

Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Teacher of the Year Information 2017-2018

Each year MSBOA recognizes a Teacher of the Year for Band and a Teacher of the Year for Orchestra. The process begins in the Spring with each of the MSBOA Districts nominating a candidate in each classification. The Executive Board reviews all of the candidates and selects up to three in each area to submit to the entire active membership. In this posting you will find statements about each candidate.

MSBOA congratulates each of these fine instrumental music educators for their nomination to this honor.

ORCHESTRA NOMINEES



BENJAMIN MOY has been an orchestra teacher in the Ferndale Public Schools for the past 11 years, teaching 2 high school orchestras, 2 middle school orchestra and team-teaching the 5th grade beginning orchestras at two elementary schools. Beyond the day-time teaching duties, he also has been the Assistant Marching Band Director for the past 10 years and the Musical Pit Orchestra director for 11 years. He also runs weekly evening full symphony orchestra rehearsals many weeks out of the year. He earned a Master of Music Education degree from Boston University in 2013, and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Eastern Michigan University in 2005.

When Ben first came to Ferndale in 2006, the orchestra program was in a down-swing for a variety of reasons. Since he arrived, he has worked tirelessly to build the program bit by bit (for the first 8 years without a planning period and no additional compensation). He has taken an impressive multi-pronged approach to this rebuilding approach: supporting private lessons, facilitating many small ensembles, pursuing alternative strings approaches (such as fiddling, electric instruments and most recently rock music like the Electrify Your Strings program with Trans-Siberian Orchestra violin player Mark Wood), and building an orchestra community. It is this last piece that is most impressive: the orchestra students grades 5-12

now see themselves as part of a Ferndale orchestra family, through a 5-12 orchestra-specific booster group (that he started), joint concerts and social events, away orchestra camp for high schoolers, and even a series of clever orchestra t-shirts that all of the orchestra kids wear at the annual all-city concert. His approach is the epitome of student-centered education upon which we all should be focused. The kids know he cares about them, hence they care how music he knows.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Ben served MSBOA District 4 for three years as the Vice President for Solo & Ensemble and one year as Assistant VP for Solo & Ensemble. In what little spare time he has, he dresses up as a Jedi for events such as Tigers Star Wars Night and for children's hospital visits and is a licensed travel agent.



NATHAN PETERS is an orchestra teacher in the Chelsea Schools, a position he has held since 1999. His middle school orchestras consistently receive superior ratings at MSBOA Festivals. In 2007, he conducted the Chelsea Beach Middle School 8th Grade Orchestra in an honorary performance at the Michigan Music Conference. He also assists with classes and conducting of the Chelsea High School Orchestras. In 2016, he was nominated for “MASTA Teacher of the Year”.

Nathan regularly contributes to string education in Michigan through several projects, including hosting the MSBOA Mid-Level Fall String Clinic (since 2010), teaching violin, viola, and conducting the Blue Lake Music Camp (since 2012) and directing the Chelsea M.S. Fiddle Club and Summer Fiddle Camp.

A strong advocate for chamber music performance, Nathan was the coordinator for the annual MASTA Chamber Music Festival and Competition from 2011-2016. In 2000, he co-founded the Chelsea Chamber Players, a group with which he performs several chamber music concerts each year. He coordinates concerts for Chelsea High School students to hear live performances of the Chelsea Chamber Players and the Ann Arbor Symphony and classical and children’s concerts for the Chelsea Community.

Nathan received a certificate in music education from the University of Michigan in 1999. His primary teaching mentors were Donald Parrish, Dan Long and Jed Fritzemeier. He also has received Suzuki Violin Teaching and Orff-Schulwerk Teaching certificates, as well as training in conducting at the University of Iowa and the Ohio State University and in fiddling from the Augusta Center of the Davis and Elkins College and the Brasstown Folk School. Nathan studied violin performance with Paul Kantor at the University of Michigan, receiving a Bachelor of Music degree in 1992, and viola performance with Yizhak Schotten at the University of Michigan, receiving a Master of Music degree in 1993. He performed as a fellowship student at the Aspen Music Festival and the Rountop Festival. Nathan also has performed in many orchestras including the Ann Arbor Symphony, the Lansing Symphony, the Toledo Symphony and the Michigan Opera Theater Orchestra.



