

# Texas Orchestra Directors Association

## 58th Annual Convention

July 25 - 27, 2019 — Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center

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8:00 am–9:00 am CC 004	<b>Academy for New Band, Choir and Orchestra Directors</b> <b>Registration Open</b>
9:00 am–6:00 pm CC 004	<b>Academy for New Band, Choir and Orchestra Directors</b> <i>Classroom Management/Discipline/Motivation; Resources for New Teachers; Creating a Culture of Success, and much more.</i> Sponsors: Charms-a Vanco Company, Cut Time-A Service of J.W. Pepper, Director's Choice Festivals: Showcase of Music & Music Across Texas, Festivals of Music/Music in the Parks, Fruhauf Uniforms Inc., Music for All, Stanbury Uniforms, Inc., StylePlus Band
9:00 am–12:00 pm Stars at Night B4	<b>TMAA Executive Committee</b> Jeff Turner, president
9:00 am–6:00 pm CC Lobby	<b>Registration/Hospitality Open</b> Sponsored by Fishburn Violin
9:00 am–12:00 pm Marriott RW Valero	<b>TMEA Region Chair Orchestra Brunch</b> Michael Stringer, president
10:00 am–11:15 am	<b>Visit Exhibits</b>
10:00 am–10:00 pm CC 209/211	<b>Child Care Available</b> (no meals provided) 12 years age and younger Sponsored by Pride of Texas Music Festivals & World View Travel
11:15 am–12:30 pm CC 006 ABC	<b>Reading Session 1: PML Grades 1, 2 &amp; 3</b> Jennifer Martin, conductor Sammy Branch, president
11:15 am–12:30 pm CC 007	<b>Workshop 1: How To Be Successful at UIL C/SR in Almost Any Circumstance or YOU and YOUR Program Are Winners</b> Carolyn Vandiver, clinician Bingjee Shiu, president <i>This clinic will help you become confident and successful in your classroom and have a fun, vibrant and exciting program that is a kid magnet! Learn to work your students hard while still being caring and creative.</i>
11:15 am–12:30 pm CC 008	<b>Workshop 2: Stringing Parents Along</b> Victoria Lien & Brian Coatney, clinicians Julie Blackstock, president <i>As directors, we would like parents to understand how hard our students work and what they go through in learning an instrument, as well as the value of the arts, or we would like to create support for our program. In creating a parent/teacher orchestra, parents not only MORE appreciate music and the work that their children do, but it allows stronger bonds to be built between parents and other parents, as well as parents and the director(s). Parents are also able to connect with their child in another context. However, it is daunting to start such a program when you are already busy with your own program. How do you start one and bring up the conversation with your campus and fine arts administrators? What are the potential challenges or differences in teaching adults? What are some benefits of the program? What do you do after the first year? All of these questions and more will be answered in this clinic.</i>
12:30 pm–1:00 pm Stars at Night B3	<b>TMAA Sight-Reading Revision Update (Orchestra Division)</b> Jeff Turner, president
12:30 pm–2:00 pm	<b>Visit Exhibits</b>
1:00 pm–2:30 pm CC 212	<b>Selection of TMEA MS Honor String Orchestra</b> Michael Stringer, president
1:30 pm–3:30 pm Stars at Night B3	<b>TMAA Orchestra Workshop</b> Jeff Turner, president
2:00 pm–3:00 pm	<b>Product Showcase: Web Software to Manage Solo &amp; Ensemble</b>

