

# Indiana State School Music Association, Inc.

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## News Notes

August 2023



### PETER SAMPSON ASSUMES ISSMA PRESIDENCY

Peter Sampson has been the Director of Bands at Whiteland Community High School since 2008. Mr. Sampson has led the WCHS Band program to consistent Gold and “with distinction” ratings in Concert and Jazz band festivals, Jazz State Finals appearances, Semi-State Marching Band Finals performances, and the Indiana State School Music Association All-Music Award for 16 consecutive years. In 2014, the Whiteland Jazz Band One was named a National Finalist for the Essentially Ellington program through Lincoln Center in New York.

Mr. Sampson is a proud graduate of Ball State University and Indiana University. He has been named a national “Distinguished Music Educator” by Yale University, a semi-finalist for the national Grammy Music Educator Award, named the 2021 “Outstanding High School Music Teacher” by the Indiana Music Education Association, and named a “Graduate of the Last Decade” by Ball State University.

Mr. Sampson currently serves as the State Jazz Chair for the Indiana Music Education Association, is a member of the NAFME National Jazz Council, and has been on the board of the Indiana Jazz Educators Association since its inception. Mr. Sampson resides in Whiteland, Indiana with his wife Julie and their twin 12-year old sons Conner and Luke.

Please visit the ISSMA Website regularly at

[www.issma.net](http://www.issma.net)

## From the Podium

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 school year! ISSMA is excited that this year will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> State Marching Band Finals. While celebrating this momentous event to be held at Lucas Oil Stadium on October 28<sup>th</sup>, we also want to pay tribute to Indiana’s long-standing tradition of outstanding high school marching bands. To learn more about this celebration go to Indiana State School Music Association on Facebook or [issma\\_official](#) on Instagram.

Indiana is not only recognized throughout the country for outstanding marching bands, but for extraordinarily high levels of achievement in solo & ensemble, jazz, show choir and concert organizations. While the Covid-19 pandemic certainly had a negative impact on music education, the quality of student music performances continues to be a source of great pride in Indiana thanks to dedicated music educators, hard-working students, and supportive parents.

However, a growing concern is the number of music educators reaching the age of retirement or leaving the profession. To keep music education strong in Indiana, we must all work to identify students who have the potential to teach music and encourage them to pursue music education as their career. During this school year, accept the challenge to “tap the shoulder” of at least three students that you think might have the potential to teach music. Provide them with opportunities to take leadership roles and assume extra responsibilities as your students prepare for participation in ISSMA events. These experiences, along with your guidance, can ignite the fire that leads them to develop the desire to share their passion for music with others.

As you plan for this upcoming school year, we hope you will take advantage of the performance and assessment opportunities provided by ISSMA. External assessments are a very important element to the learning process for both students and teachers. While we may not agree with everything included in the feedback we are given, it is important to keep an open mind, and remember that receiving and analyzing another person’s perspective is the most efficient road to personal growth and success.

Enclosed with this mailing is a reminder card of the various deadlines for entering ISSMA events. Please post this card in a visible spot by your desk and take the time now to add to the calendar on your phone and/or desktop a specific day in advance of each deadline that you will submit your entry. Do not let a missed deadline prevent your students from having the opportunity to participate in an ISSMA event.

Mark, Scott, and I look forward to seeing you and hearing your students perform as we visit sites throughout the school year. Let’s make 2023-2024 the best year yet for music education in Indiana! If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

*Mick Bridgewater, ISSMA Executive Director*

## **DIRECTORS ONLY AREA**

To enter an ISSMA event, a director must have the ability to log into the “[Directors Only](#)” area of the ISSMA Website and each school must be a member in good standing by submitting a membership form and fee for the 2023-24 school year. Membership forms are available on the ISSMA Website under “[Resources](#).”

Access to the “[Directors Only](#)” area of the website requires an individual director username and password. All directors of member schools must **RENEW** their individual login each year and must verify the list of schools is complete and current. If there has been a change in your school email or school assignments, you will be required to create a new Director Login. Current directors will be asked to use their school email to renew their individual login.