SANDRA SHAW is in her 29th year of teaching, currently directs 7-8 orchestra at Maple St. Magnet School for the Arts middle school and 9-12 orchestra at both Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix High Schools. She also directs an extra-curricular high school jazz band at Kalamazoo Central High School.

Originally a band director, Sandra overcame a lack of string pedagogical background by attending numerous summer string workshops and by taking private violin lessons. Her hard work and dedication to her craft has allowed Sandy to grow a middle school orchestra and two declining high school orchestras into well balanced, full sized ensembles with talented students who excel at MSBOA Festivals, in the community youth orchestras, and perform regularly in quartets for school and community events.

Sandra was commissioned to compose, direct and record a piece that integrated instrumental jazz and strings, along with vocal solos and choirs to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Kalamazoo Promise. In addition, Sandra collaborated with local music education organizations to provide musical enrichment to students through visiting performances, student pre-interns and professional string coaching.

Sandra designed and implemented new ensemble/music theory/composition course offerings at Maple Street Magnet School. Sandra also negotiated and piloted a beginning instrumental program to add instructional hours at an elementary school. She has authored and managed numerous grants to provide professional string quartet coaches at up to three school for twenty years and jazz band for six years. Professionally, Sandra continues to perform throughout Southwest Michigan. She has been the lead Jazz saxophonist in the Kalamazoo Big Band for over three decades. Sandra recently joined the Kalamazoo Philharmonic Orchestra, playing violin in the ensemble. Sandra has volunteered in District XI for many years. She was VP of Orchestra Activities (2010-2014).

BAND NOMINEES



MARK HOURIGAN is in his 15th year as Director of Bands at Novi High School. In Novi Mark teaches three concert bands, a jazz ensemble, directs the competitive marching band, and has conducted the pit orchestra for the Spring musical at Novi High School for 14 years. He also oversees the winter drumline and color guard programs, and manages a large parent booster group. During his tenure at Novi, each concert ensemble, he has directed, has received only superior ratings at District and State Festivals. Additionally, he sends many students to District and State Solo & Ensemble Festivals. Many of Mark's students qualify for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. This year, the top percussion ensemble was selected to perform at MYAF. The MSBOA All-State ensembles have included several Novi students each year since 2007. Mark also takes his Jazz Ensemble to the MSBOA State Jazz Festival, consistently receiving superior ratings. In 2009 and 2017 the Novi Wind Ensemble performed at the Michigan Music Conference, and in 2012 the Wind Ensemble performed at the Western Michigan University Spring Conference on Wind and Percussion Music. This year they also hosted the WMU Symphony at Novi High School for a combined concert. His impact on music education broadens still further as each year his students attend some of the best music school around the state and country, several becoming music professionals.

Mark holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Music Education from Western Michigan University and has completed the coursework for a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Wind Conducting at Michigan State University. From 2013-2015 Mark served as Treasurer for District 4. He has also repeatedly hosted District Band and Orchestra Festival, including this year.



KENNETH MOORE is Director of Bands at Dexter High School, where he chairs an active music department, conducts three concert ensembles and the Dreadnaught Marching Band, and teaches beginning instrumental music classes. Prior to his appointment in Dexter, he held similar positions in Dundee, Michigan, and Grant Park, Illinois. Moore remains strongly committed to the music education profession. He has held several offices on the MSBOA District 12 Executive Board (including president, vice president of band and orchestra, and secretary), has served on the state Festival Improvements Committee, and has regularly hosted MSBOA district and state festivals. His professional memberships include MSBOA, and the Partnership for Music Education Policy Development (founding member). Honors received include the Michigan ASBDA Award of Excellence, Who's Who Among America's Teachers, the Eastern Michigan University Band Alumni Award, MSBOA District 12 Band Director of the Year (twice), and the Dexter Most Influential Teacher Award (five times).