- CC 216      **Contests: Solo-Ensemble.com**  
 Douglas Abernathy, presenter  
*Solo-Ensemble.com is a subscription-based web application designed to facilitate all aspects of planning and conducting a judged music contest event, specifically Solo and Ensemble contests and festivals. Each contest gets a dedicated website where Contest Staff, Judges, Accompanists, and instructors from participating Schools log in with custom pages for each role. This Showcase will provide a walk-through demonstration of the program and explain various users' roles. Attendees who sign up in the Showcase will receive vouchers for a complimentary trial subscription.*
- 2:00 pm–3:15 pm  
 CC 006 ABC      **Workshop 3: HS Conducting Workshop**  
 Jeffrey Grogan, clinician  
 Brian Coatney, presider  
*Grogan will work with conductors in front of a live ensemble, to hone technique and expand expressive non-verbal vocabulary.*
- 2:00 pm–3:15 pm  
 CC 007      **Workshop 4: The Power of Hope: Music as a Pathway to Success for Disadvantaged Students**  
 Nicole Melki, clinician  
 Sammy Branch, presider  
*Music has the power to transform the lives of students in profound ways. For students with challenges, high-quality music education generates long-term positive educational, emotional, and social outcomes. We will discuss the challenges of working with disadvantaged students, hear stories of success, and explore tangible ways that you can catalyze empowerment in your classroom.*
- 2:00 pm–3:15 pm  
 CC 008      **Workshop 5: Score Study and Preparation**  
 Stephen Heyde, clinician  
 Dr. Michael Alexander, presider  
*A discussion of score study and preparation as a key to mastery of interpretation, confidence in leadership, and building trust in the musicians we lead.*
- 3:00 pm–4:30 pm  
 CC 212      **Selection of TMEA MS Honor Full Orchestra**  
 Michael Stringer, presider
- 3:00 pm–6:00 pm  
 CC 213      **Selection of TMEA HS Honor Full Orchestra**  
 Michael Stringer, presider
- 3:30 pm–4:45 pm  
 CC 006 ABC      **Reading Session 2: Grade 3**  
 Allison Sozansky, conductor  
 Catrina Lotseich, presider
- 3:30 pm–4:45 pm  
 CC 007      **Workshop 6: Analyzing String Instrument Playing Skills to Improve Repertoire Selection**  
 Dr. Blair Williams, clinician  
 Laura Flanigan, presider  
*How can we best select repertoire based on the string instrument playing skills that our students have, are refining, and need to develop? During this session we will adapt the Playing Skills Checklist (Gillespie, Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra, vol. 2) to best prepare our students for success using backward design for repertoire planning and sequence of skill development. We will also analyze playing skills in common pieces and evaluate their listed grade level to make more informed decisions for your repertoire plans for the school year and beyond!*
- 3:30 pm–4:45 pm  
 CC 008      **Workshop 7: Cultivating Artistry: Teaching Students to Think and Practice Like Experts**  
 Amy Simmons, Lani Hamilton & Sarah Allen, clinicians  
 Jennifer McKeeman, presider  
*In this session, we describe our observations of expert musicians' practice and explain how applying these ideas with learners at all levels of experience and expertise resonates with research in neuroscience, cognitive psychology, and kinesiology. We present recorded examples of effective music practice and discuss the connections between effective strategies and the underlying mechanisms of the brain that enhance performance.*
- 5:00 pm–6:15 pm  
 CC 006 ABC      **Workshop 8: Gaming the Classroom: Keeping Students Engaged & On Their Toes Through Meaningful Activities, Pacing and Rehearsal Strategies**  
 Dr. Laurie Williams, clinician  
 Laura Flanagan, presider  
*The day-to-day tasks of teaching young musicians can become too routine if we allow our routines to turn into ruts. If we are not excited about what we are teaching every single day, our students won't be either! What if you could bottle the excitement from the first two weeks of beginning orchestra and tap into that enthusiasm months and even years later? Williams will discuss and demonstrate methods for pushing students to reach farther, taking them from their comfort zone to their proximal zone of development through engaging games, movement, and creative rehearsal strategies. Be prepared to participate!*
- 5:00 pm–6:15 pm  
 CC 007      **Workshop 9: New Music from Kirt Mosier and Kjos Publishing**  
 Kirt Mosier, clinician  
 Cathy Fishburn, presider  
*In this session, Mosier will be reading new music from Kjos music as well as Kirt Mosier music. You won't want to miss this session as there will be free giveaways! Pieces will be analyzed for performability as well as suitability for groups of differing levels.*
- 5:00 pm–6:15 pm  
 CC 008      **Workshop 10: TexASTA General Business Meeting and Clinic: Developing a Culture of Excellence**  
 Martha Walvoord, TexASTA President

