

# ASTA Student Chapter Newsletter

## ASTA Student Chapter Newsletter

Fall 2006

### Hello!

We are all well into the new school year by now, and I hope you've all decided on your student chapter goals for the year. Hopefully you've got some new members who have infused fresh ideas into the stable mix and you've even filled out a Student Chapter Award application. (See the website if you've lost the information.)

<http://www.astaweb.com/membership/StudentChapterDirectory.htm>

As I type, my own student chapter is sitting behind a table of goodies and strong coffee trying to make this cold gray day a bit warmer. We've used our funds raised to put mirrors in practice rooms and bring in some guest speakers. This year, we already have an instrument repair person who also rents and sells string instruments coming in to talk to the string students about specialized issues. We will also be teaming up with our local CMENC chapter to present a lecture to the general body of music education majors on string instrument rental and repair for school teachers.

All states should be winding up the Solo Competition process and sending the tapes to the national semi-finals. Our ASTA student chapter helped run the state competition and I couldn't have done it without their help. See if your student chapter can volunteer to help staff the competition next time! It's a great way to meet teachers and players from all over the state, as well as get some practical experience working behind the scenes.

### For the college crowd...

We are always interested in growing the number of student chapters for ASTA. If you go to a college in a town with a strong or growing string program in the middle or high school, find out if they have an ASTA student chapter. (Did you *know* that there are high school student chapters?) If one doesn't exist, consider having your collegiate chapter act as a mentor to help them with the process. Their teacher may be running between several schools or maybe no one knew of the option. This would be a great way to get some experience working with younger students and could only help with the growth of a nearby string program. I know the high school students would love having college folks show up occasionally for projects or meetings, and I'm sure the college students would find the involvement very rewarding.

# ASTA National Conference

Remember to sign up before the early bird deadline of December 1.

The **keynote speech** by Aaron Dworkin should be quite interesting. Come hear what he has to say about his experience fostering diversity in classical music.

- **Breaking the Sound Barrier: The Sphinx Organization and Diversity in Classical Music**  
*Presented By: Aaron Dworkin, Founder/President Sphinx Organization*

Below, I've listed some **Educational Sessions** that I found particularly intriguing. Start planning your time in Detroit ahead of the conference. There are so many interesting events, it will be hard to see/hear everything!

## **Decisions Following the Diploma**

*Saturday March 10, 2007 — 12:30p.m.-1:30p.m.*

## **How to Run A Professional Gig Business**

*Saturday March 10, 2007 — 8:00a.m.-9:00a.m.*

## **A String Player's Daily Diet**

*Saturday March 10, 2007 — 9:15a.m.-10:15a.m.*

## **Why Didn't I Get My Degree in Psychology: A Path to Healthy Mentoring**

*Friday March 9, 2007 — 8:00a.m.-9:00a.m.*

## **Approaching Jazz: Improvisation for String Players**

*Friday March 9, 2007 — 3:30p.m.-4:30p.m.*

*With Jeremy Kittel*

## **But I'd Have to Take a Pay Cut!**

*Saturday March 10, 2007 — 2:30p.m.-3:30p.m.*

Along with the shortage of K-12 string teachers, there may soon be a shortage of candidates for collegiate string education positions. Come hear

the information you need to consider making the switch from former public school teachers who have 'been there!'

**The Delta Project: Preparing Collegiate Orchestra Performance Majors for Effective Community Outreach**

*Thursday March 8, 2007 — 4:00p.m.-5:00p.m.*

There will also be **masterclasses** with some of the country's best teachers. These are a great place to learn new practice and playing techniques, and hear other points of view.

Pre-College

Larry Hutchinson, bass  
Tanya Carey, cello  
Jeffrey Irvine, viola  
Mimi Zweig, violin  
Anne Waller, guitar  
Yolanda Kondonassis, harp

Collegiate

Paul Robinson, bass  
Anthony Elliot, cello  
Helen Callus, viola  
Stephen Shipps, violin  
Anne Waller, guitar  
Yolanda Kondonassis, harp

Have you seen the new **myspace page** for ASTA?

Check it out:

<http://www.myspace.com/stringsencouragedreams>

Let me know if your chapter is doing something that others need to hear about. I look forward to meeting many of you at the conference. Make sure you attend the College Pizza Party where we will eat, award the Student Chapter Prize, eat, hear an engaging speaker, and eat.

Take care,  
Marjorie Bagley  
bagleym@ohio.edu