

Northern Lights

California Music Educators' Association , Northern California Section
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Co-Editors

Fall 2006

North Section CMEA Conference, Oct. 6 -7, 2006

at Neighborhood Church of Redding,
777 Loma Vista Drive, Redding!

Registration and MENC Membership
Forms attached.

**For \$15.00 Discount We MUST
RECEIVE FORMS by September 20!**

Registration begins 8 a.m.
First Session begins 9 a.m.
Friday, October 6, 2006

Registration Fees include the 59th Army
Band Concert on Friday night,
And lunch provided by the Sailing Boat
Restaurant on Saturday!

REGISTRATION FORM ON BACK



VERY IMPORTANT

The State of California is about to
award a huge amount of money
for the arts (Music and Art) in
California public schools. Want to
know what to do about it?
See Pages 4 and 5 for instructions.

59th Army Band

Will present instrumental
sessions at conference
Friday and Saturday
AND a concert on
Friday evening! Oct 6th.

At Conference,

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Sponsored by J. W. Pepper

Choral sessions with Mary Lynn Lightfoot!
Don't miss this opportunity to learn with
the best!

Our special thanks to J. W. Pepper!

ATTENTION: Elementary and
Classroom Teachers:

Mt. Lassen American-Orff Schulwerk Workshops

September 30, 2006—*Judith Cole*
(Silent Auction)

January 27, 2007—*Becky Huskey and
Abbie Ehorn*

March 3, 2007 - *Doug Goodkin*

Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At Neal Dow School in Chico

CMEA, NS Members attend FREE!!

Call Lucy (530) 894-1449

CALIFORNIA RECEIVES THE LARGEST FUNDING IN ARTS EDUCATION IN THE NATION

By Cydney Dixon, President, CMEA, North Section

We are about to enter a new and exciting time for music educators. Can you imagine teaching in a school of 500 students and getting **\$7500.00 each year to spend**? Not a big enough dream? Ok let's give you some one time money for the same school somewhere between **\$27,500 and \$41,000**. Well this dream is about to become reality. Sometime around Christmas, Santa, dressed like Arnold Schwarzenegger will be sending your district money to **supplement and not supplant** existing resources for visual and performing arts.

Now that you have wiped away the shock and made sure you are awake you have work to do. Before you get started let me give you a little history on how this happened. I remember sitting in a state board meeting my first term as president and being told we would not see money for the arts unless we had standards. I also remember us joining with other music and arts groups such as the LACAE and CAAE and getting a lobbyist. We have music standards, a lobbyist and now money. On June 27, 2006 a new Arts and Music initiative to support standards-aligned arts and music instruction in kindergarten and grades one through twelve with **\$105 million in reoccurring funds plus a one-time \$500 million for art/music/physical education equipment, instruments and supplies became law**.

We have a lot of people to thank for this but with the help of MENC and J.W. Pepper some 20,000 letters in support of funding were sent to the Big 5. Those letters not only showed a large number of people who support the Arts but also showed that we were organized. **MENC used its data base and send out a call asking us to write letters that targeted 5 very important members of the budget committee. J. W. Pepper sent out the same request to 10,000 people** on their email list. Other organizations on Pepper's email list sent emails to their members and within a short time we had letters. Years of you paying dues to MENC and CMEA have more than paid off. You are about to have a problem that we have never had in California history. We now have the largest increase in Arts Education money in the Nation. Our increase is larger than twenty states' total budget for Arts Education. We do need to share this money with physical education but don't forget they also got \$40 million in reoccurring funds in addition to our combined \$500 million one-time money.

At this time trailer bills are being written that will give us the rules on how to spend the money. These bills will be written in the next few weeks. Some of the items we think will be part of the trailer bills are that the money must be used by a credentialed teacher and must be standards based. Keep checking the CMEA state web site for information.

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW:

1. **Find out your school's ADA (Average Daily Attendance) and your school's enrollment size**. If you work at more than one school you need to do this for each school. The money is not per teacher but per school.

2. **Find your copy of the music standards** if you can't find it go to <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/mumain.asp>

3. Develop a wish list of things that you need to improve your programs \$15 per student ADA. Make sure this list address the standards and state what standard each item addresses. This money should focus on : hiring of credentialed arts specialists; professional development for arts specialists, administrators, and generalist teachers; evaluation of existing arts education programs; creation of standard -based sequential art education programs to be delivered within the school day and including curriculum of instruction.

