

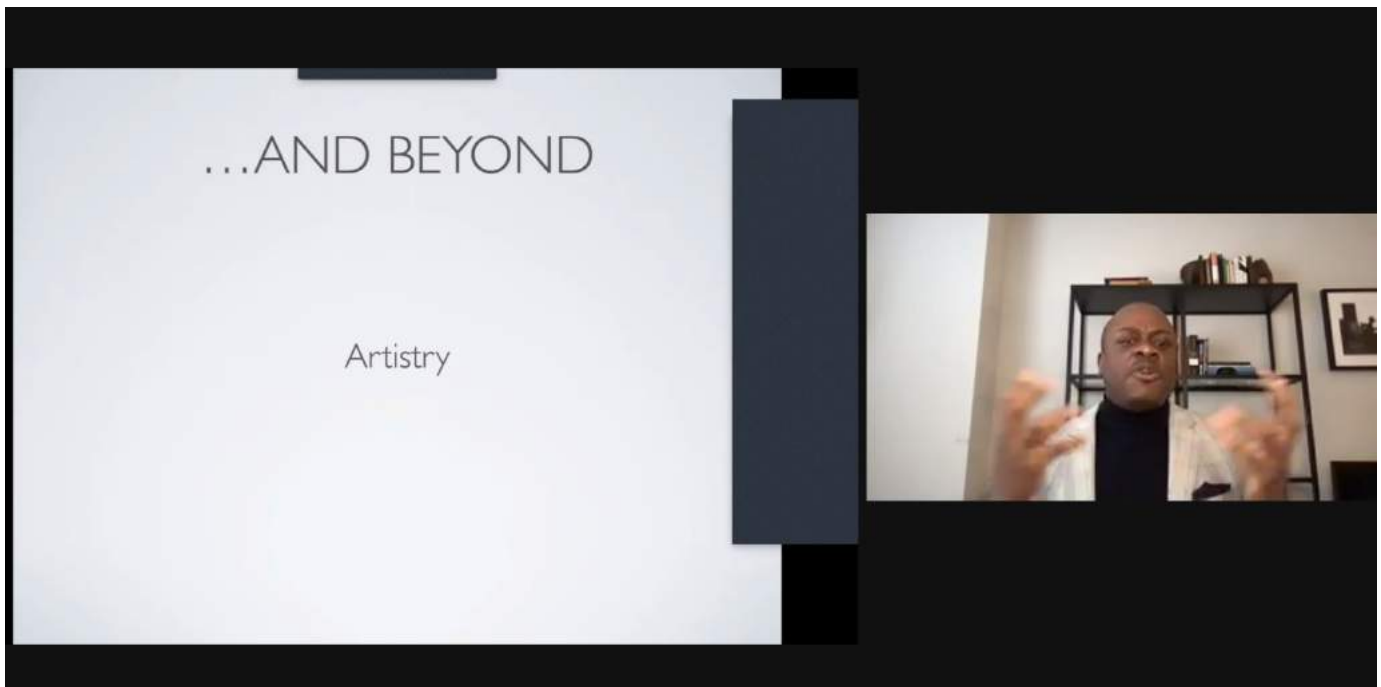
Band Stand

The Official Newsletter of the New York State Band Directors Association



Vol. XL, No. 3

May, 2021



Dr. Cheldon Williams from West Virginia University, who also served as this year's Middle School Honor Band conductor, presenting, "From Technique to Artistry: The Building Blocks and Beyond."



Band Stand

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Editor’s Note:

We are at the final push of what has been a whirlwind of a year! These are the final moments you have with some students. The seniors graduating, and the 5th/8th graders are moving up. It was this time last year that my colleague and I were driving to senior’s houses to play “Pomp and Circumstance” and to give them a small gift. Hopefully, things have opened up enough for us to celebrate these persevering individuals. What are some ways, conventional or unconventional, you are celebrating your students? Share your success stories! If you have done something awesome that really worked for your students, please email bandstandeditor@gmail.com. I would like to highlight practices that have/haven’t worked, and some ways you have celebrated your students.

