

Dear Chapter President,

Below you will find the complete compilation of the 2008-2009 AOSA Chapter Annual Report Comments. Portions of this compilation provide the topics for dialogue during the breakout sessions during the upcoming Advisory Board Breakfast, Thursday, November 12, at the 2009 AOSA Professional Development Conference in Milwaukee. You may wish to bring a copy of this document as a reference but it is not mandatory. As members of the Advisory Board, I am looking forward to greeting you personally at the breakfast meeting.

The reports were initially read and compiled by the Regional Representatives. Next, the Regional Representatives sent this information to me. After studying the comments, trends, and concerns, from all six regions, I then sorted the comments into subcategories that you will find notated below. The number, if included, indicates how often a comment, or one similar, was cited. Please know that your chapter's input is highly valued and the AOSA National Board of Trustees uses this information to guide our work so that we may serve our membership to an even greater degree. If you are interested in the statistical data regarding membership, please visit the Chapter Presidents Room on the AOSA web site.

Sincerely,

**Karen K. Benson
AOSA Vice President**

Recruitment of New Chapter Members

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Personal invitation/Create sense of belonging (28)
Contact with lapsed members (1)
Local New Membership Recruiter (1)

ADVOCACY/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Scholarships for AOSA and local membership or levels courses (7)
Outreach to district administrators, local teachers, college students and professors (30)
Mentorship program for newer teachers (1)
Presentations to local levels courses (10)
Sponsor Clinician/participate at state music conference (5)

WORKSHOPS

Quality presenters (6)
Diverse workshop topics to attract a broader audience (2)
Prizes at workshops (2)
Instrumentarium for members only (1)
Free, "trial", or Reasonable workshop fees (4)
Passes/Discounts/Package deals to workshops or individual or district membership (32)
Joint Memberships/workshops (3)
Professional Development/Clock Hours/Licensure points (4)
Hosting the national conference or regional mini-conference (1)
Summer workshop

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Website, Facebook groups, links (20)
Newsletter through the mail (26)
Email contacts and reminders to members, local teachers, state music education association (36)
Advertisements/articles in district newsletters, newspapers, state journals (9)
Membership forms in all publications (1)
Provide workshop/membership packets/chapter reps district/local teachers (2)
AOSA Publications at workshops (2)
Vendors who advertise at reading clinics

Chapter Successes

CONNECTIONS TO AOSA

Chapter members having national membership in AOSA (1)
Chapter members involved at national level in AOSA (1)
First time national conference attendees (1)
Hosting AOSA Professional Development Conference (3)
Receiving our charter from AOSA (1)
Members with Teacher Education Course experience (1)
Performance at AOSA Professional Development Conference (1)

MEMBERSHIP

Increased membership (14)
Maintaining our membership levels (5)
Extended regional and state boundaries to gain new members (2)

LOCAL BOARD

Board work and planning (3)
New leadership on local board (1)
Response to workshop/chapter evaluations (1)
Updated chapter policies (1)
New events/activities (1)

SCHOLARSHIPS/FUNDRAISING/OUTREACH

Granted scholarships for Teacher Education Courses, Membership (8)
Summer Camp (3)
Elementary Honors Day (1)
Memorial Scholarship Funds (1)
Orff Festival (2)
Yard/Book sale (1)

FINANCIAL

Budget surplus, increase, or stability (3)
Additional State Arts Funding (1)

Workshops

Quality workshops and presenters (11)
Strong numbers at workshops (11)
Workshop evaluation form (2)
Joint or "New Presenter" or "Special Event" workshops (8)
Workshop location (3)
Resources available at workshop from music vendor (1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In-school professional development opportunity for members (1)

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Participation from college students (2)
College Credit (2)
Teacher Education Courses at local university (2)
Student MENC chapter collaboration (1)

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Chapter website (1)
Business cards for board members (1)
Electronic newsletter/membership lists/etc (7)
Email correspondence (1)

MISCELLANEOUS

Began local recorder ensemble (1)
Anniversary Celebration (2)

Chapter Challenges

MEMBERSHIP

Maintaining/Increasing membership despite economy (45)
Increasing number of AOSA members (8)

Increase of student and classroom teacher members (mixed blessing cited) (1)
Maintaining accurate records/collecting fees (2)

FINANCIAL

Budget Crisis in State, Layoffs (11)
Rising costs/financial issues (13)
Tax issue for international clinician (1)
Increase in workshop fees for nonmembers (1)

WORKSHOPS

Attendance at Workshops (7)
Workshop facility/scheduling issues (6)
Distance to workshops (3)
Lack of Cooperation with Local Music Organization (1)
Focus on local and upcoming national conference (1)

BOARD LEADERSHIP

Loss of Chapter President Mid-term (1)
Recruitment of members to leadership positions (7)
Board communication/collaboration/personal issues (5)
Completion of Annual Report (1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

School District Eliminated Required Professional Growth (1)
Education local administrators on importance of music education (1)
Increasing number of members taking AOSA Teacher Education Courses (1)

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Webmasters/website/updates (7)
Online payment (1)

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Local University Liaison and/or Instructor (2)
Low Attendance by University Students (5)
Outreach to colleges/schools (1)