New directors will need to establish an individual director login by selecting the “[Directors Only](#)” area of the ISSMA Website and then clicking on the red **REGISTER FOR A DIRECTORS ONLY ACCOUNT**.

## **FEE INCREASES**

While ISSMA is committed to keeping entry fees as low as possible, the increase in host expenses, hotels, airfare, mileage, awards, etc. resulted in the State Board approving increases in all fees. Please refer to page 93 of the ISSMA Music Festivals Manual for a complete listing of fees. To access the Music Festivals Manual, go to the “[Directors Only](#)” area and then select ISSMA Governing Documents.

## **ONLINE PAYMENTS OF FEES**

Membership fees, entry fees, orders for medals, patches, rockers, and choral sight-reading booklets may be paid with a credit card or electronic check through the **ISSMA Online Payment Center**. New this year: School Purchase Orders may now be uploaded when submitting an order for materials. Directors should log into the “[Directors Only](#)” area of the ISSMA Website and click the “[Material Order Forms](#)” link to place an order.

## **ISSMA ACADEMY**

The **ISSMA Academy**, available under the “[Resources](#)” tab of the ISSMA Website, continues to be a tremendous resource for directors, judges, and hosts. Courses are routinely updated, and new courses are frequently added. Courses are currently being developed to assist directors with the changes in both Choral and Instrumental sight-reading procedures.

ISSMA has also developed a partnership with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) to provide links to **NFHS Learn** Courses. Included in these courses is the Cardiac Arrest course that all band directors are now required to take. Directors are encouraged to join NFHS and complete the series of courses required to earn an NFHS National Music Credential. Additional information can be found by clicking the Support Ribbon on the **ISSMA Academy** icon of the ISSMA Website.

## **ISSMA CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The complete 2023-2024 Calendar of Events and Event Deadlines, the Calendar of Meeting Dates, as well as the potential calendar for the next five years can be found on the ISSMA website under the “[Resources](#)” tab.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

### **2023 ISSMA Distinguished Service Award**

*Kelly Berheide – Elkhart H.S.*

*Dr. Brenda Clark – University of Indianapolis*

*Suzanne Manago – Valparaiso H.S.*

*Mark Spenser – Gary Community School Corporation*

### **2023 National Federation of State High Schools Associations (NFHS) Award Recipients:**

#### **NFHS Outstanding Music Educator – Section 4**

*Randy Greenwell – Lawrence Central H.S. (retired)/  
Conn-Selmer Education*

#### **NFHS Heart of the Arts - Indiana**

*Joel Gernard, Elkhart H.S. Student*

A complete list of past recipients can be found under the “[Information](#)” tab of the ISSMA website.

## **SOLO AND ENSEMBLE REVISIONS**

**STRING: The String Group I Required List Manual has been revised.** It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that you notify students and private teachers of the changes which include a **substantial number of deletions and additions**. All ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Required List Manuals are available under the “[Resources](#)” tab of the ISSMA Website.

## **REQUIRED/SUGGESTED LISTS**

Current Required/Suggested Lists are available under the “[Resources](#)” tab of the ISSMA Website. Please help us thank those who gave generously of their time and expertise to serve on the various committees this past year. We would especially like to thank the following Required Music Selection Committee Chairs and the ICDA Repertoire Chairs for their work and submissions:

**Anne Tschetter** – H.S. Orchestra

**Jessica Christensen** – J.M.E. Orchestra

**Tom Cox** – H.S. Band

**Murray Weaver** – J.M.E. Band

**Daniel Borns** – H.S. Mixed Choral

**Theo Hicks** – H.S. & J.H.S. Univoiced Choral

**Jared Yoder** – H.S. & J.H.S. Univoiced Choral

**Erica Colter** – J.M.E. Mixed Choral

**Doug Hassell** – H.S. Jazz

**Chris Murray** – J.M.E. Jazz

**Mark Yount** – Vocal Jazz

Note: All new additions or list changes are indicated with an asterisk (\*) to expedite your initial search.