From the Podium

By Michael Cordaro, *NYSBDA President*



Reflections on the school year: What I have learned during the pandemic

This was definitely not taught in college. What do you do when a world wide pandemic shuts down your school and puts an immediate stop to the learning process. Who could have predicted that when we went home on Friday, March 13, 2020 that we would not see the inside of our buildings or our students in person again until six months later? How can you shift gears in a weekend and develop a completely virtual program without any guidance? Well here we are, the end of the 2020-2021 school year and in my world things are looking up.

Over the past year we have been dealt almost insurmountable challenges. We did not shy away, we met them head on. Were there trials and failures? Yes, of course, but we learn from them. We kept the ultimate goal in sight; what is best for our students. How can we provide for their education? I know I did and I also know that the support and networking that I have garnered from NYSBDA helped me through those especially tough times.

I could never have predicted how my 33 years of public school education would end. What happened to my Mr. Hollands Opus ending? As I entered the last year of my career, I found myself learning new programs, researching the best ways to communicate with my students and learning about a virus that no one had a real understanding of but trying to figure out ways in which my students could be safe and still enjoy the benefits of their playing. Long story short, I was forced to become a different type of educator. A new teacher. It was uncomfortable at first, way out of my comfort zone but I persevered. It became another battle that I wanted to win. Learning a new game so to speak. I am sure that was the same for all of us. The goals changed and we changed with it.

So what have I learned? At the core, I learned that when it comes to my students, I will do anything to make sure they are receiving a quality music education. To be honest, I knew that before too. It went way beyond the rehearsal room and directly to my aspirations for my students to make sure they were prepared to go out into the world with a love of music, an appreciation for what is good and not so good and the desire to keep music in their lives no matter where their career path takes them.

I recognized that if all of this is out of my comfort zone it was out of theirs too. I used to assume that all my students were more computer literate than I was. By April of 2020 I realized that was not true. So first I had to teach them how to use the programs that I just learned. Then, of course, I had the students who only had their phone to access the internet. So I went ahead and worked out ways for them to participate even though they had limited access. We did make it to the end of that school year. Successful maybe, eye opening, definitely.

From the Podium *Continued*

By Michael Cordaro, *NYSBDA President*

When I started the 2020-2021 school year my band was not allowed to play. For the first two months of school we did a bucket drumming unit. I borrowed rhythms from the pieces I would have liked to be playing and incorporated that into the unit. If you remember, we had no idea when we would be able to play again in person. In my district we received the ok to play at 12 feet with PPE a little before the Thanksgiving break. We had three cohorts, Monday/Tuesday; Wednesday all virtual; and Thursday/Friday. Once we started playing I felt that my students needed a little extra motivation, especially the seniors. I could sense that they were saddened that this was how their high school experience was going to end. So we made a video of Sleigh Ride, the song we have traditionally played at the end of our Winter Concert. Usually we invite our Wind Ensemble alumni to perform with us. It was posted as a YouTube premier on our district website and the response was amazing. Parents and community members wanted more. They loved it. This response encouraged my colleagues to do similar projects. It seemed to motivate everybody. I had never done anything like that before and going through the steps with my students was truly rewarding.

Now we are at 6 feet and I am seeing my students everyday and I have been able to teach my pull out lessons. It almost seems normal. We have an outdoor Jazz concert scheduled for June and we are planning a final spring concert with my Wind Ensemble.

Amid all of the changes, struggles and challenges I truly believe I am a better educator and I hope that it will reflect in the experience that I have given my students. I am sure you feel the same.

I do want to give some advice, never stop learning. You will never know everything but the excitement is in the discovery of new things and how those things improve your teaching, musicianship and your students lives.

Until we see each other again in person, stay safe, be well and have a restful and energizing summer.