The Dexter High School band program maintains an enrollment of over 190 students each year out of a total school enrollment of 1150, and about one third of all high school students participate in a music class. Moore's concert and marching bands have consistently received superior ratings; in his nineteen years in Dexter, every band under his direction has received a first-division rating at the district band and orchestra festival. Additionally, Dexter

High School annually enters over 150 wind and percussion events at the district solo and ensemble festival, and Dexter band students are regularly selected for all-state, honors, Detroit Civic, and Michigan Youth Arts Festival ensembles. Kenneth holds a DMA in Music Education from Boston University and an MA (trumpet performance) and BME from Eastern Michigan University. His dissertation, *A History of the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association*, chronicles every aspect of the organization from 1934 to 2009. He is an active adjudicator and clinician and speaks regularly to pre-service teachers. He lives with Robin, his wife of twenty-six years, in Livonia, Michigan.



TAVIA ZERMAN is the band director at Hayes Middle School. She received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Performance from Michigan State University in 1995, with a major in tuba. She continued to study the tuba at the University of Akron, where she earned her Master of Music degree in Brass Performance in 1997. During this time she won both regional and international solo performance competitions and honors. She returned to MSU to complete her teaching certification and graduated with a second Bachelor of Music, this time in Music Education, in December, 1999.

Tavia was hired to direct the bands at Hayes Middle School, beginning her public school teaching career in the 2000-2001 school year.




Tavia has been active in MSBOA in District 8 as chair for Junior High Honors Band and Vice President for Junior High Solo & Ensemble Festival, as well as serving as an adjudicator for band and orchestra and solo and ensemble festivals. She has served as the MSBOA Elementary/Middle School Workshop chair and for three years on the Planning Committee for the Michigan Music Conference. Her 8th Grade Band performed a concert at the 2009 Michigan Music Conference. In May of 2011, she was elected MSBOA District 8 Band Teacher of the Year.




Tavia was inducted into ASBDA in 2007, and has served on the faculty of both Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp and Interlochen Arts Camp. Additionally, she is frequently invited to work as a clinician with groups or to conduct honors bands or mass bands. Tavia has become an activist for the LGBTQ community, particularly in regards to transgender rights within the school setting.

Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Ballot for 2018 Teachers of the Year

Please cast your vote by mail, fax or in person at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids.

- Ballots cast by mail/fax/email must be **received** at the State Office by **noon** on Tuesday January 23, 2018
- All in-person ballots must be turned in by **5:00 pm** on Friday, January 26, 2018 at the MSBOA booth at the MMC

<i>Vote for one</i>	ORCHESTRA TEACHER OF THE YEAR CANDIDATES	<i>Vote for one</i>
 Benjamin Moy <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>	 Nathan Peters <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>	 Sandra Shaw <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>

<i>Vote for one</i>	BAND TEACHER OF THE YEAR CANDIDATES	<i>Vote for one</i>
 Mark Hourigan <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>	 Kenneth Moore <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>	 Tavia Zerman <input style="width: 30px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;" type="checkbox"/>

To vote by mail, send your ballot to:*

**MSBOA Teacher of the Year
3899 Okemos Rd. Suite B1
Okemos, MI 48864-3666**

To vote by email, send the ballot to:*

msboa@msboa.org and include "TOY Ballot" in the message area.

To vote by FAX, fax your ballot to:*

517-347-7325

(*To vote any of the three methods mentioned above, your ballot must be **RECEIVED BY noon** on Tuesday, Jan. 23)

To vote in person:

Bring your ballot to the MSBOA Booth located in the Exhibitor's Area of the DeVos Place before 5:00 pm on Friday, January 26, 2018.

IN ORDER FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE TALLIED, YOUR BALLOT MUST BE SIGNED IN THIS BOX

Only current Active Members may cast a ballot.

Those holding Individual, Associate, Commercial Sustaining, Non-Profit Sustaining, Honorary and Emeritus Memberships are not permitted to vote.

Print Your Name _____

Signature _____