



**LOS ANGELES SECONDARY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (LASMTA)**  
P.O. BOX 34666 Los Angeles, CA 90034-9998

**LASMTA MEETING**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017  
**Official Meeting Time:** 3:30-5:30 pm  
Roy Romer Middle School

(Discussion regarding AEB Festivals announcement before official meeting)

- I. Called to Order** at 3:30 by Dan Gruber
- II. Introductions** and thank you to host Dee DeJesus.
- III. Attendance:** Mark Johnsen, David Lee, Alex Ramirez, Jessica Jones, Jenifer Elliott, Dan Gruber, Jose Medina, Sean Wingstreet, Joshua Gronlund, Lara Jacques, Kelly McCarley, Dee DeJesus, Helen Kang, Stewart Rosen, Kahlil Sabbath, Micah Byers, Steve Burch, Adam Roberts, Monica Chi, Karla Torres Vazquez, Javier Ortiz, Jose Fausto, Kevin Thurow, Clemente Sanchez, Andres Villanova, Diana McCarrell, Ariana Major, Armando Gonzalez, James Rozen, David Zavala, Tony White, Julie West, Michael Turner, Brian McGaffey, Wendy Sarnoff.
- IV. Approval of September Minutes** - moved to end of meeting
- V. Reports**
  - A. Secretary's Report**
    - i. Juan is a new father. Julie West substituting for him today.
  - B. Treasurer's Report**
    - i. Took in all memberships, report next month. Payment for private lessons via scholarship deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - C. Vice President's Report**
    - i. Mentor /Mentee help available. We will link up people. Not just new people need help, also if teaching a new area. Sign up sheet today. Can sign up at any time.
  - D. President's Report**
    - i. Encourage people to join and attend. Meetings held around the city and on different days of the week. Give membership forms to David Lee.
    - ii. LASMTA sponsors activities some of which used to be run by the District.
      - 1. Solos & Ensemble Festival**-opportunity for small ensembles and solos. Small means non-conducted ensembles. Performers get immediate feedback from adjudicator. Sat., March 17, 2018 at Hamilton H.S. Entries due March 2
      - 2. Rupp Scholarship** A \$500 for a graduating senior who will be majoring in music in college. Stewart Rupp taught a Revere M.S. for many years and a scholarship was set up in his name by family and friends. Applications will be due April 3.
      - 3. Private Lessons Scholarships** will be at Venice H.S. TBA. There are two categories – those who have taken lessons and those who only have had school instruction. \$250 scholarships.



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VI. **Best Practices** - We X 3166 Los Angeles, CA 90034-9998 presented a "Best Practices" at each meeting. Today we can review what we learned at the PD.

- A. David W. Lee-Change vocabulary "familiar and unfamiliar" vs "easy and hard".
- B. Brian M. Each section plays 4 beats of chorale.
- C. James L.-Data is important.
- D. Mark J.-percussion session using "found" percussion out of straws, coffee stirrers... Dr. Woodson Roots of Rhythm book can download for free. Free session on Saturday for LAUSD OM Center in Burbank 10-1 [www.rootsofrhythm.net](http://www.rootsofrhythm.net)
- E. AJ said grants available through California Arts Council, free bus from local board member or councilmember.

### VII. **New Business**

- A. Tony White from Beyond the Bell was glad to see everyone attending the meeting. He would like to speak at the next meeting. Upcoming events - December 2nd is the Band & Drill team championships, something for Vocal/Jazz teachers is coming with the Ella Fitzgerald organization, something for Mariachi teachers is in the works. Contact Tony: [anthony.white@lausd.net](mailto:anthony.white@lausd.net) Bobby Rodriguez posters available. Fulton, Huntington Park and Manual Arts were honored recently. If you have a Guitar program – reach out to Tony. He has a link to Fender guitar.
- B. Instructional Festivals clarification [continuation of discussion before official meeting] Arts Branch announced the original draft that was given to Mark, Monica, and Julie in June but they did not make any suggested changes. After the announcement today, Monica and Mark went directly to Rory with concerns about festivals only on Saturdays, only LAUSD employees as adjudicators, 6 Festivals with 8-12 groups per festival...Mark had suggested they give hosts incentive like money. Rory had agreed but none of the suggestions were included. AEB said they consulted with principals and they wanted Saturday and not Fridays. Many questioned how many principals want to have events on Saturdays when they have support staff already there on a Friday. Steven McCarthy said to Mark, not to worry about it. It sounds like we need to do something to support existing Festivals and AEB proposed Festivals to help underserved.  
Possible "Ideal" plan – district host 3 festivals for underserved and 6 festivals run as usual. Monica said they still need 3 choral Festivals. May 26 was designated the Westside Chorale Festival. Teachers are not being included, AEB will run Festivals. Brian said AEB has to deal with principals and not teachers. He would like to host a middle school festival and questioned if he would work with AEB or be independent. AEB will not promote any festival if you charge to attend. Mark said one definite is you need one chaperone for every kid part of Risk Management. Mark will follow up in the next week. Monica asked what people think about having only LAUSD judges.



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Stewart said can be qualified either way. Wendy said we need qualified judges like SCVA and SCSBOA. Alex said qualified judges need training. David L. suggested AEB provide the resources to train judges. David Z. suggested teachers get paid if they attend. Julie said at the Grand Arts Festival lighting, bus drivers, sound got paid on a Saturday but not teachers. If on a Saturday, teachers should be paid. AEB is doing Instructional Festivals instead of the very expensive Grand Arts Festival. Mark made a list of last year's festivals to see the need. David Z. asked why schools are not going to Festival - probably because programs are not able to survive due to scheduling, 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> can't take an elective, double math classes... David L. suggested maybe a smaller festival for smaller ensembles. Julie added there needs to be leadership from AEB on attending Festivals to encourage more to participate. Only face-to-face meeting last year was PD and then no opportunity for questions. Brian said we need more communication. Teachers have been asking for more communication with AEB for years. James said the task force meetings were good but not much follow through. Mark said he will get more clarification before our November meeting.

- VIII. **Acceptance of September minutes** moved by Brian and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin. Motion carried.
- IX. **Next Meeting Mon. Nov. 13 at Frost M.S. 6-8 p.m.** Light meal provided with basket for donations.
- X. **Adjournment** motion by Dan and seconded by AJ at 4:55 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Julie West (for Juan Rodriguez)