NYSBDA Executive Board

2020–2021

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Summer Conference Preview

By Jackie Kovacs, *NYSBDA Third Vice President*



As we approach the end of the 2020-2021 school year many of us have experienced a school year like no other. It's time to take a deep breath and reflect. Despite the ever-changing protocols, hybrid teaching, remote teaching, quarantines and crashing internet, music has survived. It's now time to share these experiences and "Revive, Refresh and Renew" at the NYS Virtual Summer Music Conference on August 15-17, 2021 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. each evening. Once again, NYSBDA has a great slate of clinicians to share their knowledge. In addition, this summer will have a virtual Directors Band!

The conference will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 15th. NYSSMA is proud to welcome Lesley Moffat as this summer's keynote speaker. Ms. Moffat is a music educator, band director and author. NYSBDA will then kick things off clinics at 7:00 p.m. with Lindsey Williams & Aimee Backus- Teaching Flute Techniques: Tips, tricks, and tools you can use tomorrow. They will cover innovative and tried-and-true methods for starting the beginner flute player, address how to overcome common obstacles at all levels, and introduce advanced techniques. Be ready to learn about their favorite flute technique accessories and teaching tools!

The pandemic has altered our instruction to incorporate more access via technology for our students. At 7:40 p.m. Greg Brockway, a National Board Certified band director who has been teaching elementary band in the Utica City School District, will present Virtual and Flipped Instruction with the Practicing Musician. Greg has teamed with Practicing Musician to pilot a free teaching resource for music educators.

NYSBDA High School Honor Band Co-Chair, Bradley Hartman will help us with Maximizing Contact Time with Your Ensembles at 8:20 p.m. This session will provide participants with strategies to have an open mindset and get the most from their performing ensembles. Explore good practices that will help your ensemble, regardless of age or ability, grow.

Monday evening will start with our General Membership Meeting hosted by NYSBDA President, Michael Corrado at 6:00 p.m. Come to find out what NYSBDA has to offer and how you can become involved!

NYSBDA is excited to have Meghan Cabral, the Director of Music for the Carmel Central School District, sharing again this summer. Meghan reminds us, Do Sweat the Small Stuff- Beginning Band. Sometimes we have to focus and 'sweat' the small stuff when it comes to setting up beginners. This workshop will give you quick, easy, and immediate tricks you can take right back to your classroom!

Percussionist and educator, Jim Mola will teach us, "Hit It With A Stick" - An Introduction To Percussion Techniques For Non Percussionists" at 7:00 p.m. To make the "kids in the back" good band citizens, the director needs to take the time to enhance the student's understanding of those instruments and their place in the big picture.

Jeffrey Dunn and Dr. Lauren Rudzinkas will join forces again at 7:40 p.m. for What Worked? Innovative Pedagogical Practices Resulting from Distanced Learning. In their presentation, educators and arts administrators Dunn and Rudzinkas will discuss innovative pedagogical practices that emerged as a result of the pandemic, focusing on positive methods that will serve students well to retain once life returns to normal.

Summer Conference Preview

Continued

By Jackie Kovacs, *NYSBDA Third Vice President*

Monday evening will wrap-up with a clinic focused on the creative learning standard, in Band Together: Collaborative Composing with your Students presented at 8:20 p.m. by Kris Gilbert from Whitney Point Central School District. This session will focus on how to incorporate composition into the band rehearsal; without losing time, and having your students gain an invaluable experience. Through guided composition your students will be able to compose a complete work that they can then perform.

The final evening of the summer conference will continue to explore music creation and performance. Matthew Clauhs, Assistant Professor of Music Education at Ithaca College, will present Improvisation Warm-Ups for Wind Band starting at 6:00 p.m. This session will introduce a set of scaffolded warm-up activities that teach students to improvise with ease. Learn how to use these brief warm-ups and daily exercises in individual, small group, and ensemble settings. Each activity includes solfege patterns and increasingly complex chord progressions set to groove-based accompaniments. These exercises will help students of all experience levels learn to create their own original music for wind bands.

