



## Notes from WSMA

# Wyoming School Music Association

Vol 2 No 2

November 2011

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### Teacher Profile: Primary Teacher Becky Cornett

(this is a new feature...in upcoming months we will profile the entire music faculty. Profiles will also be posted on [www.wyomingmusic.org](http://www.wyomingmusic.org))

Becky Cornett is a general music teacher in the primary division, teaching kindergarten to third grade general music, and leading the fourth grade chorus. Becky graduated from Hanover College in 1990 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. Her first career was in banking for 15 years at USBank. Deciding to make a mid-life change, Becky chose to design her second career around her two passions - the joy of children and music, thus elementary education become her career path. Becky received her master degree in education and licensure in music K-12 from Xavier University in 2007. Becky devotes the majority of her teaching process to concepts she learned at the University of Kentucky where she completed level 1 and 2 of Orff Schulwerk teacher training. The Schulwerk is an approach to music education that focuses music education using activities that children love to do such as speaking rhythms, movement, instrument playing and games. The process evolves from imitation, exploration, improvisation and ending with composition. Becky enjoys the creativity of children and is always surprised by the beauty of her students work. Becky feels very fortunate to work in the Wyoming community where the families here value and support music education! (and we are lucky to have her)

### WSMA Plans for 2011-2012

Strings and Choir are planning a trip to Disney World, Florida, to make music (and have some fun) from February 16-20. WSMA will help support the trip by donating proceeds of its Chip Wheelie sales through the holiday concerts, in return for Strings and Choir parents doing the selling and organizing. Chip Wheelies have been our major fundraiser for the last 5 years and we are grateful to have support of

parents in this activity. Parents who want to have funds credited toward their child's travel fees are urged to contact Chip Wheelie chairs Gene and Marla Waldron to volunteer to work at fall and holiday concerts.

Save the date...electric violinist Mark Wood will return to Wyoming High School for a concert on February 3. Anyone who was lucky enough to see last year's concert will recall how he thoroughly engaged the students with his teaching and musical skills. More to come...

### News from the Music Teachers

**Primary** – The Fourth Grade Choir, made up of 13 skilled and enthusiastic members, has a big day scheduled for Thursday December 15. They will perform 4 concerts in one day, at the Tri County Mall, 2 nursing homes, and finally at the Cincinnati Museum center. Catch them if you can! They are led by Ms. Becky Cornett, who also recently attended a National Orff convention and came back with great ideas...see Becky's profile above to learn more.

**Band** is well underway at both the Middle and High schools, as all groups prepare for their first concerts. Many students have also recently auditioned for District 14 Honor Bands and (high school) Jazz Bands and are waiting for their results. The High School Marching Band had a great fall season and concluded the fall with their Halloween Show performance. The Thriller Dance was the highlight of the night! They were joined at the Thursday October 6 football game by the Middle School band. 7th and 8th graders performed the Fight Song and Star-Spangled Banner, as well as two Beatles selections at half-time.

**Strings** had a spooooky Halloween concert. Do you see anyone you know in this photo...???

The Wyoming PULSE Strings group performed at the recent Wyoming School Foundation Dinner during appetizer hour.

Students from WHS will be performing at the Southwest Regional Orchestra on November 19/20 at Mason High School. The participating students are Anna Guan, Stephen Yau, Julia Kane, Kayla Waldron, Olivia Richardson, and Adam Hoffman.



**Choir** also performed at Fall sporting events, singing the National Anthem at the Homecoming football game and at boys' soccer. Seven students participated in the South West Ohio District XIV High School Honor Choir: Alicia McMichael, Kristine Campbell, Clara Merten, Nell Wickstrom, David Dreier, Jalen Brant-Elder, and Andy Donnelly. The performance was held at Milford High School on November 11th, under the direction of Dr. Ray Wheeler. The Wyoming Glee Club participated in a World Choir Games promotion concert on October 1st. The singers are hard at work for upcoming outreach concerts and events.

### Join WSMA Now for the Year

Remember, over 1/3 of WSMA's revenues come from membership dues. The number of memberships has a direct bearing on what we are able to do for our music program and for our children.

Please join WSMA now and take care of it for the 2011-12 school year. The membership form is attached here, or even better: JOIN ONLINE!

Our website, [www.wyomingmusic.org](http://www.wyomingmusic.org), now gives you the opportunity to pay your membership using PayPal or your credit card. Nothing could be more convenient – log on and try it! While you're on the website check out our great gallery of student musical performer photos. Have some photos of your own you would like to see on there? Email them to our Webmaster, [penny.shore@gmail.com](mailto:penny.shore@gmail.com). Please include the names of the student(s) pictured, and the event and date where the photo was taken. Names will be used for WSMA information only – we will never publish your child's name online on our website.

