

# Making the Most of Your PMEA Membership

Another member year is underway. Approximately 1/3 of your PMEA/MENC dues is allocated to support the many PMEA programs below. The remaining 2/3 portion of the dues goes to MENC to support publications, activities and programs. Are you making the most of your membership?

## Adjudication

Adjudication is just one of the many ways to help strengthen your music program. These events are open to ensembles at the elementary, middle and high school level. For more information and a list of events during the 2009-10 school year, visit the Adjudication page (under the Events menu option) on the PMEA website at [www.pmea.net](http://www.pmea.net).

## Advocacy

Every PMEA member should be taking advantage of this great member benefit. PMEA Advocacy Chair Rich Victor keeps you informed on the latest issues affecting music education through PMEA's Advocacy Network - PLAN. To sign up- email Rich at [rdv11@scasd.org](mailto:rdv11@scasd.org). Be sure that your email filter permits the email messages to be delivered to you. You will only receive emails when there is something to report.

## Communications

There are several ways to keep connected in PMEA. *PMEA News*, the association's professional journal, includes everything from music reviews in a variety of areas to helpful teaching tips and ideas to get you through the school year and much more. Be sure to check the PMEA website for the latest news updates. Here you'll also find information on upcoming events and any necessary forms. Don't forget to log-in to get full access of the website that's only open to members. Monthly all-member emails will keep you informed about what's going on in your association. If you are not receiving these, please contact the PMEA office to make sure we have your current email address on file. And keep checking the Connect link on the PMEA website to find out the various ways, like *Facebook* groups, that you can stay in touch with

your fellow PMEA members.

## Fests & Festivals

Get your students involved in the many PMEA fests and festivals. Check your district's website for audition and performance information. All district websites can be accessed from the PMEA website at [www.pmea.net](http://www.pmea.net) by selecting your district from the PMEA map or by selecting the About menu option.

## Lending Library

In need of a new composition for your ensemble to perform? Take a look at PMEA's Music Lending Library by logging in to the PMEA website and selecting the Members Only Information link. The lending library includes music performed by previous All-State bands, choirs, jazz ensembles and orchestras.

## Music in our Schools Month

Looking for a performance opportunity for your students? Take advantage of the Music in our Schools Month concert series in March at the Capitol in Harrisburg. Performances are scheduled at Noon in either the Rotunda or East Wing of the Capitol building. For more information, see page 61 of this issue of *PMEA News* or select the Music in our Schools Month link from the Events menu option on the PMEA website.

## Professional Development Opportunities:

(Act 48 Credits are available for PMEA sponsored events)

## PMEA Annual In-service Conference

Continuing education at its best! Mark your calendars for the 2010 PMEA Annual In-service Conference, April 22-24

at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. Attend sessions lead by your PMEA colleagues and well-known presenters, test new products and get plenty of ideas from the more than 120 exhibitors and network with your fellow teachers.

### **PMEA Summer Conference**

Get rejuvenated for the upcoming school year by attending the annual PMEA Summer Conference held in July at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center. There is a small registration fee which includes all sessions and meals during the two day event. Registrants must cover housing costs. Look for more information in the beginning of 2010.

### **District Workshops**

Several PMEA districts offer continuing development opportunities with day long workshops. Check your district's website for more information.

### **PMEA Mentor Program**

PMEA's Mentor Program is available for those in their first few years of teaching. For more information or to sign up, contact PMEA Mentor Program Chair Sharon Potter at [smp327@msn.com](mailto:smp327@msn.com)

### **PMEA Retired Members Program**

Take advantage of PMEA's retired members network to stay in touch with your colleagues and involved in PMEA, even though you may not be teaching full-time. Contribute an article to Encore, the retired members section of PMEA News or volunteer your services at district and state events. To stay involved, contact PMEA Retired Members Chair Ben Holste at [benphhs@aol.com](mailto:benphhs@aol.com)

### **Tri-M Music Honor Society**

The Tri-M Music Honor Society is available to middle/junior high and high school students as a way of recognizing them for their academic and musical achievements. For help on starting or re-activating a chapter in your school, contact PMEA Tri-M Chair Acey Gongaware at [agongaware@unitedsd.net](mailto:agongaware@unitedsd.net).

### **Volunteer**

Stay involved in PMEA by lending a helping hand. Presiders are always needed to introduce speakers at the PMEA An-

nual In-service Conference. PMEA fests and festivals couldn't happen without members who volunteer to serve as hosts for the event. And PMEA would not run without its leadership at both the state and district levels. Anyone interested in getting involved should contact PMEA Meetings/Membership Director Abi Young at [abiyoung@pmea.net](mailto:abiyoung@pmea.net)



*Abi Young is director of meetings and membership for PMEA*