



ASTA 2011

National Orchestra Festival[®]



"The ASTA Convention and NOF was a great experience for me and my students....The students loved the exhibits and gained insights regarding instruments and bows. The opportunity to play on a really nice instrument was invaluable. They are still talking about the master classes and all they learned. So, attending the conference will make a huge improvement in our program."
— *Ida Steadman, Coronado High School Orchestra*



March 16-19, 2011
Kansas City, Missouri

American String Teachers Association

Adjudicators



William Dick



Mark Laycock



Robert McCashin

Clinicians



Andrew Dabczynski



Jung-Ho Pak

2011

ASTA National Orchestra Festival® March 16-19, 2011 Kansas City, Missouri

Plan now to attend the **National Orchestra Festival®** (NOF), the only orchestra festival held in conjunction with the national conference of a leading national professional association in the string industry. NOF packages are a tremendous value as each package includes:

- The choice to participate in either a competitive or noncompetitive track evaluated by leading adjudicators and clinicians from across the nation (groups receive written and taped comments)
- A private, hands-on clinic with a leading orchestra clinician
- Breakfast and lunch
- The choice of single, double, triple, or quad accommodations at a top-rated hotel
- Awards dinner banquet ticket
- Participant trophy for each orchestra
- T-shirt and CD recording of performance for each student
- Entrance to one NOF elective master class of student's choice
- Entrance to the ASTA exhibit hall, featuring the latest string and orchestra products and services (Thursday evening–Saturday afternoon)
- National recognition for your group in *ASTA eNEWS* and the *American String Teacher* journal, as well as on the ASTA website
- A complimentary director's package (single)
- A commemorative banner for each orchestra
- Free entrance to all NOF orchestra performances
- Admission to the NOF Grand Champion winner's concert on Saturday
- A group photograph for each orchestra
- An abundance of educational opportunities

The NOF is an annual festival held in conjunction with the ASTA National Conference. The NOF brings together orchestras from around the country to a single location in order to provide an unparalleled opportunity to receive placement, ratings, comments, and valuable lessons from leading clinicians and adjudicators in the industry. Orchestras are selected to participate in the national festival based on their application and supporting materials. The festival encompasses Youth Orchestras, Middle School Orchestras, and High School Orchestras in their choice of Competition, Rating, or Comments categories. All festival groups receive feedback from adjudicators William Dick, Mark Laycock, and Robert McCashin. Each group also participates in an educational clinic directly after its performance from one of our two clinicians, Andrew Dabczynski and Jung-Ho Pak. Students will also take part in an elective master class of his/her choice. Past elective classes have included violin, viola, cello, bass, jazz, fiddle, and orchestral wind.

Competitive groups perform for placement within their own division: Youth Orchestra, Middle School, or High School. One orchestra will be selected from all competitive groups and named Grand Champion of the 2011 National Orchestra Festival®. The Grand Champion orchestra performs a winner's concert on Saturday, March 19, 2011. All NOF performances are open to other festival groups and conference attendees.

Application Guidelines and Requirements

**Application
Deadline:
April 15, 2010**

Application materials must be postmarked by April 15, 2010

Application packet must include:

- Completed application form.
- CD of group recorded after September 1, 2009, with two contrasting selections (no solo repertoire):
 - Full orchestras should submit CD with one selection full orchestra and one selection strings only.
 - CD must be unedited and labeled with the name of the organization; conductor's name; title, movement, composer, and arranger of each selection; timing for each selection; and a separate track for each movement.
- Two exemplars of printed programs from the past two years.
- Two prominent music educators listed as references who have worked with or heard the ensemble during the past two years to be contacted as references, if needed. These names should be included on the application form.
- A non-refundable \$75 application fee per ensemble.

Application Review/Notification

Applications will be reviewed by a national committee, which will choose orchestras to participate in the festival. The committee will make its decision by May 15, 2010, and directors will be notified shortly thereafter. Directors will then need to submit a signed contract and \$1,000 non-refundable deposit by August 15, 2010. These materials will confirm participation in the festival. The deposit will be applied directly to the group's package fees. Directors who miss the contract deadline may forfeit their position in the festival to a waiting-list group.

