

## MSVMA MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to educate and inspire all people to understand and value the art of vocal music and its lifelong impact on the human spirit.

### Important Websites

MSVMA  
[www.msvma.org](http://www.msvma.org)

American Choral Directors  
Association-Michigan  
[www.acdami.org](http://www.acdami.org)

Michigan Music  
Educators Association  
[www.michiganmea.org](http://www.michiganmea.org)

Michigan Music Conference  
[www.michiganmusicconference.org](http://www.michiganmusicconference.org)

Michigan School  
Band & Orchestra Association  
[www.msboa.org](http://www.msboa.org)

Michigan Youth Arts Festival  
[www.myaf.org](http://www.myaf.org)

**Front Cover:  
2010 State Choral Festival**

Summer 2010  
Volume 44, Number 3

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## President's Message

Steve Hinz, President

..... a message from the president

Summer has arrived, and just as the children we teach, we anticipate this time of year with excitement. Hopefully, you are finding time with your families to enjoy the wonderful activities that make Michigan a wonderful place to work and play. I enjoy this time of year to look back on the accomplishments of the school year and the ways I can more successfully meet the demands of working with new groups of young people next year.

As I look back at this year, it continues to be my honor, as President of the Michigan School Vocal Music Association, to observe the activities of our organization and its many volunteers. We are blessed with many people who are the faces of MSVMA, who give so much of their time and talents for the benefit of our choirs and individual members. I hope you found a new way this past year to give of yourself as an MSVMA volunteer and found its benefits of enrichment and growth. I'm very proud of our executive office, the executive board, and the full board that planned, organized, and executed excellent activities including: the summer workshop, choral festivals, solo/ensemble festivals, awards, honors choir rehearsals and performances, and the Michigan Music Conference and other professional development for our members. Many are aware of the faces of MSVMA because of the great products they see. I am keenly aware of the number of people who tirelessly work behind the public face and quietly plan and bring to life our mission of MSVMA. I am honored to work beside such dedication.

I know that many of us are challenged with the changing picture of public school education this past year and its impact on our school vocal music programs. For some of us it has meant the loss of employment, for others increased job expectations, for others a realignment or a change of support, and for some an unplanned retirement. I empathize with all of you as you

greet these new life events.

Over the summer months, our leadership will continue to develop the future of MSMVA, meeting the changing needs of our members, and utilizing the tools set forth in our vision development last year. We continue to develop and execute plans in technology, advocacy, marketing, membership, diverse population, collaborative partnerships, professional development, and sustainable funding bases as we look at what we wish MSVMA to look like in 5 years.

Despite the many challenges of Michigan, MSVMA remains strong. We continue to be guided by our mission statement:

*Our mission is to educate and inspire all people to understand and value the art of vocal music and its lifelong impact on the human spirit.*

I wish you the best as you enjoy your summer, work on your craft and artistry of music teaching, rejuvenate, and plan for your next school year. I look forward to seeing you at the 2010 Summer Conference in Lansing in August.

From the Desk of  
Virginia Kerwin, Executive Director MSVMA

**Executive Director** *continued.....*



# 2009-2010 CURRENT MSVMA CALENDAR





# MSVMA Financial Report for the Period July 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>Total</u>
Accountant			Accountant	3000.00	2051.00
Adjudication		223.48	Adjudication	4000.00	2826.05
Awards & Medals	50000.00	14864.28	Awards & Medals	46707.00	27558.08
Executive Board			Executive Board	9250.00	13901.57
Full Board		940.97	Full Board	17000.00	14408.12
HS Honors Choir	59000.00	45412.48	HS Honors Choir	59000.00	40963.30
JH/MS Honors Choir	32000.00	27276.10	JH/MS Honors Choir	32000.00	30826.32
Legal Counsel			Legal Counsel	1000.00	200.00
Membership	195567.00	192816.00	Membership	2500.00	4833.76
Miscellaneous	100.00	450.00	Miscellaneous	500.00	610.00
MYAF	250.00	5.00	MYAF	3000.00	1750.35
Pop & Chamber Festival	1000.00	425.00	Pop & Chamber Festival	1000.00	
Professional Development	51250.00	25821.33	Professional Development	54500.00	37840.21
Publications	3000.00	2950.00	Publications	11500.00	9463.54
Sight Reading	9000.00	5090.00	Sight Reading	7600.00	5336.91
State Choral Festival	60400.00	640.00	State Choral Festival	60400.00	2060.30
State Solo & Ensemble Fest.	55500.00	26683.25	State Solo & Ensemble Festival	55500.00	6698.03
Technology Development			Technology Development	10000.00	21293.29
Office Management	1700.00	957.65	Office Management	140310.00	108255.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518767.00</b>	<b>344555.54</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518767.00</b>	<b>330876.75</b>



