

Greetings to you! I hope this report finds you in a time of personal and professional renewal, enjoying getting ahead on some projects while looking forward to another exciting academic year.

The 2012 Biennial Music Educators National Conference took place in St. Louis from March 28th-31st, and it was a wonderful time of professional development and connections with colleagues from across the country. Numerous research and best practice sessions took place in addition to a keynote address by Rachel Goslins, executive director of The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities on Thursday morning and a senior researcher address by Dr. Patricia J. Flowers from The Ohio State University on Saturday. Additionally, meetings of the Special Research Interest Groups (SRIGs) and Areas for Strategic Planning and Action (ASPAs) were held to further develop music education research.

Pennsylvania was beautifully represented throughout the conference in numerous presentation and poster sessions. Congratulations to our following PMEA colleagues who presented at the 2012 NAFME conference:

- Nancy Beitler (Pennsylvania State University) – *The Effects of Collaborative Reflection on Improvisation Achievement*
- Matt Clauhs (Temple University) with Other SRIG Colleagues – *SRIG Social Sciences: Issues of Identity, Voice, and Power Relations in Music Education*
- Ann Clements (Pennsylvania State University) – *Sing, Dance, Create! Children's Music Play as Influenced by Technology*
- Kimberly Councill (Susquehanna University) and Other SMTE/NAfME Colleagues – *Programs that Work: Teacher Recruitment Ideas from Across the Country*
- Paul Doerksen (Duquesne University) – *Charting Directions in K-12 Music Curricula*
- Kerry Filsinger & Mark Filsinger (Temple University) & Other NAFME Colleagues – *Mozart to Miles: Building Context, Continuity, and Creativity through Improvisation*
- Kerry Filsinger (Temple University) & Other SRIG Colleagues – *SRIG Early Childhood: The Role of Environment on Musical Development in Early Childhood*
- Robert Gardner (Pennsylvania State University) – *Status of Orchestra Programs in K-12 Public School in Pennsylvania*

- Joanne Rutkowski (Pennsylvania State University) – *Kindergarten Children's Singing Achievement in the Context of Informal Instruction*
- Joanne Rutkowski (Pennsylvania State University) & Peter Webster (Northwestern University) – *A Further Examination of Doctoral Programs in Music Education*
- Deborah Sheldon (Temple University) & Ruth Brittin (University of the Pacific) – *Influence of Verbal/Vocal Strategies on Perception of Instrumental Teacher Efficacy*
- Deborah Sheldon (Temple University) & Other NAFME Colleagues – *To-may-to? To-mah-to? Convergence of Informal and Formal Music Learning Strategies*
- Brent Talbot (Sunderman Conservatory of Music, Gettysburg University) & Other NAFME Colleagues – *LGBTQ Issues in Music Education: Who Cares and Why Should We?*
- Darrin Thornton (Pennsylvania State University) – *Perspectives on Adult Music Engagement: An Interpretive Phenomenological Inquiry*
- Darrin Thornton (Pennsylvania State University) – *Solving the Graduate School Mystery: Why, When, Where, & How*
- Linda Thornton (Pennsylvania State University) – *Important Others: Music Teachers' Perceived Role in Music Teacher Recruitment*
- Sarah Watts (Bucknell University) – *Transgenerational Musical Play: Oral History Accounts of Girls' Musical Engagement*
- Rachel Whitcomb (Duquesne University) & Lisa Gruenhagen (Bowling Green State University) – *An Investigation of Improvisation in Elementary General Music Classrooms*

Congratulations to all presenters for their hard work! I wish you a happy, healthy, and enjoyable remainder of your summer and all of the best in the 2012-2013 academic year!



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