General Guidelines

1. Complete the application form, including the signatures of both the ensemble director and a school administrator or youth orchestra board member.
2. Submission of your application serves as a commitment of your planned attendance, upon acceptance of your ensemble to the Festival.
3. Application materials will not be returned regardless of acceptance status.
4. Invited high school and primarily high school age youth orchestras will perform on a one-hour schedule that includes a minimum of 30 to a maximum of 40 minutes of music, reading of introductory notes and set changes between pieces. Invited middle school orchestras and primarily middle school age youth orchestras will perform on a one-hour schedule that includes a minimum of 20 to a maximum of 40 minutes of music, reading of introductory notes, and set changes between pieces. Time limits will be strictly enforced. Groups in "Comments Only" category will perform on March 19; "Ratings & Comments" category will perform on March 16 and continue on March 17; "Competition" category will perform on March 17 and continue on March 18.
5. Groups must have a minimum of 30 participants (inclusive of chaperones, director, and students). Schools/organizations bringing two groups can only enter both groups into competition if the two groups are completely autonomous. Therefore, individual students can only be part of one competitive group. If duplicating members, the second group must be entered for Rating or Comments.
6. Students must be of middle school or high school age and enrolled in your school or organization to perform with your group. Students participating in the NOF Festival may not also participate in the Alterntaive Styles Awards and/or the National Solo Competition for 2011.
7. The fee payment schedule for festival participation is:
 - a. Signed contract with a \$1,000 non-refundable deposit due August 15, 2010. Groups that do not submit the contract with payment postmarked by this date risk forfeiting their position in the festival.
 - b. Twenty-five percent of total amount due by October 15, 2010.
 - c. Fifty percent of total amount due by December 15, 2010. No changes that reduce an ensemble's commitment can be made after December 15, 2010.
 - d. Final balance of total amount due by January 15, 2010. This fee payment schedule and other planning deadlines are available online at www.astaweb.com.
8. Application and supporting material guidelines can be found on the ASTA website at www.astaweb.com or for more information call Libby at 703-279-2113, ext. 28. Mail application, supporting materials, payment, and CD recording, **POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15, 2010**, to: ASTA • National Orchestra Festival • 4153 Chain Bridge Road • Fairfax, VA 22030

Cancellation Policy

Groups cannot cancel their participation after the signed contract of acceptance is returned to ASTA and full payment is due. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** There are no refunds on application fees or deposits. This cancellation policy also applies to all circumstances beyond the attendee's and/or ASTA's control, including, but not limited to, acts of God, war, terrorism, government regulations, disaster, strikes, civil disorder, or curtailment of transportation. If you have a special circumstance and would like it to be reviewed for special consideration, please send, in writing, an explanation of your circumstance and include any appropriate documentation. Your request will be reviewed within 30 days, and you will be notified subsequently of the outcome.

2011 NOF



American String
Teachers Association
4153 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
703-279-2113
www.astaweb.com

**Kansas City
Conference:
March 16-19, 2011**

Festival Packages

The package rates listed below are per person and inclusive of hotel accommodations, meals, and festival fees.

One-Night Stay

(includes one breakfast, one lunch)

Single Room	\$430
Double Room	\$355
Triple Room	\$345
Quad Room	\$330

Two-Night Stay

(includes two breakfasts, two lunches)

Single Room	\$665
Double Room	\$510
Triple Room	\$470
Quad Room	\$440

Three-Night Stay

(includes three breakfasts, three lunches)

Single Room	\$880
Double Room	\$645
Triple Room	\$590
Quad Room	\$550

Four-Night Stay

Please contact Libby Dietrich at the ASTA National Office 703-279-2113, ext. 28, or libby@astaweb.com for Four-Night Stay rates.

Transportation (including ground transportation at conference site) is the responsibility of each participating ensemble. Additional enhancements, such as additional educational sessions and concert tickets, can be added to packages. Each group purchasing packages receives a complimentary single package for its director.

703-279-2113, ext. 28

libby@astaweb.com

“Thank you for creating the NOF and being committed to such a high level of excellence.”

– Constance Jensen, Kodiak Youth Orchestra

Applications Due: April 15, 2010

*Don't miss your opportunity to visit Kansas City.
Be sure and visit <http://www.visitkc.com>
to see all there is to do in Kansas City!*

ASTA NOF 2011 Adjudicators and Clinicians

Adjudicators

William Dick

In 1994 the American String Teachers Association named William Dick "Music Educator of the Year." That same year he was named "Director of the Year" by the Texas Orchestra Directors' Association. Mr. Dick is a charter member of the Fine Arts Educators Training Cadre for the Texas Education Agency. He has served as chair of the violin committee for the Texas University Interscholastic League and as viola coordinator for the International Suzuki Teachers' Conference. He has presented sessions at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic, the Suzuki Association of the Americas Convention, and the ASTA Convention. Mr. Dick is a Registered Teacher Trainer for the Suzuki Association of the Americas. He is co-author with Laurie Scott of the textbooks: *Mastery for Strings*, Levels I and II.