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Session 1  
June 30-July 11

Session 2  
July 14-July 25

Session 3  
July 28-August 8

Session 4  
August 11-August 22

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## 2010







# FEATURE







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CLASS OF 2010

**Emeriti** *continued*.....



**Emeriti** *continued.....*

**Emeriti** *continued.....*

**Emeriti** *continued.....*

**Emeriti** *continued*.....

**Emeriti** *continued.....*



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# MSVMA Executive Board Updates

James Borst  
Past President

Erich Wangeman  
President Elect

Michigan School Vocal Music Association  
Full Board Meeting  
*June 5, 2010*  
President – Elect Report

## Michigan Music Conference Update

Plans are well underway for the 2011 Michigan Music Conference. Members should be very excited to hear that in addition to our headliner, Dr. David Brunner, we will also have Dr. Tim Seelig as a featured speaker and guest.

### Our Headliner – Dr. David Brunner

David L. Brunner is one of today's most active and versatile conductors and composers. He is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at the University of Central Florida and well known for his work with singers of all ages, conducting throughout the United States and appearing internationally in Canada, the U.K, Australia, Japan and Europe.

As an inspired teacher, he is also a popular clinician at choral festivals and educational workshops throughout thirty-four U.S. states, Canada and Europe, including the American Choral Directors Association, Music Educators National Conference and American Guild of Organists.

Brunner is an imaginative composer who has received numerous ASCAP awards and in 2000 joined a prestigious group of American composers when he was named Raymond W. Brock Commissioned Composer by the American Choral Directors Association. The New York Times has noted him as a "prolific choral writer whose name figures prominently on national repertory lists". He is published by Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

Dr. Brunner will present four sessions at MMC which will vary in content and cover a wide range of topics. These include:

**Selecting Repertoire: How to choose music that is age and skill appropriate, and what makes a good piece good.** In this session Dr. Brunner will discuss proper ways to determine the skill level of an ensemble, and then how to successfully select music which will allow the singers to achieve success, yet still be musically challenged. He will also highlight the attributes of a quality piece and show ways to successfully choose excellent literature for your choir.

**Emotional Geographies: Its not**

**what she taught me, its how she made me feel.** In this unique session Dr. Brunner will explore ways to locate and emphasize the human element during a choral rehearsal. He will also discuss ways to help conductors ensure that each student receives emotional value from the rehearsal.

**Finding the Expressive Import in Music: How to determine what is important by enlisting a user friendly analysis approach.** In this session Dr. Brunner will show how textural investigation can help singers become more emotionally involved in the music making process. He will give directors a hands on approach to analyzing the music and the text to ensure singers are receiving the greatest impact a piece can offer.

**Developing Great Music By Examining the Text.** Using a demonstration choir, Dr. Brunner will show the applicability of the theories, philosophies, and ideas discussed in his other sessions.

#### **Our Featured Guest – Dr. Tim Seelig**

Tim Seelig has been making music as a conductor, singer, and teacher for 35 years. He is currently the Director of Art for Peace & Justice, Artistic Director in Residence for GALA Choruses, and on the adjunct music faculty Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of the Arts. In addition, he continues an extremely busy guest conducting schedule throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe. He is the Conductor Emeritus of the Turtle Creek Chorale which he conducted for 20 years.

Dr. Seelig holds four degrees, including the DMA from the University of North Texas and the Diploma from the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He has four books and two DVDs on choral technique including *The Perfect Blend*, *The Perfect Rehearsal*, *The Perfect Choral Workbook* and *Quick Choral Fixes*.

Known for his enthusiasm and sense of humor, *Grammy Magazine* says, "Dr. Seelig takes eclecticism to new heights." *Fanfare Magazine* says he raises singers from "the ranks of amateur choir to one receiving wide recognition for excellent performances of appealing, fresh repertoire." *The New York Times* calls Seelig an "expressive performer," and the Fort Worth Star Telegram quips, "Seelig slices a thick cut of ham."

MSVMA and MMEA will cosponsor Dr. Seelig's sessions at MMC. They are:

**World Music For Secondary Choirs.** In this session Dr. Seelig will

present pieces which celebrate a diversity of cultures. He will discuss proper performance practices to ensure authenticity and show creative and innovative ways to approach the music.