Daniel Fabricius, Binghamton University faculty member and conductor of the University Wind Ensemble, brings his experience in percussion pedagogy with Play It Like This - Coaching Drum Set Players at 6:45 p.m. In this clinic participants will see and hear a demonstration of the sounds that student drum set players should be able to perform at various stages of their musical development. Various "how to" advice will be given including practice methods, jazz chart reading, grooves, comping, soloing, and general musicianship.

The final session, on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. will feature Dr. Eric Laprade, Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at The College of New Jersey. Dr. Laprade brings us The Chorale Curriculum: using numbers to ignite our students' musicianship. Using scale-degree based chorales, this interactive clinic will explore methods, techniques, and ideas for developing listening skills, pitch sensitivity, audiation, tone, and technique in both the virtual and in-person teaching environment.

As is the case during a "normal" summer, a highlight of the summer will be the directors ensembles. Come check out the virtual directors ensemble performance at 8:30 p.m. during the NYSSMA closing session. The Virtual Directors Band will perform Shortcut Home by Dana Wilson. Registration for participation is at 2021 NYSBDA Directors Band. Links to the music, directions and click tracks can be found at Shortcut Home Information. All submissions are due by July 10, 2021 by 5 p.m.

With great optimism we will continue to learn from our past, plan our present and look ahead to the future. Mark your calendars now for August 15-17, 2021! Reach out to a colleague or invite a college undergraduate to join the fun. It will once again be a unique opportunity to learn from each other and connect with colleagues from throughout the state. For up to date information please check out the nysbda.org and nyssma.org websites.

NYSBDA Summer Directors Band
NYS Virtual Summer Music Conference 2021
August 15-17, 2021
Virtual- Performance Video- August 17th 8:30 p.m

This summer the NYSSMA Summer Conference is Virtual. You are invited to participate in the NYSBDA Virtual Directors Band!

Please follow this link to [NYSBDA Virtual Directors Band](#) information. Complete the registration google form with your information. IF you are planning on submitting more than one part, please enter in the secondary instrument line.

Parts are also available following the link above, as are directions for recording and submissions. Due date is July 10 by 5 p.m.

Percussion- no parts will be doubled, so please be specific with the part you wish to play. First come first served! I will be reaching out if additional parts need to be covered.

All participants are encouraged to be current NYSBDA members who are registered for the New York State Summer Music Conference.

Questions? Contact NYSBDA 3rd VP Jackie Kovacs at vp3@nysbda.org

Symposium 2021-Connecting While Apart

Andy Pease, NYSBDA First Vice President



So much was new about this year's Symposium, held from March 5-7, 2021. Most obviously, we convened over Zoom for the first time, with no in-person events. This was a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to rage and force us apart. But the Symposium still represented an important and cathartic coming-together for us. We spent a weekend engaged in presentations and discussion around topics of equity and inclusion and staying musical in this pandemic. We also got a taste of some of our colleagues' performance solutions amidst a sea of masks, bell-covers, and spacing requirements.

We began on Friday afternoon with Dr. Leah McGray from SUNY-Geneseo and Dr. Armand Hall from the ROCmusic Collaborative. They presented about "Diversity in Ensembles - Creating an Authentic Performance Context." Together, they laid out a framework for adopting authentic, culturally sensitive practices in any kind of ensemble situation. Miles DeCastro from the Crane School of

Music followed. He took advantage of the virtual environment by showing close-ups of several repairs that he would not have been able to demonstrate in a large ballroom presentation. In place of the usual Concert Hour, we introduced the new Pandemic Performance Showcase on Friday and Saturday evenings. Friday's Showcase highlighted the work of our K-12 educators and students, featuring groups from elementary through high school in a terrifically varied hour of music. They were:

Wolcott Street School Band, Matthew Nordhausen, director
Liverpool Band Department, various directors
Waterloo 7/8 Band, Vivian Becker, director
Eastridge High School Wind Ensemble, Jeff Hoffman, director
Garden City High School Jazz Ensemble, Daniel DellaMonica, director
Ithaca High School Jazz Band, Michael Treat, director
Westhill High School Band Program, Erin Tapia and Corey Riley, directors
Fayetteville-Manlius High School Concert Band, Jennifer Greene, director

Thank you to all of these directors and their students for their amazing performances!