Creston Herron, presider

6:00 pm–6:30 pm  
La Quinta  
RW Lobby

**Mentor/Mentee Meet**  
Danielle Pronkta, coordinator

6:15 pm–7:45 pm  
CC 218

**UIL Sight-Reading Orchestra Committee**  
Dr. Bradley Kent, UIL State Director of Music, presider

6:30 pm–8:30 pm  
La Quinta Ballroom

**TODA Welcome**  
Come enjoy food and drinks with friends! Limited drink tickets provided by D'Addario. Cash bar.  
Sponsored by D'Addario, Perform America-Texas LLC and Alfred Music

## FRIDAY, JULY 26

7:30 am–5:00 pm  
CC Lobby

**Registration/Hospitality Open**  
Sponsored by Fishburn Violin

7:30 am–10:00 pm  
CC 209/211

**Child Care Available** (no meals provided)  
Sponsored by Pride of Texas Music Festivals & World View Travel

8:00 am–9:00 am  
CC 216

**Product Showcase: URL to UIL: Preparing Students for Contest & Festival: MusicFirst**

Dr. Jim Frankel, presenter  
*Adjudicated events can be daunting for students and teachers, but MusicFirst offers an array of solutions to help you prepare your students for their events. With ear training, sight-reading and performance assessment tools, you'll be able to systematically increase exercise complexity and track student progress in the months leading up to the event.*

8:00 am–10:00 am  
CC 205

**TMAA Committee on Standards of Adjudication & Performance Practices**

Jeff Turner, presider

8:30 am–9:45 am  
CC 006 ABC

**Reading Session 3: Grade 2**

Corey Spratlan, conductor  
Julie Blackstock, presider

8:30 am – 9:45 am  
CC 007

**Workshop 11: Rehearse Like the Experts**

Sam Flippin, clinician  
Elizabeth Ledford, presider

*What are some common rehearsal tendencies of expert teachers? Learn what research has to say about great rehearsals. These habits can be adopted by any teacher, and will measurably increase your group's playing time, engagement level, retention, and focus as soon as you incorporate them into your rehearsal style.*

8:30 am–9:45 am  
CC 008

**Workshop 12: Brain, Body and Performance: Research That Characterizes Musicians' Skill Refinement**

Amy Simmons, Lani Hamilton & Sarah Allen, clinicians  
Jennifer McKeeman, presider

*Musical expertise is grounded in what the body can do and what the brain can perceive, but rarely is instruction focused on addressing both aspects of musical development. We will describe our own research as well as studies in neuroscience and motor learning that suggest that artist-level playing is as much in the ears as it is in the hands, and apply these ideas to the teaching of musical artistry.*

9:30 am–10:30 am  
CC 216

**Product Showcase: Not Enough Time? Let Cut Time Keep Your Music Program Organized: JW Pepper**

Scott McCormick, presenter

*This showcase will demonstrate the features and functionality of our group management tool. Our cloud-based platform enables music directors to manage and organize the critical components of their programs, such as People, Inventory, Communications, and more. Our goal for attendees is to become knowledgeable about Cut Time as a potential technology solution to make performing their role as a music director easier and more efficient.*

10:00 am–11:15 am  
CC 006

**Workshop 13: Two Sides to Every Coin**

Kirt Mosier and Jeffrey Grogan, clinicians  
Karen George, presider

(Demonstration Group: Youth Orchestras of San Antonio, Troy Peters, Director)

*Grogan and Mosier will team up for a rehearsal lab. They will discuss their approach when helping an ensemble reach a higher musical level in a short amount of time. Rehearsal strategies, including urgency, balance, intonation, phrasing, and inspiration, will be discussed.*

10:00 am–11:15 am  
CC 007

**Workshop 14: Who is Driving This Bus? The Learner-Centered String Class**

Dr. Blair Williams, clinician  
Victoria Lien, presider

*String class teachers already incorporate characteristics of a learner-centered environment. But it can be difficult to “let go of the reins!” Participants will gather ideas to develop a learner-centered classroom using researched strategies, student leadership, technology, planning, and collaboration. Participants will create intentional methods to guide students’ engagement, creativity, and exploration using prior knowledge, personal interests, and cultural backgrounds.*

