

BETTER TOGETHER

mmea elementary newsletter

AUGUST 2026

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back to school! I hope that you had a restful summer and that you are recharged for the year ahead. I am so excited to begin my journey as MMEA Elementary Division President and cannot wait to serve you for the next two years. Please know that I am here to assist you in any way that I can. I encourage you to join NAFME/MMEA this year. I would love to see our elementary division membership increase! My theme for the next two years is "Better Together." Education changes every day and having NAFME and MMEA in our corner will hopefully allow music to continue in our schools for years to come. For more information on the benefits of being a NAFME/MMEA member, click on [this link](#).

Our spring workshop will be a teacher share workshop. We will rotate between a presenter and teacher share each year for spring workshop. Please consider presenting! We have amazing elementary teachers, and we need to share with each other!

A note about conference - you can create an invoice using the template at this [link](#) to give to your bookkeeper. There are instructions for how to use it via the link as well. Please make sure that all payments for conference are mailed to Joel Hill, our conference registrar, and that your information is with your check. If your district will not send the check to Joel, ask if you can be given the check to mail yourself.

Jennifer

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FREE RESOURCE

100 Instruments in 100 Days (free video library)

Mr. David is a music teacher in Durham, NC with a collection of about 250 instruments from band, orchestra, and cultures around the world. This summer he's playing 100 of them in 100 days and posting short, free video demos. Each video packs the instrument's history and sound into about a minute, and it's all made with elementary classrooms in mind. Kids especially love the unusual ones. There's no signup and nothing to buy. Watch on [Youtube](#) or visit <https://mrdavidmusic.com>. Music is for everyone!



HONOR CHOIR

The audition fee is \$15 per student. If the student is selected, the honor choir fee is **\$100** this year.

There is a new "how-to" video on the honor choir page on the MSMEA website. Click [here](#).

DATES TO KNOW

Aug 17-28: Opus Event Honor Choir Audition Window (You may register on [Opus Event](#) now!)

Sep 18: Honor Choir Results Posted

Nov. 16-18: [ACDA/MMEA Conference](#)

March 3-5: Spring Elementary Workshop (South, Central, North)

JOURNAL INFO

Have some ideas that you want to share, but you aren't comfortable presenting yet? Consider submitting an article for the MS Music Educator's Journal! The cutoff dates are October 15, January 15, and April 15. Click this [link](#) for the submission page.

MMEA MEMBERS VOTE

MMEA is hoping to reinstate the Orchestra Division soon. If you are an MMEA member, please click this [link](#) to vote on the matter. Thank you!

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NOVEMBER CONFERENCE HEADLINER



Anne Mileski is an early childhood and elementary general music educator based in Eastern Washington. She teaches undergraduate music education courses and supervises student teachers at the university level, while also teaching elementary and middle school music and choir. Anne is a doctoral candidate (ABD) in music education through Boston University, and holds master's degrees in music education and trumpet performance from Southern Methodist University, and a bachelor's degree in trumpet performance from the University of Michigan. Earlier in her career, she taught early childhood and elementary music across public and private settings in Texas, Indiana, and Washington, and served as an associate instructor at Indiana University.

A dedicated pedagogy enthusiast, Anne is certified in Kodály, Orff-Schulwerk, Smithsonian Folkways World Music Pedagogy, and Music Learning Theory Elementary General Level I, and has completed coursework in Dalcroze Eurhythmics. She has presented at the American Orff-Schulwerk Association and Organization of American Kodály Educators national conferences, regional and state music education conferences, local chapter workshops, and has served on faculty for Kodály teacher education programs in Maryland, Texas, Minnesota, and Washington. Her research interests include singing self-efficacy, self-determination theory, children's vocal development, and music and movement.

SESSION TITLES

1. **Sequencing Singing Games with Self Determination in Mind**
2. **Improvise Now! Speech Based Improvisation in the Elementary Music Room**
3. **Sequencing Musical Concepts: Play It Before You Name It**
4. **Putting It All Together: Creating Music Lessons that Flow**

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