NAfME Monthly Update Report – March 2019

Awards, Honors, and Recognitions

- **2019 Electronic Music Composition Competition**: Applications are now open and will close on April 19. Information is available [here](#).

- **2019 Student Composers Competition**: Applications are now open and will close on March 29. Information is available [here](#).

Advocacy and Public Policy

- **CMA Foundation State Advocacy Grant Opportunity**: The CMA Foundation State Advocacy Grant application period opened on March 25th for the 2019/2020 fiscal year and will close on May 15th. The application and review process were featured on the March 25th Advocacy Leadership Force call.

- **Congressional Resolution in Support of Music in Our Schools Month**: Representative Velazquez (NY-7) introduced a Congressional Resolution in support of [Music In Our Schools Month](#) on Monday, March 11th.

- **Guaranteed Access to Arts and Music Education Act Re-introduction**: Congresswoman Velazquez (NY) re-introduced [The GAAME Act](#) into the current U.S. Congress on Monday, March 11th. Senator Tester (MT) will re-introduce in the Senate as well on Monday, March 25th.

- **Quarterly Advocacy Webinar**: The quarterly advocacy webinar was held on Wednesday, March 13th. The archived webinar is available for viewing by all members [here](#). The webinar featured state advocacy work by New York, Pennsylvania, California, and West Virginia.

- **Rebuild America’s Schools Act**: Representative Bobby Scott (VA-3) included music in the amended language for his [Rebuild America’s Schools Act](#).

- **Title IV, Part A Action Alert**: A grassroots action alert has been activated for members to write to Congress in support of fully funding [Title IV, Part A](#) of the Every Student Succeeds Act, following release of the President’s budget for FY20, where he zeroed out appropriations for this section of the education law.

Events
2019 All-National Honor Ensembles: Information about this year’s All-National Honor Ensembles, including the new modern band ensemble component, is available here (applications opened Feb. 1 and will close on May 3). All conductors have been confirmed. All updated policy, requirements and program information can be found on the All-National Honor Ensembles website. The 2019 event will be accompanied by a Disney theme park experience.

2019 In Service Conference: The 2019 In Service Conference call for proposals has closed. 350 proposals were received; the Professional Development Committee, along with two dozen additional volunteers, including many from the Societies and Councils, vetted the proposals for the upcoming conference and finished the selection process. Decisions on session selection were made (and communicated) in March. The national conference website and registration will be up by the end of the month, and the selected sessions available for review on the website shortly thereafter. Work continues in identifying the leaders of the 9 day-long learning experiences and the Emerging Leaders Forum, as well as the student performing ensembles (30 applications were received). http://nationalconference.nafme.org

2020 In Service Conference: The 2020 Conference Planning Committee continues to edit a call for Action Research Proposals, the beginning of the proposal process for the conference. The call will be released in April with a deadline in June. A call for “regular” research proposals and for K-12 conference sessions will open in the fall. The theme of Bringing the Future into Focus has been tentatively selected for the conference.

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
  *appeal for Lowell Mason Fellows has been sent to all constituencies and remains open through April: National Executive Board, Societies & Council Chairs and State Executives

Governance

Call for Nominees - NAfME National President (2022-2024): All candidate submission materials have been forwarded to the Nominations Committee Chair, Denese Odegaard. In turn, the committee has provided a list of candidates to the National Executive Board for further review. Candidates will address the 2019 National Assembly and voting will open to membership January 14, 2020.

National Assembly Reimbursement Policy Update: At the March 2019 National Executive Board meeting, it was agreed that the policy regarding support for those attending the National Assembly
would be modified, extending some additional reimbursements. The results of that updated policy are outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendee</th>
<th>Roundtrip transportation at the lowest prevailing rate</th>
<th>Nights of lodging within our room block</th>
<th>Parking</th>
<th>Meals not provided at the Assembly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Presidents or proxies</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society &amp; Council Chairs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of the NEB and other Division Officers</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Presidents Elect</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2 nights</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Executive Directors</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2 nights</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** Delegates to the National Assembly are defined in the NAfME Bylaws as the Presidents of the Federated State Associations, the Chairs of Councils and Societies, and the elected National and Division officers. Where a State President is unable to attend, a proxy may be designated by the individual unable to attend, with the approval of the National Executive Board.

