

Summer 2008 Notes from President Connie Kessel

Greetings, Esteemed Music Colleagues!

Through the collective talents & creativity of our members, DCMEA has made a positive impact on the musical lives of the students of our county and of each other! We should all be very pleased with the DCMEA's accomplishments this year!

Special Recognition – Please join me in honoring the following members for their service this year!

- The DCMEA 2008 All-County Music Festival chairpeople and the schools that hosted the festivals:
 - Jazz Festival** at Millbrook HS – Craig Fryer
 - Jr. High Festival** at Roosevelt HS – Jim Osborn, Paul Scatenato, Nancy Gagne, Michael Colucci, Holly Dunn, Marissa Cooper, Gretchen Horvath, Maureen Colson & Amy West
 - Elementary Festival** at Haviland MS – Marcia Gates, Kathen Cowan, Steve Kieley, Frank Camiola, Lauren Regan, Hollis Bowen & Amy Littler
- The DCMEA Librarians – Pennie Burgess, Erin Fowler, Rich Guillen & Kim Valentine – for maintaining the inventory and assisting the membership.
- Christine Fiore & the Elementary All-County Band Live Audition Committee – for their work, perseverance & excellent report.
- Amy Cornwall-Robinson – for hosting the Vocal Jazz Workshop with “Groove For Thought” at Red Hook HS.
- Paul Scatenato – DCMEA Political Liaison – for his work with the Dutchess County Legislature.
- The DCMEA Executive Board – Thank you for your commitment to & creative work for the organization and its members!

County Highlights

- Elementary All-County Band Live Auditions (*new*) will occur in early January 2009, at LaGrange MS. Audition Event Coordinator – Mike Tiskowitz
- Elementary All-County String Orchestra Live Audition (*new*) will occur in early January 2009, at LaGrange MS. Audition Event Coordinator – Mike Tiskowitz, Committee Chairperson – Kim Handman
- DCMEA Participation Fee must be paid to participate in DCMEA events for the coming school year. Bills were mailed out in June.
- HS All-County Music Festival (*new*) is scheduled for 2010, at Beacon HS. Event Chairperson – Michael Tabon
- DC BOCES Arts-In-Education Funding Program – consider using this program when paying DCMEA District Participation Fees & All-County student registration fees, and also NYSSMA Participation fees and Festival Registration fees. (Contact me for more details.)

Get Involved – Help promote & enhance music education in Dutchess County through:

- DCMEA Standing Sub-Committees: On-line Festival Handbooks; web site development; All-County Festival Participation Policies.
- All-County Music Festivals (chairperson, assistant, sectional rehearsals, etc.)
- DCMEA Executive Board (President Elect - *vacancy*)
- Elementary All-County Band & Orchestra Live Auditions (audition music selection, event assistants)
- Retired Music Teacher Mentor Network – Administrator – Dana White-Marks

The end of the school year is a wonderful time to reflect upon the year's achievements, to celebrate the accomplishments of our students and to set goals for the coming school year. I would like to urge you to consider serving DCMEA as one of those goals! I would also encourage you to periodically browse the DCMEA and NYSSMA Zone 10 web sites for information updates and announcements.

Have a wonderful summer!

Musically yours,
Connie Kessel