Saturday morning began with a panel of NYSSMA's Adjudication Festival Committee members in band-related areas. Manual chair and moderator Kathryn Struzik brought the panel together, which included evaluation chair George Smith, jazz chair Kevin Bayen, brass chair Jon Kusche, woodwind chair Lori Hershenhart, percussion chair Daryle Redmond, and Director of Adjudicators Michael Robertson. Together, they answered questions and provided strategies to help our students have a successful adjudication experience. The morning continued as Frances Flancbaum and Jenna Stango presented "The Three R's in Rural Music Education: Recruiting, Retaining, and Running it Successfully." They emphasized creating a vibrant and positive band community centered around creating student success, and they supported this philosophy with examples from their own teaching. To cap the morning, we welcomed Dr. Cheldon Williams from West Virginia University, who also served as this year's Middle School Honor Band conductor. His presentation, "From Technique to Artistry: The Building Blocks and Beyond," used a construction metaphor as the basis for building an artistic approach to conducting.

Symposium 2021-Connecting While Apart

Continued

Andy Pease, NYSBDA First Vice President

On Saturday afternoon, we turned our attention squarely to equity and inclusion. This began with our Honors Jazz conductor, Steve Wilson, and his manager, Laura Hartmann, discussing how to set up successful guest artist residencies at any school. They made clear that guest artists always want to find affordable ways to work with students, and recommended joint bookings and sponsorships among several other ways to stretch a budget for an amazing guest artist experience. Following our general membership meeting, we welcomed Anthony McGill as our keynote speaker. He is the principal clarinetist of the New York Philharmonic, and the first African American to hold any principal position in that orchestra. In the summer of 2020, following the murder of George Floyd, McGill shared a very moving and personal performance of “America the Beautiful” to his Facebook page, featuring the hashtag #TakeTwoKnees. He invited others to respond, leading hundreds of musicians to follow suit. I had the privilege of interviewing him about this topic and others, including how he stayed musically engaged during the pandemic, his early education and career, and his encounters with systemic racism in classical music. With Anthony McGill’s remarks fresh in our minds, NYSBDA’s Equity and Inclusion Committee, led by Sarah Wolff, hosted a community discussion on topics in this vein. This included a brief look at Omar Williams’s interviews with underrepresented composers and an update on the committee’s initiative to include more pieces from diverse composers in the NYSSMA manual.

Saturday evening was all about performance. We first saw the Honor Band concert, so ably organized by our Honor Band chairs Omar Williams (Middle School), Austin Day (Jazz), and Jason Rottkamp and Bradley Hartman (High School). In a year when our Honor Bands could not gather in person, these chairs worked together with the conductors and teachers across the state to create a series of virtual experiences for the Honor Band students, culminating in this virtual concert. Each student submitted videos of their own performances, which were then combined for a virtual band performance. It was a stunning testament to the hard work and perseverance of our students, and the enduring appeal of music even as we cannot gather. This perseverance was further on display during our College and Community Performance Showcase, again featuring a variety of music presented in several different ways. The performers included:

SUNY Schenectady County Community College Wind Ensemble and Brass Ensemble, Allyson Keyser, director
Hartwick College Wind Ensemble, Andy Pease, director
Nazareth College Wind Symphony, Jared Chase, director
Catskill Valley Wind Ensemble, Scott Rabeler and Andy Pease, directors
Metropolitan Music Community, Jeff Ball, director

Thanks to all who participated!

