

The Perfect Fourth

Newsletter of the Fourth District of O.M.E.A.

Tracy Gabrielsen, Editor

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www.omea4.com



President's Report

by Devon Gess

OMEA District IV President

April showers bring May Flowers, what does May bring...CONCERTS!!! I am sure we are all getting ready for our end-of-the-year performances. What a busy time for us all. Spring is personally my absolutely favorite season: flowers, trees blooming, warm weather, birds chirping and flip flops - another school year will be over before we know it, bittersweet. Some important points:

- ♪ The survey I have intended to get to you might be another week, but it will be to you before the end of the year! PROMISE!
- ♪ MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Our end-of-the-year party will be on Friday, June 4th from 5-9p.m. at Houlihan's in Westlake, Ohio. A special e-vite will be sent out by Friday this week to everyone. PLEASE RSVP as soon as you know if can or cannot attend.
- ♪ If you are planning on attending the dinner on June 4, and are retiring this year, PLEASE let me know. We would like recognize our retirees.
- ♪ Middle School Contest is right around the corner, good luck to all participating.

As always, if I am forgetting something or if you have any thoughts or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at devonbonds@yahoo.com.



OMEA District Four

D4 Notes

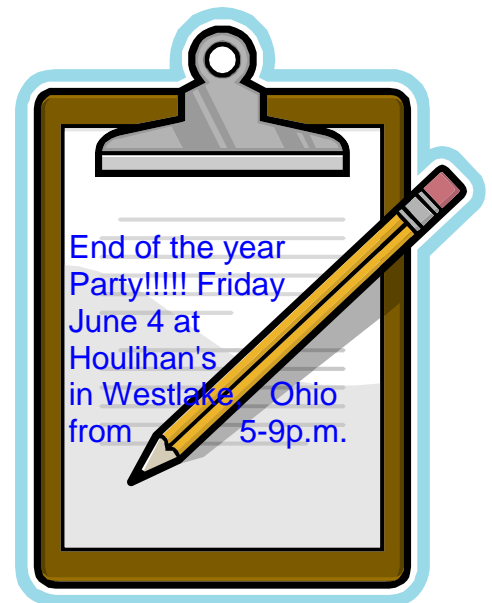
- ✓ **Congratulations** to our 2010 DaCapo Leadership Academy nominees:

David P Roth
Mark Wozniak
Amy Deluca
Richie Gaukin
Chelsea Waschek
Elyse Roberts
Dustin Wiley
David Eby
Craig Reynolds
Katie Cooper

Congrats
District 4
Leaders!



- ✓ Friday, October 15, 2010, OMEA will sponsor the annual General Music Workshop. Visit www.omea-ohio.org for more information. Mark your calendars now!
- ✓ Junior High Large Group Contest
Friday - Saturday, May 14-15, 2010
Lorain Admiral King High School
- ✓ Please look through this list of school addresses that was send out by Jared last week. Log onto www.omea-ohio.org for any changes or corrections that you may know of. Also, look at your colleagues information as well. Please let OMEA know whether these members are still in your district at these schools to the best of your knowledge. Please let Devon know if you NEVER received this information.
- ✓ Information for the Foundation for Music Education can be found at:
www.ohiofoundationformusiceducation.org
- ✓ Be sure to check the OMEA page: [https:// www.omea-ohio2.org/default.html](https://www.omea-ohio2.org/default.html)
- ✓ The following link includes information and helpful hints about what to do when music program cuts are threatened:
http://www.omea-ohio.org/Static_PDF/Advocacy/Cuts.pdf
- ✓ Also, please check out the District 4 page:
<http://www.omea4.com/Home/tabid/523/Default.aspx>



Middle School Honors Festival

by Brian Griebel

OMEA District IV Middle School Honors Festival General Chair

The District IV Middle School Honors Festival was again a **HUGE** success! There were 24 different schools participating with 36 different directors! Our clinicians brought the best out of the students and were complimentary of their level of accomplishment. Many thanks are due to the coordinators and hosts for their dedication and hard work: Lisa Richards – choir, Mark Awad – band, Tammy Kuntz – orchestra, Ran Hudec and Mary Fancher for hosting the rehearsal and finally Scott Rovniak for hosting the performance.

The Festival turned a small profit this year as we look to bring in a nationally recognized clinician in the future. The Festival performance date has not been set yet so watch the District IV web page for next year's information!