10:00 am–11:15 am  
CC 008

**Workshop 15: Google Classroom for the Performance Ensemble**

Melissa Livings, clinician  
Emily Nguyen, presider

*Technology in a performance setting?! You bet! Find out how to integrate Google Classroom in simple and useful ways in the band, orchestra, and choir rehearsal. Maximize your time and revolutionize the way you communicate, assess, and organize your performance-based classroom.*

11:00 am–12:00 pm  
CC 216

**Product Showcase: How to Plan a Successful Performance Trip:**

**Educational Travel Adventures**

Michael Holzer, presenter

*Educational Travel Adventures will highlight how to request and prepare for a successful performance tour.*

11:15 am–1:15 pm

**Visit Exhibits**

11:30 am–12:30 pm  
CC 006

**Product Showcase: Sight-Read to Succeed: Starr Music Academy**

Efrain Mungula, presenter

*Sight-Read to Succeed is an innovative new method designed to prepare students for UIL Orchestra Sight-Reading. Each level contains dozens of rhythm rudiment exercises, as well as scale warm-ups. Also featured are twenty live short exercises for the ensemble to practice their sight-reading skills. The books are divided in two: one for levels 1-3 and another for levels 4-6. Each level begins with a list of criteria the ensemble could possibly see in the sight-reading room. Nothing outside of the criteria is utilized so there are no surprises! Come meet the author and see how Sight-Read to Succeed can help your orchestras play their best.*

1:15 pm–2:30 pm  
CC 006 ABC

**Reading Session 4: Grades 4-5**

Ricky Pringle, conductor  
Anna Macias, presider

1:15 pm–2:30 pm  
CC 007

**Workshop 16: MS Conducting Workshop**

Jeffrey Grogan, clinician  
Brian Coatney, presider

*Grogan will work with conductors in front of a live ensemble, to hone technique and expand expressive non-verbal vocabulary.*

1:15 pm–2:30 pm  
CC 008

**Workshop 17: Strings 101: The Science, History and Care of Strings**

Liz Benoit Crew, clinician  
Andrew Potter, presider

*Ever wonder exactly how a musical instrument string is made? What’s the difference between steel core, synthetic core, and gut? Why do your strings go false and how often should you REALLY change them? Answers to these questions and many more will help you become a more educated string player, teacher, and/or retailer.*

2:30 pm–4:00 pm

**Visit Exhibits**

2:30 pm–3:30 pm  
CC 216

**Product Showcase: Student Travel – Your Number One Recruiting and Retention Tool: Green Light Group Tours**

Apryl Black, presenter

*Want to travel with your group but have some apprehensions? Come learn the ropes of student group travel; why it’s a good idea, how to choose a tour operator, how to choose the right destination, how to collect money safely and efficiently, how to keep your students safe on the road, and how to make the trip a wonderfully rewarding experience for your students and your program.*

2:45 pm–3:45 pm  
CC 006

**Product Showcase: Old Becoming New: Little Known “Gems” of the String Orchestra Repertoire: Luck’s Music Library**

Dr. Sandra Dackow, presenter

*This year, sight-reading expert, Michael Alexander, joins Sandra Dackow to enhance this session with Little Known “Gems” Sight Reading Tips! Join our interactive reading session and have the opportunity to hear and learn about the forgotten historical gems of the standard string repertoire. Perfect for concert, festival and competition performances; explore or revisit selections that have been “lost” in the mix of the vast history of string literature. Exhilarate students and audiences alike with these old, yet “new” pieces of music history! Bring your instruments to participate in the reading orchestra and experience sight-reading techniques first hand!*

**Bring your instruments and participate in the reading orchestra.**

3:15 pm–4:15 pm  
CC 302

**Product Showcase: Activate Your Elementary Music Classroom: Heritage**

Marl Schay, presenter

*Activate Magazine provides fresh lesson ideas throughout the year, written by an amazing team of elementary music educators who try each idea with their own students before sharing them with you.*

*Sing, play, move, create and read your way through lessons you can take home and implement in your classroom right away.*