All other members in attendance are auditing the proceedings. The chart above lists the support provided by NAfME for Delegates and Auditors.

Invited guests may include leaders of allied associations, political or cultural leaders, and the like.

All delegates, auditors, and guests are invited to take part in meals where provided for the entire group at the National Assembly.

Auditors are asked to pay a registration fee; however, if they stay in the room block for the Assembly, this fee is waived.

- **Unconscious Bias Evaluation:** The National Executive Board has committed to have “Cook Ross be hired to consult and do an evaluation of the association related to unconscious bias.” Per the March 2019 NEB meeting, NAfME’s Executive Director reported that NAfME has finalized a contractual commitment with Cook Ross, and initial work for the engagement is now underway. As part of this project, Cook Ross will lead focus group sessions during NAfME’s upcoming National Assembly, aimed at better informing the Association’s upcoming Strategic Planning efforts, by examining issues of inclusivity, diversity, equity, and access.

**Membership**

- **Combined Update:** Membership numbers as of the February 28, 2019 Comparative Report have been provided below and were made available to state Executives. The count of students in Tri-M is an estimate, based on the average count for chapters, but note that the Tri-M chapter numbers continue to be very strongly positive. Planning for a nationwide membership drive (with state MEA overlap) in
late summer 2019 is in the early stages. State MEA directors were recently queried about the use of NAfME membership cards. Early responses indicate that usage by states at events is in decline.

### Member Count Comparative – February 28, 2019 vs February 28, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Category</th>
<th>Membership Count</th>
<th>Change over year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 28, 2019</td>
<td>February 28, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Members</td>
<td>46,142</td>
<td>45,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Members</td>
<td>4,628</td>
<td>4,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collegiate Members</td>
<td>12,054</td>
<td>11,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRI-M Chapters</td>
<td>1,979</td>
<td>1,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRI-M Members</td>
<td>79,160</td>
<td>64,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Organizational Development

- **DCMEA Organizational Development:** DC Public Schools has accepted NAfME’s assistance for its upcoming April 4 Professional Development event. NAfME is providing Deb Hansen, Associate, Visual and Performing Arts, Delaware Department of Education and NAfME Staffer Lynn Tuttle to present on and facilitate discussion around Arts Integration. Additionally, NAfME provided several contacts to DC Public Schools for networking with New York City and Chicago Public Schools. DC Public Schools is also polling its music educators related to the next meeting of DCMEA, originally planned for April 5. With DCMEA now being a Washington, DC nonprofit, the next steps are to appoint a Board and to ratify bylaws. After bylaws are approved, the 501c3 application can proceed.

- **Missouri MEA Organizational Development:** NAfME continues to work with Missouri MEA President Brian Reeves in efforts to guide MMEA’s affiliate district units in the process of nonprofit formation. NAfME staff will meet with the Missouri MEA Executive Committee and Board over April 12-13 at Tan Tar A Resort to present and engage governance regarding fiduciary management topics.

- **Model MEA Affiliation Agreement Template:** NAfME is developing a model affiliate agreement template to be shared with State MEAs. More information will be made available about this in April.

- **NAfME Leadership Training Seminar:** Registration is open for the 2019 Leadership Training Seminar hosted by the Western Division, June 11-13 at Golden Nugget Resort, Las Vegas. President Kathy Sanz will be the keynote presenter. Volunteer and collegiate volunteer leaders from any MEA are welcomed to register at: [https://www.eventsquid.com/event/5731](https://www.eventsquid.com/event/5731).

### Professional Development

- **Experiential Ensembles:** The NEA-funded Experiential Ensembles project continues with teachers and clinicians sharing video footage of their student engagement practices. Participating teachers will be showcased in a session to share this work at the 2019 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic.
Technology

- **New Membership Management System Development**: System development has entered the construction phase; a web meeting to which all State Executives were invited, took place on March 13, in order to prepare all states for the changes to come. State MEAs have been surveyed regarding specific requirements of their system needs. The March 28th State MEA Technology Task Force call showcased snapshots of the interface of the Fonteva platform. Much of back office data field configuration has been completed for Accounts and Contacts. We are currently addressing data cleansing and data configuration, with continued state involvement. NAfME’s technology vendors are extracting and templating data to make it ready for import into the sandbox (test version of the interface).