Brian Griebel
OMEA District IV
Honors Festival Chairman

2010 Honors Fest Participating Schools

Choir

Lewis F. Mayer M.S. Fairview
Amherst J.H. Amherst
North Ridgeville M.S. North Ridgeville
Albion M.S. Strongsville
Rocky River M.S. Rocky River
Lee Burneson M.S. Westlake
Olmsted Falls M.S. Olmsted Falls
Bay Village M.S. Bay Village
Garfield M.S. Lakewood
Harding M.S. Lakewood

Band

Academy of St. Bartholomew
Amherst Jr Hi
Avon Lake St. Joseph
Bay Middle School
Ford Middle School
Garfield Middle School (Lakewood)
Harding Middle School (Lakewood)
Incarnate Word Academy (Parma Heights)
Lakewood Catholic Academy
Learwood Middle School (Avon Lake)
Lee Burneson Middle School (Westlake)
North Ridgeville MS
Olmsted Falls MS

Rocky River MS
St. Columbille School

Orchestra

Bay MS
Brecksville-Broadview Heights
Center MS Strongsville
Ford MS
Garfield MS Lakewood
Harding MS Lakewood
Incarnate Word Academy
Rocky River
Avon Lake

Band Directors teaching all age levels are invited to register for a NEW Band Reading Clinic hosted by Wright State University and sponsored by JW Pepper on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Undergraduate/graduate credit will be offered for all interested participants, or simply register for \$25 and bring your instrument! Music from Grade Levels 1 - 5 will be explored!

Alongside the Band Reading Clinic we are also offering a NEW 4-day Band Director Seminar, June 14-17, available for undergraduate/graduate credit. Register today by mailing in the attached brochure. For more information, please contact Shelley Jagow at shelley.jagow@wright.edu or at 937-775-2178, or visit us online at http://www.wright.edu/~shelley.jagow/Reading_Clinic.html



"Ah, music. A magic beyond all we do here!"

Do you know who said this? If so, you could win a prize at the end of the year party! The first member to email the correct answer to songteach@gmail.com wins. Good luck!!!

The Triple A's of Student Leadership

Submitted by Dale Hildebrand
Brookside High School

Attitude determines Actions which determine the Achievement of the group. Actions

Occasionally when I talk to my band seniors about leadership, they tell me that they think the seniors the year before were hypocrites-telling everyone else to be quiet but talking themselves; telling everyone else to stand still at attention but not doing it themselves; the list goes on. those kids have a head start because they understand that you show the world your attitude through your actions and not just through the words you say.

You can't fake real leadership because we humans define ourselves by our actions. The way we act communicates the attitudes and opinions that we hold more accurately than the words that we say. We need to make certain that we are communicating what we intend to communicate through our actions, and that our actions are consistent with our values. Actions also betray hypocrisy. If you don't believe what you are teaching (if your actions are not consistent with the values you say you believe in) then no matter what you say, your actions will betray that and you will appear to be phony and lose the respect of those you are trying to lead.

The importance of our actions is pretty obvious in the context of leading by example, yet we still miss it sometimes. Leaders understand the rules of the group and sincerely want the group to follow those rules because they are the key to the group's success. However, familiarity makes us comfortable-and sloppy! Everyone has heard an upper-classmen say "I know I should be doing what everyone else is doing, but I know it already. I'll do it right at the performance". There is danger in that kind of complacency! If you want the people that aren't familiar with the material to do it right in rehearsals, then you have to have the maturity to realize that they are watching you and basing their actions and their respect for the group on how they see you act. It takes a great deal of self-discipline to repeatedly practice behaviors that you have already mastered, but think of it this way-as a rookie you pay attention in rehearsals to **learn** the material and how to act; as a leader you pay attention and model good rehearsal behavior to **teach** the rookies the right attitude and appropriate actions. Act the way you want the whole group to act, and you will be a success as a leader.