On Sunday morning, we turned attention to ourselves as people and artists. Erin Tapia led an early morning session on “Band Director Health and Wellness in the Time of Pandemic Education (and Beyond)” that turned our focus inward, using yoga and meditation to help us find balance and meaning in our fraught lives. Many of our members ended up on the floor or covered in blankets, a first for the NYSBDA Symposium. Dr. Bradley Genevoro, our High School Honor Band conductor, followed with a conducting session that gave several strategies for identifying and developing the most effective gestures for any piece of music. The Symposium ended with our now-traditional Young Teachers’ Forum, allowing many of our newest members the chance to pick the brains of our more “distinguished” members from around the state. This latest crop of new teachers have all begun their careers in the most difficult of circumstances, but the Symposium allowed them a reflective, affirmative respite to have any and all questions answered as they continue to grow along with the rest of us.

Symposium 2021-Connecting While Apart

Continued

Andy Pease, NYSBDA First Vice President

The Symposium never would have happened this way without the support and expertise of so many people. First, NYSBDA treasurer Holly McCoy provided invaluable insights and organization to the virtual framework of the Symposium, and she hosted all of the Zoom sessions and managed registration and notification for all attendees. Together with Jackie Kovacs, NYSBDA's Third Vice President, she created a virtual Summer Conference, and the lessons learned there were indispensable to the success of the Symposium. Whenever a question arose about how some virtual aspect of the Symposium should work, Holly had the answer. Second, NYSBDA Second Vice President Corey Riley not only managed new memberships, he also compiled and edited together the videos for the Performance Showcases. Third, the Syracuse University Collegiate Chapter of NYSBDA provided chat monitors for several of our sessions, even as the demands of their semester churned on. In addition, the entire NYSBDA board stepped in to introduce sessions, serve as chat monitors, and contribute to the overall feeling of community at the Symposium. Among them, President Michael Cordaro and Executive Director Michael Struzik deserve special thanks for supporting without reservation all that went into this year's unique event.

Finally, I must give a big thank you to all of you, the NYSBDA membership, who attended any part of the Symposium, either live or after the fact. It is you who we serve most directly, and you who make NYSBDA what it is. It is my fervent hope that you will bring this sense of growth and community back to your students.

As we continue towards the end of this challenging year, I urge you to keep the 2022 NYSBDA Symposium in mind. If all goes well, we will be back in person! The plan is to convene at the Doubletree and Ramada Inn at Carrier Circle in Syracuse on March 4-6. The theme of the 2022 Symposium will be Rebuilding. I urge you also to consider presenting or performing with your students at this event. To apply, please see the Call for Proposals elsewhere in the Band Stand. Whether you are presenting, performing, or attending, I look forward to greeting you there in person.



Frances Flancbaum and Jenna Stango presented “The Three R’s in Rural Music Education: Recruiting, Retaining, and Running it Successfully.”

CALL FOR CLINICIANS AND PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

The New York State Band Directors Association (NYSBDA) is pleased to announce application procedures for participation in the annual NYSBDA Symposium in Syracuse, New York, from March 4-6, 2022. The theme of the 2022 Symposium is **Rebuilding**. If you are interested in presenting your own clinic or having your group present a performance clinic, on this topic or any other, please follow these application procedures:

I. Forward a letter of application by **Friday, October 1, 2021** to Dr. Andy Pease at vp1@nysbda.org. Please include the following information in your letter:

Individual Clinic:

1. Your name, home address, phone numbers and email.
2. Your clinic title and brief description.
3. Date and location of last clinic presentation, if applicable.

Ensemble Performance Clinic:

1. Your name, home address, phone numbers and email.
2. Your clinic title and brief description.
3. General information: Name of ensemble, number of players in the performing group, special honors the group has received, copies of recent programs, and any additional information you feel would be helpful in the selection process.

II. Sample Performance requirements for Ensemble Performance Clinic: Please submit two or three representative musical selections in digital format, preferably via web links (e.g. YouTube, SoundCloud, etc.). These may be from any time in the last 3 school years (2018-present).

