

What I Did Over Summer Vacation

I'm sure that many of you remember the first day of elementary school when the teacher would give you a pencil and paper and the assignment to write down what you did over the summer. It might be about a great vacation you took to Yellowstone Park or Disney World. Or it might only be about how you hung around the house and went to the swimming pool most days or how you and the guys played baseball every day like in the movie *The Sandlot*, of course then there has to be a section about that big ugly dog too. What I did wasn't quite as exciting as those examples but if you read on you will find out how I spent some of my summer with the hope that those efforts will benefit PMEA.

PMEA Hall of Fame

First of all, I, along with a great committee of PMEA members worked out the rules and an application for the newly created PMEA Hall of Fame. This is an award intended for those music educators who have made an extra contribution to music education in Pennsylvania. They must have taught at least 15 years in this state, and this award can be given posthumously if necessary.

The Hall of Fame is for those special teachers who have made an indelible impression on their students, school and Pennsylvania music education. The first class will be inducted at the 2009 In-service Conference in Valley Forge. They will receive a plaque and also have their names engraved on a perpetual plaque that will be kept at the PMEA office. This award will be given to a select few each year at the conference.

Although there is no limit on the number of recipients, it is expected that each class will probably only have two or three people. The rules of eligibility and application can be found in this issue and also on the PMEA website. I urge you to read the rules and think about someone who might be deserving of such an award.

Strategic Plan

The other topic that I was fortunate enough to work on during the summer was the PMEA Strategic Plan. This is a document that has been in the creative process for about a year and a half. Once again

I was blessed to have a great committee to help me formulate the goals for this plan. It contains eleven goals that are achievable over a five-year period beginning next spring.

The purpose of this document is to give direction to the PMEA leadership and guide them in their decision-making. It is intended to be a living document with goals, that when attained, will make PMEA an even stronger and more united organization. As we face the future of education we really don't know what that future will look like. The incredible speed of change that technology has brought to us makes it impossible to predict the future of music education. It is the goal of this plan to prepare music educators for that unknown future and for the changes that they can't predict.

The Strategic Plan is currently available on the PMEA website at www.pmea.net and I welcome any comment that you might wish to make about it. Right now we expect to adopt the Strategic Plan at the January 2009 State Board meeting.

I will be traveling to several of the district in service sessions to present the plan and answer any questions you may have about it. To find out whether I will be visiting your district just contact your district C/I chair.



Chuck Neidhardt is the PMEA Immediate Past President, and retired middle school band director from Methacton School District.

PMEA HALL OF FAME AWARD

Purpose - To honor music educators who, by virtue of their contributions, are recognized as being the most highly regarded professional leaders in music education in the state of Pennsylvania.

Criteria for Nomination – Nominee must

- be, or have been, an active member of PMEA;
- be, or have been, employed by a school system/s or college/s within Pennsylvania for a minimum of 15 years;
- have demonstrated effectiveness in teaching young people through music and the ability to inspire positive attitudes among students, school, community, and members of PMEA;
- have demonstrated excellence in teaching or administration in music;
- have developed, maintained, or supported an effective, balanced program in music education;
- have demonstrated the highest ideals and professional integrity during time of service.

The award may be presented to active members, retired members, or may be awarded posthumously.

Selection Process:

1. Any member of PMEA may submit a nomination for this award. Required nomination materials include
 - completed nomination form
 - three letters of recommendation setting forth nominee's qualification related to above criteria for nomination, photograph of nominee
2. Nomination materials must be received by January 1.
3. A committee of 5-6 people, appointed by the current PMEA President from interested volunteers, who are present or former members of the PMEA State Board, including at least one Past State President of PMEA, will review all nominations and make the final decision regarding this award. 80% of the committee must vote to give the award to any nominee. The committee will choose a Chairperson internally, who will oversee the timely selection process. No committee member will serve more than 3 years.

Initial Committee for 2009 Induction Class:

Chuck Neidhardt, Areta Kalogeras, Andy Kolojechick, Mel McConnell, Lori Luurtsema, Nora Burridge

PMEA HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's Hall of Fame was begun in 2008 to honor music educators who, by virtue of their contributions, are recognized as being the most highly regarded professional leaders in music education in the state of Pennsylvania.

Please submit the following information:

- three letters of recommendation which support the nominee's qualifications, relating to the Criteria for Nomination.
- a photograph of the nominee.
- Submit by January 1 to Margaret Bauer, Executive Director of PMEA, 56 S. Third St., Hamburg, PA 19526

Section 1 – Nominator:

Your name, address, city, state, and zip, phone numbers, and email addresses.

Section 2 – Candidate:

Candidate's name, address, city, state, and zip, phone numbers, and email addresses; or family contact info in lieu of candidate (for a posthumous nomination).

Section 3 – Candidate's Education and Teaching Experience:

- Degrees, institutions;
- Teaching locations and number of years in each, and teaching responsibilities in each.

Section 4 – Candidate's professional memberships, publications.

Section 5 – Candidate's teaching and professional honors, personal honors, and group awards and honors.

Section 6 – Personal information – Family, spouse, children, hobbies, post-retirement activities, etc.

Section 7 – Nomination statement, stating nominee's qualifications relating directly and specifically to the Criteria for Nomination.

**Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Hall of Fame
Nomination Form**

Name of Nominee _____
Please include a photo

Teaching Area (i.e. Band, Gen. Music, Chorus, Orchestra) _____

Name of School _____

Current Status (check): Active _____ Retired _____ Deceased _____

Number of years teaching in PA _____ Dates _____

Nominees Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

In your letter please address the qualifications stated on the previous page.

Nominator _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

PMEA membership Number of Nominator _____

OR School District if Administrator _____

Telephone Number of Nominator _____ cell _____

Email Address of Nominator _____

Has the Nominee been told of this nomination? YES NO

Attach your letters of recommendation to this form and send to the PMEA Office by January 1, 2009.