**Taking Joy In The "Imperfect Rehearsal".** In this session Dr. Seelig will discuss a practical approach to energizing the every day rehearsal. He will show directors a way to rejuvenate their energy by appreciating those elements which are unplanned and often flawed.

#### **Two Choral Hours for 2011**

Instead of the traditional Friday Choral Hour and Saturday Ensemble Hour, MSVMA will once again have two feature concerts highlighting six wonderful choirs. These choirs were chosen through blind audition by a panel in late May and both concert sessions promise to be outstanding. MMC attendees will not want to miss these great sessions. Congratulations to the following choirs and their directors:

##### Friday Choral Hour

DeWitt High School Chamber Singers, Meghan Eldred Conductor  
West Ottawa Select Women's Ensemble, Pamela Pierson Conductor  
Rochester High School Chamber Choir, Jolene Plotzke Conductor

##### Saturday Choral Hour

Chippewa Valley High School Varsity Choir, Kent Wattleworth Conductor  
Grand Ledge Hayes Middle School 6/7/8 Boys Choir, Doug Armstead Conductor  
Grand Haven High School Chamber Choir, Shirley Lemon Conductor

#### **Looking Ahead to MMC 2012**

Plans have begun for MMC 2012. This will be a very special year because it will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of MSVMA. In addition to the variety of sessions usually offered, MSVMA is planning some very special events. These include:

A Gala Celebration

An opportunity for members and their students to work together in a mass chorus being conducted by a Nationally Renowned Conductor

A Commissioned Work commemoration MSVMA and 75 Years of Choral Excellence

#### **Strategic Plan Report – Membership**

As part of the Strategic Plan for MSVMA the Member-

Board *continued...*

ship Committee has identified two goals:

Stabilize and/or increase our membership by encouraging non-member schools to join.

Utilize current members to become more active in volunteering to help run district and state events.

**Keep An Eye Out...**

In order to identify current non member schools we need the help of all members. At your 2010 Fall Meeting, please plan to share the school and/or director name of any current non-member educational institution with your District Manager. Once we have identified non-member schools we will implement a "Reach Out Plan" to educate directors and their administration about the educational opportunities provided by MSVMA. We will then invite these non-member schools to join.

**We Need You!**

We will also be working on increasing volunteerism by current members. We are striving to create a system where the tasks associated with running district events and managing district endeavors can be shared by several members who are collaborating with the District Manager. Our goal will be to share duties, but also to increase ownership and pride of service in the many significant educational opportunities MSVMA provides for its members and their students.

Doug Armstead  
Director  
Summer Workshop Awards

**The Summer Workshop** is ready for another great year. The team has worked extremely hard to put together three outstanding days of learning and fun. Our headliner will be Doreen Rao. "Doreen Rao's distinguished career as conductor and master teacher links the standards of professional performance with the goals of music education. Celebrated for her spirited and moving concerts, Rao's commitment to choral music in education is recognized in her innovative programming, teaching initiatives, worldwide conducting appearances, and her award-winning publications with Boosey & Hawkes." This year's dates will be August 2-4, 2010 and will be at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, located next to the Capital in beautiful downtown Lansing. MUSIC PACKETS AND HANDBOOKS ARE ONLY GUARANTEED TO BE AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO REGISTER BEFORE THE JUNE 12TH DEADLINE. Because of the cost of music, we simply cannot afford to purchase extra. This will help to keep the cost of the conference at last year's rate.

We are excited to welcome Educational Tours, Inc. as our new Workshop sponsor. Please take a minute to stop at their booth to welcome them and to thank them for all of their support. Finally, Dr. Joe Miller will be our headliner for 2011 and we are currently working with Dr. Eph Ely for 2012.

**Video Library** – The summer is great time to catch up on some great videos we have in stock. The office currently has over 70 titles. Please check out this vast collection in the handbook. Each year, we try to purchase 3-5 new DVDS. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Lansing for the Workshop. If you have never attended before or if you haven't attended in a few years, you will find this is a great place to meet your fellow choral teachers from around the state, learn valuable

tricks of the trade, sing through new music and the Honor's Choir music and have a great time.