III. Applicants should be aware of the following:

1. The selection process is entirely at the discretion of the NYSBDA board.
2. Each accepted individual or organization accepts clinic date & time, as well as length (typically 60 minutes) and format as prescribed by NYSBDA. NOTE: PERFORMING GROUPS MUST PRESENT A PERFORMANCE CLINIC AND NOT JUST A PERFORMANCE.
3. Each accepted applicant/organization is responsible for procuring their own transportation and meal arrangements. NYSBDA provides one night of hotel to each presenter (NOT ensembles).
4. All presenters are expected to be members of NAFME or one of its affiliates (e.g. NYSSMA or another state organization) at the time of presentation.

IV. Groups will be notified of acceptance by NYSBDA by October 15, 2021.

If you have any questions, please email: vp1@nysbda.org

Welcome to the Executive Board!

Kevin Bill- Region 3 Representative



Kevin Bill began teaching in 2008. Since 2011 he has taught in the Union-Endicott Central School District where he is currently the seventh and eighth grade band director as well as the teacher leader of the music department. Before moving to the middle school Mr. Bill was the Union-Endicott High School band director and the director of the Tiger's Pride Marching Band. Under his direction, the marching band received a state title at the New York State Field Band Conference Championships in 2014. Previous to his time at Union-Endicott Mr. Bill taught band for three years in the Elmira City School District at Ernie Davis Middle School. Mr. Bill received his Bachelor's Degree from The University of Massachusetts, Amherst in music education. He earned his Master's Degree in music education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. Mr. Bill is also an active musician in the area and is currently the principal trombonist of the Sothern Tier Concert Band as well as the rehearsal accompanist for the UEHS musical productions.

Nikki Redeker- Region 7 Representative



Nikki Redeker is finishing her 2nd year as the director of the Washingtonville High School Concert Band, Jazz Band, and teacher of woodwind lessons in Washingtonville, NY. She lives in Goshen with her husband, Jon, and kids, Logan (10), and Hannah (7). She attended Ithaca College where she completed both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education. She began her career as the director of the 6th grade band at Warwick Valley Middle School where she taught for 6 years before staying home with her children for the next 8 years and teaching private flute lessons. Nikki grew up in northern Indiana where she participated in the Penn High School Symphonic Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Symphonic Orchestra. She currently enjoys performing with the New York Wind Symphony.

Fun Ideas!



Jamie Scotto from Success Academy Harlem East tried out Sara Shikowitz's lesson plan found on the [NYSSMA Best Practices List](#). They asked students to type in the chat the number that represents how they feel. For more "How Are You? SEL daily activity" done by Sara Shikowitz (Halsey 157 Junior High School), check out this [link](#). There are many celebrities and emojis already created for you!



Reimagining large ensemble rehearsals with in person students and virtual students is challenging, especially to keep all parties interested. James Haertel, band director from Colonie Central High School in Albany NY, created a Dungeons and Dragons campaign to engage students while still working on skills. Students are assigned to a party member and have to play scales, band music, and answer music theory questions to complete missions.

If you have a great idea or have tried another idea and made it your own, send it to bandstandeditor@gmail.com!

NYSBDA Membership Application (2020-2021)

Please make all checks payable to: **New York State Band Director's Association** Please mail to:



Mrs. Holly McCoy, Treasurer
210 Park Street
Sherrill, NY 13461

Active Membership: \$85.00 (\$75 if paid by 10/15/2020)
Student Membership: \$10.00
Retired Membership: \$30.00
Donation, Commission Project: _____
Total Enclosed: _____

(Please note: All NYSBDA memberships run concurrently from September 1st through August 31st of each academic year.)

Name: _____
Home Address: _____
Home City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
School/Business: _____
School/Business Address: _____
School City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Office Phone: _____ School County: _____
Grade Level (if school): _____ Major instrument: _____

NYSBDA is always looking for ideas for upcoming conferences and area clinics.

Please share your thoughts and ideas below.

If you are a new member, please visit www.NYSBDA.org to create an online account by registering and selecting "pay by mail" as the method of payment.

If you are a returning member, please renew your account online and select "pay by mail" as the method of payment. Please make sure that your account information is up-to-date on the website, so we can keep in touch with you.

Contact our website editor, Corey Riley, with any questions (webeditor@nysbda.org)