Integrity isn't easy. You have a value that says "I want to lead by example, so I will never miss a rehearsal or a performance". It's a good value to have. BUT-when your boyfriend or girlfriend says "Let's skip the performance and go to Cedar Point all day tomorrow", will your integrity hold up? The three possible outcomes of this will teach very different lessons to the people you are leading. 1. If you skip the performance, you have shown them that the group's success and the rules are important, but only

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until something more important or personally gratifying comes along. 2. If you don't go to the performance, but before you skip you tell your director you're going to do it, you know it is wrong, and you will accept the consequences of your action, you might feel better about it, but it is still very bad leadership. You are either at rehearsal because the group's success is your top priority, or the group's success is not your top priority. There isn't anything in between. 3. You go to rehearsal. In that case, the group will be better, your integrity is intact, you can feel good about yourself, and you are being a good leader although one who is probably looking for a new boyfriend or girlfriend. Integrity must be a personal habit. You can't just put it on when it's easy to put it on. You have to authentically hold it as a core value. People who are awesome leaders are the ones that decide to do the right thing every time. There's nothing phony about their actions. Their actions are always based on genuinely held beliefs, even when it costs them.

Leaders accept responsibility for a group's success. When you accept your role as a leader, you are accepting responsibility for everyone's actions in the group, not just your own. Accepting responsibility for someone else's mistakes or bad habits isn't fair, but it's the way the reality of being a leader. If you don't want one of the kids in the group to mess up a performance or make the band look bad by behaving badly, then do something about it when you can, early in the season-be responsible for teaching the people in your charge well. You are guaranteeing your success as well as theirs.

When you are in a leadership role, no matter how big or small the organization you are working in, you are under scrutiny-you are expected to "practice what you preach". It is possible to commit an action in your role as a leader or in your personal life that is so grievously misguided or just plain wrong that you lose your credibility as a leader permanently. Some examples of these "lost leaders" are the evangelist who gets caught in an illicit sexual affair, or the public official that gets caught stealing from the funds that are under his control. People who get themselves into those situations will never have the credibility to be trusted in a leadership role again. The same is true in school groups. The student who gets suspended for fighting probably won't ever have much credibility among his peers as a leader, because being a leader requires patience and problem solving skills-resorting to physical violence is not an option. The student who is overheard "making fun of" the band or choir he or she belongs to will never again be taken seriously as a leader of the group. **"If you're going to talk the talk, you have to walk the walk".**

Whether you are the director, a senior member of the group, or a designated leader, your actions will demonstrate your love of what you are doing and your respect for the group to everyone who sees your group perform.

Thank you Mr. Hildebrand for your insight! If you have something to share that could benefit district 4 music teachers, email it to the Perfect Fourth editor: songteach@gmail.com. Share your talents as we are each other's best asset!



A Message for



Choir Directors

Elementary~Middle School~High School

The OCDA Summer Conference

June 21-23, 2010

Otterbein College Westerville, Ohio

Headliner:Anton Armstrong
Jeff Redding, Ann Usher, Ben Locke, and
Maurice Casey will conduct sessions with
concert performances including the Children's
Honor Choir and other networking
opportunities!



Registration information, conference schedule, presenter
biographies, Children's Honor Choir information can all be
found at

[Www.ohiocda.org/conferences/](http://www.ohiocda.org/conferences/)

College credit available

One year membership in OCDA **FREE** to new members who register
at the conference!



District 4 End of the Year Party!!!!
Friday, June 4 at Houlihan's in Westlake, Ohio from 5-9p.m.
If you did not get the evite info, email devonbonds@yahoo.com
Don't miss out on all the fun !



OMEA District IV Officer/Chair Directory

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p><u>President</u> Devon Gess Bay Village HS 29230 Wolf Road Bay Village 44140 440-617-7480— Office devonbonds@yahoo.com</p> | <p><u>President-Elect</u> Jill Murrell 219 Gayle Drive Sheffield Lake 44054 Jponmurr@hotmail.com</p> | <p><u>Treasurer</u> Dave Eby Strongsville HS 20025 Lunn Road Strongsville 44149 440.268.5561 ebyd@strongnet.org</p> |
| <p><u>General Music Chair</u> Jill Murrell 219 Gayle Drive Sheffield Lake 44054 Jponmurr@hotmail.com</p> | <p><u>Mentoring Chair</u> Amy Deluca Valley Forge HS 9999 Independence Blvd Parma Hts. 44130 440.885.8438—Office bluewhite@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p><u>Webpage</u> Chris Chidsey Strongsville HS 20025 Lunn Road Strongsville 44149 440.572.7105 chidseyc@strongnet.org</p> |
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