MISCELLANEOUS

Hurricane (1)
Increasing attendance at summer camps (1)
Decrease support from local music vendors (1)

Chapter Goals

MEMBERSHIP

Increase or maintain local membership (48)

Increase membership in AOSA (5)
Increase member involvement (2)
Support members affected by job loss/budget cuts (2)

WORKSHOPS AND CHAPTER EVENTS

Quality workshops/locations(12)
Social/Sharing workshops and special events (10)
Increase Attendance at workshops (8)

ADVOCACY

Outreach to university students, local and regional teachers, diverse populations (7)
Create more effective workshop descriptions (1)
Cross-curricular connections (1)
Increased presence at state music conference, music education organizations (3)
Education local administrators on importance of music education (1)

FINANCIAL

Reduce/Increase Fees (2)
Increase financial sustainability (4)

BOARD LEADERSHIP

Foster New Leadership (11)
Accurate record keeping (1)
Update chapter by-laws/job descriptions/constitution (3)
Increase board communication (3)

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Website creation/improvements (7)
Paperless communication and workshop notes (3)
Facebook networking (1)
Increase advertising (1)
Local chapter brochure (1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Support and encourage completion of AOSA Teacher Education Courses (7)
Develop a Mentoring Program (4)
Libraries (2)
Increase Attendance at National Conference (7)
Weekend retreat/mini conference (3)

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Workshop Credit (1)
Collaborative relationship with university programs and instructors (6)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

New memorial scholarship fund (1)

Effective fundraising for scholarship fund (1)

Begin scholarship fund to attend AOSA Teacher Education Courses (1)

How Can AOSA Help?

MEMBERSHIP

Avoid raising membership dues

Provide additional incentives and benefits for national membership

Resources for increasing membership

Require national members to join a local chapter

Online payment for both local and national dues

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Continue the newsletters, journals, website, and communications

Resources such as presenter list, workshop calendars, templates, deadline reminders,

Keep website up-to-date, fast-to-load

Increase advocacy resources

Online lesson plans

Define "What is Orff Schulwerk?" on the AOSA homepage

Chapter website, podcast assistance

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continue Teacher Education courses and Professional Development conference

Continue to provide quality national conferences

Keep costs down

Incentive for first time attendees at conference

Promote additional AOSA Teacher Education courses

Correspondence thanking institutions offering AOSA Teacher Education courses

Recruiting local teachers to work at upcoming AOSA conference

WORKSHOPS AND CHAPTER EVENTS

Provide list of presenters/bios for use by local program chairs

Guidelines for presenter fees

Share happenings in other chapters – especially successes

Have a Regional Representative visit local workshops to provide a tangible link to AOSA

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Continue scholarships and grants

Make donations for Level One scholarships

Inform about grants/scholarships being offered in arts education

Scholarships to local board members to attend AOSA Professional Development Conference

Grant writing assistance

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS

Reach out to university music education coordinators
Continue building relationships with sister organizations
Complimentary newsletters and journals for college instructors/students

ANNUAL REPORT

Omit outstanding educator entry

FINANCIAL

Assistance with tax laws regarding international clinicians
Assistance and resources regarding fundraising/grants for smaller chapters

Website Management

Webmaster is a member who maintains the website (22)
Webmaster is a board member (18)
Webmaster is a volunteer non-member (4)
Webmaster is a paid non-member (4)
Webmaster is non-member, unspecified (3)
Website is hosted on a district server (2)
Website is currently not being managed on a regular basis (2)
Website does not exist (7)

Suggested AOSA Priorities

CONFERENCE

High quality national conference (8)
Keep conference affordable (4)
Increase conference attendance
More incentives to attend conference, special rates for first time attendees (2)
Continue dialogue about regional conventions yearly and national conventions every 3 years or so
Provide a list of presenters that have presented at National in the past 3 years, their location, topics of presentations, their publications and Orff training (2)
Encourage new clinicians
More Urban Education sessions

UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Establish relationships with university level instructors to encourage Orff training for undergrads in music education (6)

MEMBERSHIP

Recruit and retain national and local membership (19)
Help us stay upbeat
Find ways for new teachers to be involved
Provide ways for people to give more.

Keep members informed about benefits of the organization (4)

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Provide financial assistance and mentoring to small struggling/new chapters (4)

Helping chapters and members do more music with less funds

Facilitate international presenters (1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Update Teacher Education Course Guidelines and implementation

Continued/increased Teacher Education courses (7)

Continued Professional Development opportunities at Conference

Teacher Education courses offer one free level to a teacher serving low income population

ADVOCACY

National publicity on the importance of music education

Advocacy aimed at administrators (5)

Music assessment strategies and resources

Collaborate with other music organizations (2)

MEDIA/COMMUNICATIONS

Increase regular communication from NBT, Headquarters, etc. with members via email (8)

High quality publications (4)

Continue to use and improve communications using online abilities

Newsletter online

Online grant applications

More resources online such as lesson plans, templates, etc. (5)

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Continued availability of scholarships and grants (10)

FINANCIAL

Maintain fiscal stability (7)

Communicate IRS requirements regularly