



Mississippi Music Educators Association

A Federated State Association of NAfME: The National Association for Music Education
In Partnership with MDE: the Mississippi Department of Education
Collaborating with the Mississippi Chapter of the American Choral Directors
Association

September 8, 2024

Dear Administrator:

The mission of the Mississippi Music Educators Association (MMEA) is to promote excellence in music teaching and learning in schools and communities in the state of Mississippi. With federal legislation enumerating music as a part of a well-rounded education in the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), we are committed to providing professional development opportunities for our members that will help them grow as educators.

Annually, we host the MMEA/MSACDA State Conference in Hattiesburg. We encourage all of our members to be a part of this professional development experience and we join each member who desires to attend in requesting your approval and permission to attend the conference this **January 23-25, 2025 at the University of Southern Mississippi**.

Our conference provides members with professional development opportunities that include sessions, discussions, and networking with other music educators from all over Mississippi and the United States. Sessions are designed to help expand teaching techniques and offer new ideas and knowledge to better understand the Mississippi and National Standards for Music Education. This conference also provides teachers with the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) that are specific to their teaching subject.

We know how critical it is for teachers in single-area courses, like music, to have opportunities to develop in a Professional Learning Community. All too often our members are alone in their content area at their school. Supporting and/or providing the opportunity for your music teacher to grow in their ability to facilitate quality and innovative instruction to your music students underscores your commitment to their growth.

Registration fees are as follows: (Early) Active Members: \$125, (Early) Non-Members: \$205, (Late) Active Members: \$165, and (Late) Non-Members: \$220. Registration can be complete online at both of the websites listed below.

We thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to consider the approval of your staff member attending this outstanding professional development opportunity. We also hope that your approval will be joined with any resources available in assisting with the registration, lodging, or travel costs associated with attending this statewide professional development experience.

With much respect for all that you do and the support that you offer to your school music program!

Andy Beasley, MMEA President