. A piano accompaniment makes a wonderful musical presentation for the adjudicator. Please indicate your accompanist on the application so that conflicting schedules can be avoided.

If a pianist is not available, then the use of taped or CD accompaniments is acceptable at the Solo and Ensemble Festival. However, the performer is responsible for providing his/her own tape or CD player. The Association does not provide neither the recordings nor the equipment.

Audiences

It is acceptable for any interested person, including sponsors and students, to listen to any of the performances at the Solo and Ensemble Festival because it is a PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL. Audience members must conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Please do not disturb the performer(s) and/or the adjudicator and definitely DO NOT interrupt any performance by leaving early or arriving late. sponsors: BE SURE THAT YOUR STUDENTS ARE AWARE OF THIS!

Original Music

As per copyright law, sponsors and students are reminded that NO FACSIMILE COPIES OF MUSIC are permitted at the Solo and Ensemble Festival. The copy of a single page to facilitate an accompanist's or performer's difficult page turn is acceptable.

Group Preferences

Please be consistent with your student's Group Preferences. Regardless of how many times or in how many ways, a student performs in the Solo & Ensemble Festival, their Group Preference should be the same in each application. No student who received a rating high enough to be accepted to the Concert Festival is ever refused that acceptance because of his or her Group Preference choice.

Student preferences are used to help place as many students in the group of their choice as possible. However, the overall educational and musical success of the Performance Festival is the primary function of the selection process and therefore takes precedence over student choices. NEMFA is not obligated to honor any preferences.

Errors in applications

PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1st: Should you find that you made an error in your application data, return to the website, enter your NEMFA ID and edit your entries as needed. That data remains active until November 1st.

AFTER NOVEMBER 1st: The website will be closed on November 1st. Should you find that you made an error in your application data after that date, please contact Steffen Parker immediately to see what rectification can be made.

Schedule Changes

Requests for scheduling time considerations are included in the application process (as part of the School Information pages). Should you find that a student needs a different time than they were assigned after you have received the schedule,

the sponsor has 10 days from the time the schedule is mailed to request those changes by contacting Steffen Parker. After that, no schedule changes will be made.

Errors in adjudication forms

The adjudication forms with the scores and adjudicator's comments are mailed to the sponsors immediately following the Southern Solo & Ensemble Festival's conclusion. Due to that major effort on your behalf, it is possible that an error slips through. Sponsors are requested to double-check all of their documentation for errors. If you find an error or have any concerns, call Steffen Parker (802.660.4762) IMMEDIATELY!

Weather

Due the large number of people involved, the complexity of the preparation and operation, the tightness of the schedule and the time of year they occur, the Solo and Ensemble Festivals are not cancelled due to weather. If it's bad out, take your time, drive carefully and your students will be heard when they arrive, even if you have missed your scheduled timeslots.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the Solo and Ensemble Festival, do not hesitate to ask! Contact Steffen Parker via email (sparker@vpaonline.org) or via cell phone at 802.343.6282.

DRESS CODE - NEW ENGLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

Students performing at the Solo & Ensemble Festival are expected to observe the following dress code:

GENTLEMEN:

- Dress Slacks with Shirt and Tie

OR

- Suit or Jacket/Sport Coat with Shirt and Tie (or Turtleneck)

OR

- School Uniform
- NO Jeans or athletic shoes are allowed
- All Attire Should Be Neat

LADIES:

- Dress

OR

- Blouse and Skirt

OR

- Dress Slacks and Blouse

OR

- School Uniform
- NO Jeans or athletic shoes are allowed
- All Attire Should Be Neat

This dress code was adopted by the NEMFA Executive Board at the September 12, 1992 General Meeting. Previously, the Executive Board at the Annual Meeting of June 4, 1988, adopted the following resolution: ***Does the Performer conform to the dress code?***, followed by two check-off boxes marked "Yes" and "No". In the event of a "No" indication by the adjudicator, a penalty of 5 points (out of 100)* would be subtracted from the total score.

The determination of the adjudicator on this requirement is FINAL. Do not risk not being selected for the Concert Festival by not following the dress code. Make sure you are dressed accordingly.

NEMFA HERITAGE PROJECT - HISTORICAL PROGRAMS AND RECORDS

At its June, 2007 meeting, the Executive Board of the New England Music Festival Association, Inc. voted to place its Historical Records and Programs archive in the Harvard, Massachusetts Public Library. The Harvard Public Library is busy obtaining acid-free storage boxes and making space in its newly renovated, climate-controlled Historical Records Room for these records. Head Librarian Mary Wilson says that she and the Library Board of Trustees are honored to host the NEMFA Archives in Harvard. The NEMFA will retain ownership of the collection, but the Library will serve as a public viewing location for the documents.

The purpose of putting the NEMFA Historical Records and Programs in the Harvard Public Library is listed as follows:

1. Keeping the historical records as safe as possible from humidity, smoke, or fire damage.
2. Having them available at a public institution with regular evening and weekend hours for research access.
3. Finding a geographical location that is somewhat central to the New England region so that people would not have to drive an unreasonable distance to access the materials.
4. Added safety for the storage of the NEMFA materials.
5. Public access for NEMFA materials with daily weekday hours that extend to 9:00pm each evening and all day on Saturdays.

The library will catalogue the materials in detail so that people using Inter Library Loan resources all across New England could access materials for research purposes. Please feel free to contact me at 617.529.9402 or at treynold@worldpath.net if you have any further thoughts about this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Reynolds
Archivist

NEMFA Membership Recruitment

To keep our organization dynamic and vibrant, we must all work together to bring new people and schools into NEMFA. The Executive Board has been working to invite more teachers and schools, especially in the Eastern side of New England, to get involved in our Association. While we can attend meetings and pass out brochures to promote the organization, the best way to get new people is still with personal invitations. Please take time to invite just one new teacher into our organization...as stated earlier, the best recruiting technique that exists is word-of-mouth. We are all super busy as teachers and most of us don't need one more thing to add to our already activity-packed schedules. For those of us who are members of NEMFA, there is a reason that we keep this special organization in our routines...let's work together to persuade other New England educators that the NEMFA is worth adding to their already busy schedules. The more teachers, students, and schools that we involve in NEMFA, the richer our organization becomes. Please do your part as a member by inviting a fellow music educator to join NEMFA, either in the next town over, or the next county, or the even next state away! We've already had 80 great years...let's get ready to celebrate another 80 years and beyond!