Mark Laycock

Dr. Mark Laycock is an Associate Professor of Music at Wichita State University, where he holds the Ann Walenta Faculty of Distinction Endowed Professorship. In 2007, he was recognized with the College of Fine Arts Excellence in Teaching Award. In addition to serving as Director of Orchestras, he is Coordinator of Instrumental Conducting. Under his direction, the WSU Symphony Orchestra performed at the 2008 International Festival of Youth Orchestras in Zaragoza, Spain, as well as the 2008 Kansas Music Educators Association In-Service Workshop. He was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic. His work as guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator spans 18 states, including the leadership of all-state orchestras in Alabama, Iowa, Maryland, Nebraska, and Washington; additional engagements include the Wichita Symphony Orchestra, Wichita Grand Opera, and the Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra. He has conducted professional orchestras in Europe and Canada. He served as Director of Orchestras and Instrumental Music at Chapman University in Orange, California, where he led invited performances for the California Music Educators Association and at Disneyland. He was also Principal Conductor of the Irvine (CA) Classical Players, leading the youth orchestra on concert tours to France (2008) and Italy (2006). From 1998-2003, Dr. Laycock served as Director of Orchestral Activities at Iowa State University and was Music Director of the Central Iowa Symphony. He earned a Doctor of Arts degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Northern Colorado. Dr. Laycock holds a Master of Music degree in instrumental conducting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Bachelor of Arts degree in music history and literature from the University of Southern California. An experienced educator, he was an instructor of strings and orchestra at the middle and high school levels in the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Robert McCashin

Dr. Robert McCashin, D.M.A., is currently the director of orchestras and professor of conducting at James Madison University where he serves as music director/conductor for the JMU Symphony, the JMU Chamber Orchestra, the JMU Opera/Theater Orchestra, and the select Camerata Strings. In addition, Dr. McCashin teaches orchestral conducting at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. He earned Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in violin performance from Louisiana State University and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from the University of Arizona. Prior to his position at James Madison University, Dr. McCashin served on the faculties of the University of Texas at Arlington and Texas Wesleyan University. During his tenure in Texas he performed with the Fort Worth Symphony, Fort Worth Opera Orchestra, Wichita Falls Symphony, Gallery String Quartet, and the University Piano Trio, and performed extensively as a freelance violinist throughout the North Texas region. He was the founding conductor of the Arlington Youth Symphony, and served as conductor for the Trinity Symphony and the Arlington Opera Association. In addition, he was associate conductor of the Youth Orchestras of Greater Fort Worth, and maintained a substantial private violin studio of students at all levels. He maintains a busy schedule of adjudicating and conducting at the state and national levels. His conducting appearances include regional level professional orchestras as well as district, region, and state honor orchestras. His compositions and arrangements, published by FJH Music, are best sellers and editor's choice selections in the educational music arena. Dr. McCashin was the founding president of the College Orchestra Directors Association, has chaired the ASTA Merle Isaac National Composition competition, and served as a board member for the Virginia state ASTA organization.

Clinicians

Andrew Dabczynski

Andrew H. Dabczynski is Professor of Music Education at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he is also the director of the BYU "New Horizons Orchestra," a beginning string orchestra for adults and laboratory for string teacher training. Dr. Dabczynski has held teaching and administrative positions at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and in the public schools of Penfield and Mamaroneck, New York. In addition, he was the Supervisor of Fine Arts Education in the Waterford, Michigan, School District. Dr. Dabczynski received a B.M. degree in applied viola performance from the Eastman School, and a M.A. from the University of Connecticut, serving there as violist in the graduate string quartet. He also holds a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Michigan. As a performer, Dr. Dabczynski has played viola in the Rochester Philharmonic, the Hartford Symphony, the Portland (Maine) Symphony, the Kalamazoo Symphony, and the Greenwich (Connecticut) Symphony orchestras. For six years, he was a member of the Colden String Quartet, ensemble-in-residence at Western Michigan University. He also has been an adjunct faculty member at numerous other colleges and at national string workshops. Dr. Dabczynski has held a variety of national committee positions with the American String Teachers Association, and is currently president of the Utah chapter of that organization. Additionally, a strong interest in folk music and ethnomusicology has led him to focus his research efforts on fiddling and the transmission of traditional music. In addition to his doctoral dissertation, he has written many articles on the subject of teaching and learning fiddling, both in contemporary America and other cultures. Dr. Dabczynski also pursues professional and research interests in string pedagogy, school curriculum, and musical learning among senior adults. He appears frequently as a clinician for teachers and guest conductor for student ensembles throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico.