3:45 pm–4:45 pm  
CC 216

**Product Showcase: Engagement & Accountability: A Cloud-Based Solution: MusicFirst**

Dr. Keith Dye, presenter

*With state and national standards focusing on assessment and administrators asking for quantifiable results, music educators need efficient and effective methods of evaluating students. Technology helps, but finding affordable solutions is a challenge. MusicFirst helps teachers with their assessments and supports student learning. Teachers can see students’ progress and share their results.*

- 4:00 pm–5:15 pm  
CC 006 ABC
- Workshop 18: Rehearsal Lab: What To Fix First and Why?**  
Kirt Mosier, clinician  
Cathy Fishburn, presider  
(Demonstration Group: Youth Orchestras of San Antonio, Troy Peters, Director)  
*Mosier will work with a group of high school students who have just begun working on the music. He will instruct clinic attendees on what he fixes first and why, as well as pacing, motivation, and general musicianship order.*
- 4:00 pm–5:15 pm  
CC 007
- Workshop 19: Reimagined Histories and Inclusion through Creative Programming**  
Marcus Pyle, clinician  
Aryc Lane, presider  
*What do string educators have that most commercial orchestras don't? A built-in audience. This workshop will discuss ways that school orchestra repertoire choices can affect the programming choices of local symphony orchestras, leading to a greater representation of musical styles and diverse repertoires. The incorporation of varied programming not only provides access to inclusive histories, it also potentially introduces students to new techniques and new sonorities. We will address the benefits to the music curriculum, student retention, and grant procurement as an effect of diverse programming.*
- 4:00 pm–5:15 pm  
CC 008
- Workshop 20: Strings 101 Petting Zoo**  
Liz Benoit Crew, clinician  
Andrew Potter, presider  
*Join us after "Strings 101" to play around! Whether or not you attend our prior session on the science, history, and care of strings (and we hope you did!), this session is for all who would like the opportunity to compare different strings and instruments in a casual, musical way. Hosted in partnership with D'Addario and Terra Nova Violins, all attendees will receive a free set of strings.*
- 5:00 pm–6:00 pm  
CC 216
- Product Showcase: Planning the Perfect Trip to Orlando!  
Fine Arts Travel**  
Ryan Cavazos, presenter  
*Learn everything you need to know to make your students' dream trip to Orlando come true! In this informative session you will learn how to save money without compromising any of the fun, and gain insider tips and tricks from the pros! We will also discuss what ticket options are best for your group, air and charter transportation, performance and workshop opportunities, fundraising ideas, and much more! If you're planning a trip to Florida with your group, you don't want to miss this session!*
- 6:30 pm–10:00 pm  
Venue Villita
- TODA BBQ and Silent Auction**  
Entertainment by It's All Good DJ  
Sponsored by Lisle Violin Shop, Lucks Music Library & Tempo Press, Dallas Strings and Katy Violin Shop

## Saturday 7/27

- 7:30 am–10:00 am  
CC Lobby
- Registration/Hospitality Open**  
Sponsored by Fishburn Violin
- 7:30 am–6:00 pm  
CC 209/211
- Child Care Available** (no meals provided)  
Sponsored by Pride of Texas Music Festivals & World View Travel
- 8:00 am–9:30 am  
CC 213
- TMEA JH/MS Band, Choir, Orchestra/Mariachi Coordinators Meeting**  
Frank Coachman, presider
- 8:30 am–9:45 am  
CC 006 ABC
- Reading Session 5: PML Grades 3, 4 & 5**  
Jason Thibodeaux, clinician  
David Hinds, presider
- 8:30 am–9:45 am  
CC 007
- Workshop 21: Come On In, the Water's Fine! Preparing for Your Student Teaching and Early-Career Experiences**  
Dr. Blair Williams, clinician  
Jaclyn Hastings, presider  
*Pre-service and early-career teachers have been playing and learning in the shallow end of the pool. Now it's time to jump into the deep end! We will apply, analyze, and reflect on each step of this valuable experience. Attendees will discuss researched strategies and suggestions from administrators, mentor/cooperating teachers, university supervisors, and former student and early-career teachers to prepare to make a "splash" at the beginning of the best career in the world!*
- 8:30 am–9:45 am  
CC 008
- Workshop 22: No Fear! Motivate Your Beginners to Play at Intermediate Level**  
Barbara Fox, clinician  
Brenda Johnson, presider  
*Fox will show video clips of her beginning classes outlining how she teaches everything from beginning posture, scales, good intonation, shifting, and vibrato with No Fear. The final product will be beginners who are able to play Grade 2 literature well by the end of their 1st year in orchestra and are ready to take the challenge to the next level.*

