



Dear Friends of Vermont Music Educators Association,

The Vermont Music Educators Association (VMEA) was organized and federated with the National Association for Music Educators (MENC) more than 70 years ago in 1946. Over the years, hundreds of volunteer music educators have dedicated countless hours to this association whose sole purpose is to support providing a comprehensive music education to all of Vermont's students. Every year, the leadership of the VMEA participates in the National Association for Music Education's (NAfME, the successor to the MENC) Advocacy Day in Washington DC, a day where they have the opportunity to meet with our state's Members of Congress and discuss how to best serve that goal.

Nationally and locally, everything we do is in support of the music students of Vermont. Annually, 1,000+ Vermont high school musicians audition for our All State Music Festival, one of the nation's oldest running honor events. Vermont music education is represented by several students in the NAfME sponsored All Eastern and the All National Honor Festivals each year. More than 500 Vermont music students participate in the New England Music Festival's Solo & Ensemble Festival each December with more than 100 of them being selected for that organization's Concert Festival in March. VMEA sponsors a variety of other performance opportunities within the state including music festivals in each of our five state music districts. Those events provide honor ensemble experiences for music students in grades 6 through 12. Support is also provided to the VMEA Band Festival, the Vermont All State Music Festival, and new this year, the VMEA 4th and 5th grade Choral Festival. Our VMEA board provides our annual professional development conference for all of Vermont's music educators, bringing in clinicians and speakers from across our region to assist our teachers with insight and new ideas in music curriculum, lesson planning, classroom management, instrumental and vocal ensemble techniques, and program selection.

You are also a part of our success! We as an association want to thank you for all YOU do to support your musical students, by coming to our many music concerts throughout our state, by contributing to the plethora of fundraising efforts, by providing your musician with an instrument or lessons or rides to rehearsal. As a patron in so many ways, you make it possible for our association to provide all of the support we can for your musician.

We hope that you will consider making a further financial donation, and look forward to seeing you at our many community musical offerings throughout Vermont!

Sincerely,
Heather Finlayson
VMEA President

Nicholas Stokes
VMEA President Elect



A non-profit 501(C)3 organization

VMEA Mission Statement

To ensure life long involvement in music, all Vermont students will receive a comprehensive and sequential music education of the highest quality.

Community: Collaborating with our family of associations, members, and partners to carry out our mission.

Stewardship: Empowering volunteerism and strategically developing leadership, fostering a spirit of accountability and a culture of giving of our time, talents, and resources.

Comprehensiveness: Uplifting the human spirit and providing opportunities for all students to create, perform, respond, and connect to all style of music.

Inclusion and Equity: Building strength and promoting diversity in a profession representing the wide spectrum of people and cultures, abilities, economic backgrounds, and gender identities.

Innovation: Enhancing music teaching and association program management through combining effective and dynamic new practices with proven strategies in the context of our changing global community.

Services

Advocacy: Inform, engage and activate the public, policymakers and educational leaders to promote and support music as an integral and core component of a comprehensive and balanced education accessible to all student.

- a. Develop and maintain comprehensive coalitions, strategic alliances, partnerships, and sponsorships to advance music education and the arts.
- b. Influence the legislative and regulatory environment to support music education and educators.
- c. Identify and strengthen strategic messages to support music education and educators.

Leading the Profession: Provide music educators and education leaders with engaging professional development opportunities and resources to support best practices and serve the needs of the students.

- a. Strengthen relationships with state and national music, arts, and other education organizations.
- b. Lead professional and personal development by providing dynamic and effective resources, materials, publications, and learning opportunities.
- c. Lead implementation of the voluntary National Standards, opportunity to learn standards, and related assessments.
- d. Build the capacity of future leaders in our profession.
- e. Foster activity in recruiting and retaining music teachers, maintaining the vitality of the profession.

Research: Promote and disseminate sound data to advance music teaching and learning and influence educational policy.

- a. Foster music education research by promoting the use of data collected as the result of the application of rigorous, systematic and objective procedures to obtain reliable and valid knowledge (as well as empirical data-gathering processes) policy AND teaching/learning.
- b. Create and support partnerships between researchers and practitioners to improve practice and expand knowledge.
- c. Share research and knowledge with internal and external audiences, presented in a way that is accessible to those audiences.

Capacity Building: Ensure data-driven fiscal practices and decision making to advance our association and the profession we serve.

- a. Build and maintain relationships and technological capacity that enable the Association and state MEA's, committees, and individual members to accomplish differentiated goals within a unified national structure.
- b. Increase membership in existing and new categories.
- c. Develop national and state leadership
- d. Ensure a fiscally sound association.
- e. Secure funding to conduct NAFME and Give A Note Foundation projects.
- f. Exemplify our mission, vision, and values in all programs and projects
- g. Empower societies, councils, committees, and members to achieve the Association's mission, vision and values.



Please include this form if you are mailing in your donation

Scholarships for young people to put towards music lessons, new instruments or college.

District Festival Expenses (for students in your music district-Please check which district for the VMEA Treasurer)

VMEA District information is available at: <http://vmea.org/districtInfo.php>

- District I-Northeast
- District II-Northwest
- District III-Champlain Valley
- District IV-Winooski Valley
- District V-Green Mountain
- District VI-Connecticut Valley

All State music scholarships (for students statewide).

Donations to VMEA for general use supporting music education in Vermont.

Use donation for what is needed most.

For donations over \$100.00, VMEA would like to give you a small gift

Please check all that apply below

I would like two tickets to one of the concerts at the All State Music Festival & The company name in the scholarship donor listing in the VMEA Journal & The VMEA website in the "Donor Hall of Fame" (\$100-one issue, \$500-full year and \$1000-two years).

I am including my email below for contact information.

Please notate which concert:

Scholarship Concert Thursday evening _____

Jazz Concert Friday evening _____

Concert/Chorus/Band/Orchestra Saturday _____

I would like two tickets to a district concert and a mention during the district concert/program.

District I _____ District II _____ District III _____ District IV _____ District V _____ District VI _____

No need for tickets, I just enjoy donating to a good cause.

If mailing a donation please mail to: **Gary Moreau, VMEA Treasurer, 39 Drury Drive, Essex Junction, VT 05452**

Name: _____ e-mail _____