



**National Association
for Music Education**

1806 Robert Fulton Drive, Reston VA 20191
www.nafme.org

Memorandum

DATE: January 2019
TO: NAFME Division Presidents
FROM: Michael J. Blakeslee
SUBJECT: NAFME Monthly Update Report

Dear NAFME Division Presidents,

Happy New Year! Included below is your NAFME Monthly Update Report. These monthly updates are intended as a tool to help division leaders disseminate key information regarding NAFME programmatic activities to state leaders. We strongly recommend that division leaders share the content of these reports, as they feel most appropriate. I hope that you and your colleagues will find this new resource valuable. As always, please feel free to contact my office at any time if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Blakeslee

NAfME Monthly Update Report – January 2019

Awards, Honors, and Recognitions

- **2019 Student Composers Competition:** Applications are now open. Information is available [here](#).

Advocacy and Public Policy

- **Music Education Policy Roundtable Annual Teleconference:** The Music Education Policy Roundtable recently held its annual virtual meeting to discuss 2019 legislative priorities. The coalition is currently comprised of 40 member groups.
- **State Standards Updates:** California adopted its new set of VAPA (Visual and Performing Arts) standards, based on the 2014 National Core Arts Standards. President-elect for CMEA, Armalyn De La O, chaired the music standards committee. Missouri closes its public comment period for its draft set of standards on January 31. So far, the State Board of Education has been very positive, and the standards were showcased in a pre-conference session for the 81st annual MMEA conference.

Events

- **2019 All-National Honor Ensembles:** During its January meeting, the National Executive Board confirmed the addition of a modern band ensemble component for inclusion in the 2019 All-National Honor Ensemble event. Information about this year's All-National Honor Ensembles is available [here](#) (applications opened Feb. 1). We are currently exploring options to include a student theme park experience to accompany the 2019 event. Pages for state MEAs listing their All-State requirements are now being added to the ANHE website, per the NEB's request. These new pages can be seen on the [ANHE website](#) under the 2019 ANHE Program section and linked to the MEA section under the 2019 Audition Requirements.
- **2019 In Service Conference:** The 2019 In Service Conference [Call for Proposals](#) is live and closes on Feb. 10. The Professional Development Committee has created a theme for the 2019 Conference - Amplify the Future of Music: Opening Doors for All Students. The areas of focus for the 2019 Conference have also been identified (see below). Members who submit a session proposal will be asked to connect with one of these areas of focus.
 - Amplify: Creativity
 - Amplify: Student Engagement
 - Amplify: Instruction
 - Amplify: Access
 - Amplify: Community

In addition to the areas of focus, the conference will once again feature a “poster session,” titled the Amplify: Inspiration Showcase. Members can submit specifically for the “poster session,” and/or have their session considered for one of the themed areas of focus as well as the poster session. Submissions will be due on Friday, February 10. Decisions will be made on sessions by the first week of March.

- **2019 National Assembly Update:** Dates for the National Assembly, scheduled to take place at the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009, are as follows:
 - Sunday, June 16 - Orientation for new NEB Observers (Karen Salvador, Sonja Williams, Renee Shane-Boyd) & National Officers (Kathy Sanz, Mackie Spradley, Denese Odegaard) & staff; other board members welcome
 - Monday - Tuesday, June 17-18
 - NEB Meeting and optional dinners on Monday and Tuesday evening
 - State Executives Check in (Monday) and Meeting (Tuesday)
 - Collegiate Check in (Monday) and meeting (Tuesday)
 - Wednesday, June 19 - Hill Day & evening celebration
 - Thursday - Friday, June 20-21 - National Assembly (ends at 4pm on Friday)
**please note this is a year in which candidates are presented to the Assembly*
- **Texas Music Educators Conference:** NAFME President-elect Mackie Spradley will present at the upcoming TMEA conference in February on “ESSA and Federal Funding.”

Governance

- **Call for Nominees - NAFME National President (2022-2024):** A call for 2022-2024 National President nominees has been posted in the Amplify communities of the National Executive Board plus Observers, State Executives, State Presidents, State Division leaders, and Societies and Councils. The information has also been shared via NAFME’s eNews and other communication channels. Nominating committee members have been selected and were approved during the January NEB meeting.
- **NAFME Dues Update:** As voted on during the January 2018 National Executive Board meeting, a NAFME dues increase of \$2.00 will go into effect on July 1, 2019, consistent with the consumer price index (CPI). As NAFME enters the second year of its current fiscal cycle, the NEB, by policy, has the authority to raise dues by an additional \$1.00, but, per its January 2019 meeting, has reached the decision not to do so.
- **NAFME HQ Sale Update:** We have closed the deal on the HQ building. NAFME will move into its newly leased third floor space (in the same building) in early March.
- **Unconscious Bias Evaluation:** During the January National Executive Board meeting, the NEB reaffirmed its commitment to have “Cook Ross be hired to consult and do an evaluation of the association related to unconscious bias and that the evaluation be completed at the earliest date available on their calendar.” NAFME’s Executive Director is corresponding with Cook Ross to schedule this work as soon as possible.

Grants

- **NAFME’s Teaching with Primary Sources Library of Congress Grant Update:** NAFME will be invited to respond to a Request for Proposal in February from the Library of Congress to extend its Teaching with Primary Sources grant for an additional 2 years. The next 2 years will include an extension to help the Library’s music archivists identify music in the Library’s collection, written by female, Latino, and African-American composers, that can be prioritized for digitization for use in school music programs. The archivists, along with teacher-in-residence, Carolyn Bennett, who attended the November 2018

National Conference, heard that music educators were looking for more diverse repertoire, and realized they had materials that could be useful for the field but weren't currently available online.

Membership

- **Combined Update:** Membership numbers as of the December 31 Comparative Report have been provided below and were made available to state Executives. A reminder that the count of students in Tri-M is an estimate, based on the average count for chapters, but note that the Tri-M numbers continue to be very strongly positive.

Member Count Comparative – December 31, 2018 vs December 31, 2017

Member Category	Membership Count		Change over year
	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017	
Active Members	45,267	45,335	-
Retired Members	4,516	4,778	-
Collegiate Members	8,658	7,924	+
TRI-M Chapters	1,818	1,332	++
TRI-M Members	72,720	53,280	++

Organizational Development

- **DCMEA Organizational Development:** NAFME staff attended a Washington D.C. Public Schools music professional development day, during which we were invited to discuss NAFME member benefits with District of Columbia music educators. 27 non-member teachers signed up to receive information on NAFME membership, resources, and advocacy materials. Several individuals followed up with staff about their desire to become involved in reinvigorating the DCMEA chapter. NAFME has met with the DCMEA state manager, Iris Tate, to map out NAFME's provision of assistance to the MEA with organizational compliance issues and promoting membership in Washington, DC. Eastern Division President Marc Greene is involved in next steps as NAFME prepares for an upcoming planning meeting with DC music educators.

Technology

- **New Membership Management System Development:** Two members of NAFME staff attended immersive training on the new Fonteva CRM platform, followed by three days of Fonteva "discovery" at NAFME headquarters with additional staff at the end of the month. A timeline for the implementation of Fonteva (May), including dates of interest to the state MEA task force, has been shared with the Task Force, and will be shared with all State Executives in the near future.