- 9:30 am–10:30 am  
CC 216
- Product Showcase: Assessment: Data Collection & Analysis for Enhancing Instruction: MusicFirst**  
Dr. Keith Dye, presenter  
*This session will be an analysis of tried and true music assessment practices and how they can be readily quantified through use of digital technologies. Attendees will leave knowing a variety of options, many at no cost, and most importantly, how to implement these as an organic element of instruction.*
- 9:45 am–10:45 am
- Visit Exhibits**
- 10:45 am–12:00 pm  
CC 006 ABC
- Reading Session 6: Grade 1**  
Ashley Johnson, clinician  
Meredith Riddle, presider
- 10:45 am–12:00 pm  
CC 007
- Workshop 23: Spice It Up! Rehearsal Recipes for Stirring Up Inspiration**  
Jeffrey Grogan, clinician  
Karen George, presider  
*Grogan discusses rehearsal techniques that address fundamental musical issues while providing a healthy dose of inspiration.*
- 10:45 am–12:00 pm  
CC 008
- Workshop 24: Decoding the World's Greatest Orchestras: Techniques and Practices for Expressive Performance**  
Dr. Blake Richardson, clinician  
Melinda Florian, presider  
*What exactly does a great orchestra do to sound the way they do? In this session, we will examine several techniques orchestras of any level can apply to their daily rehearsals to achieve more expressive musicianship, better tone, and clearer performance.*
- 11:00 am–12:00 pm  
CC 216
- Product Showcase: Not Enough Time? Let Cut Time Keep Your Music Program Organized: JW Pepper**  
Scott McCormick, presenter  
*This showcase will demonstrate the features and functionality of our group management tool. Our cloud-based platform enables music directors to manage and organize the critical components of their programs, such as People, Inventory, Communications, and more. Our goal for attendees is to become knowledgeable about Cut Time as a potential technology solution to make performing their role as a music director easier and more efficient.*
- 1:00 pm–2:30 pm  
CC 006 ABC
- TODA General Session**  
Sixto Elizondo IV, President  
*Please plan to attend this important meeting as we will provide updates on the current status of TODA, including the Executive Director's Report, Barbara Eads and TODA Memorial Scholarship recipients, nominations and election of the new TODA Member-at-Large, and recipients of the 2019 Orchestra Director of the Year and the 2019 Composition Contest.*
- 2:45 pm–4:00 pm  
CC 006 ABC
- Workshop 25: All Means All: Inclusion in the Orchestra Room**  
Bethany Hardwick & Jennifer Rodgers, clinicians  
Lamar Smith, presider  
*Hardwick (Orchestra) and Rodgers (Special Education) will discuss their experiences starting a full-time orchestra inclusion class, showcase modification techniques they utilized throughout the year with this class, and discuss the social changes they observed within the orchestra program. 100% of the Academic Life Skills Special Education students on their campus are enrolled in the class and participate fully in every concert and social event throughout the year.*
- 2:45 pm–4:00 pm  
CC 007
- Workshop 26: Music Theory and History Throughout the Year: An Academic Calendar Approach for Middle School Orchestra**  
Karen Billingsley, clinician  
Pat Lee, presider  
*Some people teach music theory and history very effectively using the literature they are working on in class. But, if you are like me, you want a plan you can use every year to ensure you cover every TEK. Here is an academic calendar approach to teaching music theory, music history and even playing skills for Middle School Orchestras.*
- 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
- Past Presidents Reception & ODY Cocktail Party**

Sunday 7/28

- 11:00 am–1:00 pm
- TODA Board Meeting**  
Sixto Elizondo IV, President