Susan Catanese  
Director  
State Events  
Pop & Chamber Festivals

**My Dear Frazzled, Overworked, Overwrought Choral Directors of Michigan:**

We are all frazzled, overworked, and overwrought at some point during each school year. Most especially at the beginning, the middle and the end! The important thing to remember is to find a quiet moment when you can read and then *follow* the clearly designated directions for submitting applications to state festivals. There have been more mistakes and misinterpretations this year than ever before. Your state supervisors are there to assist you, not to do your job for you. You must take it upon yourself, as the leader of your students, to make sure you follow directions in order to participate in state activities. The most common error is not reading and *following* directions. The second, not consulting the handbook. The third, not meeting deadlines. The fourth, expecting your school district to mail your applications and checks for you. (They invariably end up in the wrong hands, long past the postmark deadline.) Your state supervisors' contact information and all deadlines are included in every MSVMA Journal, the website Handbook, the website *Forms* section, and in the state invitation letter you receive at your district festivals from your district managers. You receive frequent reminders throughout the school year through these medium. It is your responsibility to make sure you make yourself aware of these forms of communication. Find that quiet moment. Access that information which is clearly laid out for you.

For your convenience and **early planning**, I have included in this article the dates, locations, and supervisors for our 2011 festivals. Don't wait until your choirs are eligible for the state festivals. Place

these dates on your school choir calendar NOW, in hopes that your students will be eligible. Have the information AT YOUR FINGERTIPS in order to meet all deadlines next winter and spring, when you find yourself drowning in festival preparations; frazzled overworked, and overwrought!

**Thanks Adam!**

Many, many thanks go to Adam Wurst for creating and piloting the online scheduling program for the 2010 West site State Solo and Ensemble festival. He feels confident the program will be in place for all of our state festivals in 2011. Countless hours went into creating this program. Adam is a remarkable addition to our technology team. Kudos to his being named the new MSVMA technology supervisor!

**Many thanks to 2010 State Supervisors and Hosts**

**Chamber Festivals:**

West Pam Pierson & West Ottawa  
East Julia Holt & Oakland University

**State S&E Festivals:**

South Site Mary Rashid & Walled Lake Central HS  
West Site Adam Wurst & Allendale HS  
East Site Marge Payne, Kevin Cornwell & Avondale HS  
Central Site Juli Dick, Katie McInnis & Big Rapids HS  
U.P. Site Jan Brodersen & Lake Superior Christian Church

**State Choral Festivals:**

South Site Monty Bishop & Holt HS  
East Site Marge Payne, Jolene Plotske & Rochester HS  
West Site Shirley Lemon & Fairhaven Ministries  
Central Site Georgia Guiett, John Jacobson & CMU  
Southeast Site Wendy Treacher & Jackson Community College  
U.P. Site Jan Brodersen & Lake Superior Christian Church

**2011 Festival Scheduling Update**

**Due to the statewide alignment of dates for Spring breaks and due to Easter in April, we are forced to move State S&E festivals to one weekend in March and one weekend in April. Most schools are now going to the first week in April for spring break.**

Board continued...

This eliminates the first two weekends in April for festival. To comply with MYAF deadlines, we cannot go the last weekend in April. We can no longer use the last weekend in March because it interferes with MSBOA State S&E festival. This is a hardship on teachers, students, accompanists and parents. We will rotate these weekends between sites, i.e. Year 1, South Site is in March, Year 2, South Site is in April, etc. West & East sites will be held the same month, South and Central will be scheduled together. At the DM retreat this summer we are encouraging districts who have the March dates to schedule their district festivals earlier in the season.

**2011 Festival Information – SAVE THIS! SAVE THIS! SAVE THIS! SAVE THIS! SAVE THIS!!!!!!**

Plan ahead – put these dates on your school choir calendar NOW for yourself and your students!!!!!!

‘10-‘11 Chamber Festivals

East Nov. 8, 2010  
Site: Oakland University, Rochester, MI  
Supervisor: Julia Holt  
[Julia.holt@uticak12.org](mailto:Julia.holt@uticak12.org) 586-436-1023

West Nov. 9, 2010  
Site: West Ottawa Performing Arts Center  
Supervisor: Pam Pierson  
[piersonp@westottawa.net](mailto:piersonp@westottawa.net) 616-738-6865

2011 State S&E

East March 18-19, 2011  
Site: Avondale HS  
(Host: Kevin Cornwell)  
Supervisor: Marge Payne  
[mpayne7332@aol.com](mailto:mpayne7332@aol.com) 248-628-4947

West March 18-19, 2011  
Site: TBA  
Supervisor: TBA

South April 15-16, 2011  
Site: Walled Lake Central HS (Host: Mary Rashid)  
Supervisor: Mary Rashid  
[mary.rashid@gmail.com](mailto:mary.rashid@gmail.com) 248-255-7070