Jung-Ho Pak

Described by the *New York Times* as a conductor who "radiates enthusiasm" and the *Los Angeles Times* as "a real grabber", Jung-Ho Pak is known as a Music Director with a unique vision of classical music. Orchestra Nova (orchestranova.org), formerly San Diego Chamber Orchestra, appointed Mr. Pak as Artistic Director and Conductor in 2006, and in 2007 Mr. Pak began his tenure as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Cape Cod Symphony Orchestra (cape-symphony.org), one of the largest orchestras in Massachusetts (second to the Boston Symphony Orchestra). Since 2003, he has been Director of Orchestras and Music Director of the World Youth Symphony Orchestra and at the Interlochen Center for the Arts (interlochen.org). Mr. Pak is also Music Director Emeritus of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. As Music Director of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra (1997-2002), Mr. Pak led the orchestra from bankruptcy to a nationally recognized artistic and financial success. As a nationally recognized educator, he has served as Music Director with the University of Southern California (USC) Symphony and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Orchestra. He has also served as Principal Conductor of the Emmy-nominated Disney Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra and as Music Director of the International Chamber Orchestra, NEXT Chamber Orchestra, Colburn Chamber Orchestra, and Diablo Ballet. Guest conducting has taken him to Europe, the Soviet Union, South America and Asia. Mr. Pak is also a frequent speaker on television and radio, as well as a clinician and guest conductor at national music festivals.

"I thought ASTA was a great experience and really fun.... It was also amazing to be able to meet nationally known clinicians and hear what they had to say about our performance." – Los Alamos Middle School Orchestra Student



ASTA National Orchestra Festival® Application
March 16-19, 2011, Kansas City, Missouri
Application Deadline: April 15, 2010

Send **NOF** materials to: director's address school address

Name of School/Organization _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Director's Name _____ ASTA Membership ID* _____

Director's Address/Summer Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Office Phone _____ Fax _____ Best Time to Call _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

* Director must be a current member of ASTA both at the time of application and at the time of the festival. Nonmember applicants will not be considered.

Performing Group Demographics

1. Ensemble Name _____
 No. of Performers _____

Check one from each column

- | | |
|--|--|
| Category | Division |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competition | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Orchestra <input type="checkbox"/> String <input type="checkbox"/> Full |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rating + Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School Orchestra <input type="checkbox"/> String <input type="checkbox"/> Full |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comments Only | <input type="checkbox"/> High School String Orchestra |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Full Orchestra |

2. Ensemble Name _____
 No. of Performers _____

Check one from each column

- | | |
|--|--|
| Category | Division |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competition | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Orchestra** <input type="checkbox"/> String <input type="checkbox"/> Full |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rating + Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle School Orchestra** <input type="checkbox"/> String <input type="checkbox"/> Full |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comments Only | <input type="checkbox"/> High School String Orchestra** |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Full Orchestra** |

Total Participants (estimate)	
No. of Performers	+ _____
Chaperones/Staff	+ _____
Director(s)	+ _____
Total	= _____

** Second ensembles from the same school/ organization are not eligible for competing within the same division as first ensemble. For two groups from the same school/institution to both compete, these two groups must be autonomous (that is, with no repeating students) and must be competing in different divisions. For example, a Secondary School may have a High School Full Orchestra and a Middle School Orchestra competing because they do not share students and are entering different divisions. All second ensembles are eligible for Rating and Comments regardless of division and shared participants.

Music Educator References

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

This application is submitted with the full approval of the school or youth orchestra administration and in compliance with all set forth. The signatures below indicate that the directors and administration understand and agree to all the requirements outlined in the "Application Guidelines and Requirements," including ASTA's cancellation policy. Submission of this application indicates that the orchestra, if selected, will perform at the ASTA National Orchestra Festival March 16-19, 2011, Kansas City, Missouri; select one of the package options; and meet the payment deadlines. We hereby irrevocably grant to ASTA, its agents, licensees, and assigns, the right to use in any and all media and in any and all forms this applicant's and its members' name, likeness, photographic prints, and any reproduction of their sounds, performance, or appearance at the ASTA event, for any purpose, including promotion, advertising, or otherwise. With the use of the rights, we hereby release ASTA and its agents, licensees, and assigns from all claims, liabilities, and/or damages, which now or in the future may arise from such use. The non-refundable \$75 application fee per ensemble is enclosed.

 Orchestra Director Signature

 Date

 Administrator Signature

 Date

Application Fee/Requirements

There is a non-refundable \$75 application fee **per ensemble** that must accompany this form. Each organization may enroll up to a maximum of two ensembles. Please make checks payable to ASTA. Submit application, payment, two concert programs, and recording (CDs) to:

ASTA National Orchestra Festival®
4153 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030

Questions? Call Libby Dietrich at 703-279-2113
 ext. 28, or email libby@astaweb.com