4. Now develop a second list that supports instruction of Physical Education and Visual and Performing Arts. This money is based on site enrollment not ADA. Take your schools enrollment and multiply that number by a number between \$55 and \$82. Remember you will need to share. This money is for supplies and equipment but again write the standard that these supplies and equipment support.

Get on your school site council or develop friendships with the people on that committee. This committee will most likely be the one who decides how the money will be spent. If you have a list ready to go and it is aligned with the standards you have a better chance of getting what you want and need.

6. Make sure you are on my email list. If you did not receive a request from me last June to write letters to letters then email me at cyddixon@paradise.k12.ca.us and get on my email list.

We have some organizations that will be helping us spend the money but **I do not think it is wise to wait.** The final thing you will need to do will come sometime in January. Right about the time we will be enjoying the money to support our programs we need to start the process all over. If we write enough letters it is possible to get the yearly money and more one time money for next year. If you did not write letters this year you can make up for this by having you, your school parents and fellow teachers write letters next January. I will send you the links again when it is time.

We will have the **latest information on the arts funding at our conference in October.** Now would be a good time to find away to be able to attend this conference.

Once again I am honored to serve with such a wonderful group of dedicated and talents leaders who serve on our state board of CMEA. **Now is the time to become involved and to encourage your fellow music teachers to become a part of our wonderful organization.** Years of hard work is about to pay off and in a very large way. I can't wait to ask you, How has CMEA helped you? How can you help CMEA? Enjoy seeing your dreams and your program grow. What an exciting time to be a music teacher.

Respectfully,

-

Cydney Dixon

MENC Dues Payment.

You can go online to pay your MENC Dues.

Type in 'CMEA@calmusiced.com', check under the section "About Us", Then "Membership" The form will come up!

REGIONAL NEWS

Brian McKee, Region I, Yreka High School, states there may be an elementary job at Dunsmuir next year. Welcome to **Sean Abel, College of the Siskiyous** who will do instrumental program and direct the South Siskiyou County Concert Band in Weed and a North Siskiyou Country Band in Yreka.

Deborah Divine, Region II, Redding, Region II Choral Dates:

Region 2 High School Choral Festival Wed, Mar. 21, 2007

Region 2 Middle School Choral Festival, Thu, Mar 22, 2007

Both events are located at the David Marr Auditorium in Redding. Please contact **Deborah Divine** for available performance times if you are out of Region 2 as this festival fills up quickly.

Enterprise Vocal Jazz Invitational.....Wednesday, January 24, 2007. Free evening of vocal jazz showcasing local performing groups. Open to all interested schools.

Enterprise Jazz Festival

(NEW !!)Saturday, March 3, 2007

A new jazz band, choir, and combo festival to be

held at the David Marr Auditorium. Groups will be adjudicated by highly qualified music educators in the jazz field. An evening performance of the top groups of the day and an awards/ scholarship ceremony will be held in the eve-



ning. More information concerning fees will be in the mail

soon. Please contact **Dan Neece** (djniece@suhsd.net) or **Deborah**

Divine (ddivine@suhsd.net)

CMEA North Section Calendar of Events

Oct 5 Board of Directors meeting in Redding 5:00

Oct 6 & 7 Redding Conference at Neighborhood Church

Oct 6 Board of Directors and Executive meeting Redding 5:00

Jan. 12 Executive board meeting La Hacienda, Chico 5:00

Jan. 12 & 13 Nor Cal Jr. High Honor Band

Feb. 24 Solo Ensemble Festival in Chico

March 8-10 State Music Conference in Ontario

March 10 Region II band festival

March 20 Region III Choral Festival

March 21 Region II Choral Festival

March 23 Region 11I Band Festival

March TBA Region I Choral Festival

March TBA Region V Elementary /Jr. High Festival Greenville High

March TBA Region I Band Festival Chico

March TBA Region II Band Festival

March TBA Region IV

March TBA Region I Choral Festival

March TBA Region V Festival Westwood

May 12 State Solo Ensemble

REDDING HOTELS

Note: RESERVATIONS Must be made before September 20, 2006 for discount!

Hilton Garden Inn, 109.00 per night, contact (530) 226-5111, [Marci Johnson](mailto:marci_johnson@hilton.com)

Or e-mail her at marci_johnson@hilton.com

Red Lion Hotel Special group rate, \$103 for a single and \$112 for double. Phone (530) 224-6611, ask for [Carol Owens, Group Rates](#)

AmeriHost Inn, \$80 for 2 double beds and includes breakfast
Phone (530) 722-9100, [Contact 'Tathena'](#).