Central April 15-16, 2011  
Site: Big Rapids HS  
(Host: Katie McInnis)  
Supervisor: Juli Dick  
[dickj@ghaps.org](mailto:dickj@ghaps.org) 616-850-6195

U.P. Dates TBA  
Site: Lake Superior Christian Church  
Supervisor: Jan Brodersen  
[jbrodersen@mapsnet.org](mailto:jbrodersen@mapsnet.org)

2011 State Choral

South April 28-29, 2011  
Site: Holt HS  
Supervisor: Monty Bishop  
[mbishop@hpsk12.net](mailto:mbishop@hpsk12.net) 269-744-0522

East May 3-4, 2011  
Site: Rochester HS  
(Host: Jolene Plotske)  
Supervisor: Marge Payne  
[mpayne7332@aol.com](mailto:mpayne7332@aol.com) 248-628-4947

West May 5-6, 2011  
Site: Fairhaven Ministries  
Supervisor: Shirley Lemon  
[lemon@ghaps.org](mailto:lemon@ghaps.org) 616-850-6131

Central May 10-11, 2011  
HS/MS Site: CMU  
(Host: John Jacobson)  
Supervisor: TBA

NEW NAME! NEW NAME! NEW NAME!  
NEW NAME! NEW NAME NEW  
NAME !!!!!!!!!!!

**South Central** May 12-13, 2011  
**JH/MS** Site: Jackson Community College  
Supervisor: Wendy Treacher  
[2sing4u@modempool.com](mailto:2sing4u@modempool.com) 517-206-2234

U.P Site 2011 Dates TBA  
Site: Lake Superior Christian Church  
Supervisor: Jan Brodersen  
[jbrodersen@mapsnet.org](mailto:jbrodersen@mapsnet.org)

**Reminders to Directors**

You can avoid application problems by following 3 easy steps:

- 1) Read Directions
- 2) Follow directions
- 3) Mail your applications personally, on time, to the correct supervisor.

Board *continued...*

REMEMBER ~ Deadlines AREN'T due dates! Deadlines are the LAST possible day to turn something in. Why not make it a personal goal in 2011 to turn applications in BEFORE a deadline?

REMEMBER ~ Don't wait until your choirs are eligible for state festivals. Place the 2011 dates on your school choir calendar NOW, in hopes that your students *will* be eligible. Do it NOW – do it TODAY, while you are relaxed and enjoying the summer sunshine. Have the information AT YOUR FINGERTIPS in order to meet all deadlines next winter and spring, when you find yourself drowning in festival preparations. It will all come soon enough, so take this time to gather your strength, your resolve, and your reserves.

Enjoy your summer! J  
*Sue*

Mark Krempsi Director Honors Choirs
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Wait for revision!!!!!!!!!!

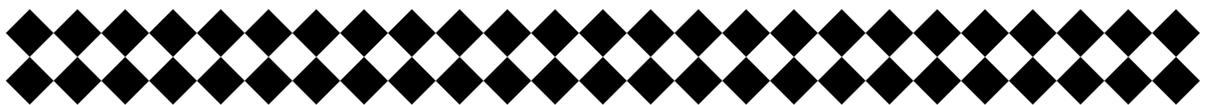
Les Rowsey  
Director  
Repertoire Sight Reading

Greetings, all! As you read this, you most likely will be in the midst of a well-deserved summer vacation. I trust your break will be a renewing, recharging time! As we look toward next year, I thought it might be useful having at your fingertips the new repertoire being added to the MSVMA database. Please find it, below...

A couple other important reminders for next year:  
1. If you have a vision-impaired student and need sight-reading in Braille, please notify me as soon as possible, but no later than Nov. 1. We can discuss which level(s) might be appropriate for that student and/or their group, but this will give me lead-time to prepare the materials for you. Turn-around times vary, and I need time to accommodate the schedules of those who provide the services. Thanks in advance for your help in this matter!

2. Regarding soloists at S/E festivals, please remember you may transpose solo literature to whatever key works best for your singer. Just be sure to provide originals in the solo rooms to meet MSVMA guidelines.

I've enjoyed working for you this year, and I hope you always feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns you have. Please feel free to contact me at <[lrowsey@jpsonline.org](mailto:lrowsey@jpsonline.org)>. Enjoy the best summer ever, and I hope to see many of you at the Summer workshop!



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