### Board Volunteers Still Needed

The WSMA Board had its third meeting of 2011-12 in the High School Instrument room on Monday November 7. We are still looking for help on the board; please do not let it be a barrier if you are willing to help but are busy on Monday nights. We are happy to take report outs if you can't make the meeting.

The Parent Reps are intended to be a liaison with the teachers, attending the board meeting, helping to recruit and organize parent volunteers for our events. We also envision the Parent Reps helping teachers communicate with parents and providing news and information for our Communications chair to include in the newsletter. We already have two wonderful new Parent Reps, Mary Judge for Strings and Amy Elliott for Primary. Both Mary and Amy have attended Board meetings this year and provided valuable parent feedback. They are a great addition to our group. Band and Choir parents, please consider stepping up. These are new roles and we are excited about the possibilities!

Finally, there are still some interesting roles available! In particular, we need a Newsletter/ Communications chair to take over this Newsletter and also to manage our email list. This is a job that can be done on your own time, although it helps to attend the 5 board meetings per year to gather the news.

Please alert our teachers if you would like to help!

### Thanks to Jazz Night Donors and Volunteers

Many thanks to all of the donors and volunteers who made Jazz Night a great success. The event, including a Silent Auction, raised over \$2000 for WSMA. Our special thanks go to our big donors:

Noteworthy – our performing band donated its time and talents. Thanks to Alan Masters, Dave Cribble, Tom Kober, Jim Gallagher, Mike Wagner, and Carol Grady for their wonderful music and entertainment.

Will and Lisa Papa – underwrote rental of the Wyoming Golf Club for the event

Patty Hipsley (Half Day Café) – designed the menu, cooked all of the entrée (and a lot more), and donated all the ingredients.

To our volunteers, especially cooks (Karen Kent, Penny Shore, Nancy Connelly, Sheryl Rajbhandari, Ellen Kellogg, Laura Andersen) and student helpers (David Dreier, Francesca King, Anna D'Amico, Nick Woods, and Nora Brack) – your efforts were greatly appreciated.

### Progressive Ensemble Dinner – Saturday January 21

It's time for our seventh annual Progressive Ensemble Dinner! This year our signature WSMA event will be held on Saturday evening, January 21, in the Burns Avenue neighborhood near Worthington Avenue. The evening will begin and end at Ascension and Holy Trinity Church and the menu will have a French flavor. This year we will include Silent Auction items at the church so bring your checkbook! Our items include a Wyoming Boosters 2012-13 pass, 4 tickets to Bela Fleck at Miami U with dinner at Kona Bistro-Oxford, a musical necklace from Hug Jewelers, and many more!! But most important is the chance to hear some of our best young musicians in solo and small ensembles, in a comfortable setting with a small group of other interested music patrons. What a great way to warm up the winter. Please join us! See the attached flyer.

(as always we are looking for volunteers – especially cooks and dessert chefs. Cooks, the recipes and pans will be provided, we just need your willingness to help. Please contact Karen Kent, 821-2336).

### Upcoming Concerts – *Holiday Season is Here!!*

For our middle school groups, these are their first concerts of the year. Enjoy!

- Thursday November 17 – Grade 5-6 Band, Fay Auditorium, 7 PM
- Tuesday November 29 – Grade 7-8 Band, Fay Auditorium, 7 PM
- Thursday December 1 - Grade 5-6 Choir, Fay Auditorium, 7 PM
- Monday December 5 - Grade 7-8 Choir, Fay Auditorium, 7 PM
- Tuesday December 6 – High School Holiday Musical Showcase, Pendery Center, 7:30 PM
- Thursday December 8 – Grade 5-6 Strings, Pendery Center, 7 PM
- Tuesday December 13 - Grade 7-8 Strings, Pendery Center, 7 PM

Next Meeting – Monday January 9, 2012, 6:30 PM, High School Instrumental Room

All are invited and welcome!

# Wyoming School Music Association

Presents

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Progressive Dinner



**Fab Food designed by Half-Day Café**  
**Sensational Music by Wyoming Students**  
**NEW! SILENT AUCTION-bring your checks**  
**Saturday, January 21, 2012 – 6:30 pm**

***THE DETAILS: Always a Sell Out!!***

*Menu: Enjoy a four-course French-themed meal with wine pairings*

*Music: Accompaniment by Wyoming instrumental & choral students at every home*

*Meet: Go to Ascension & Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 334 Burns Avenue for registration & dinner assignments*

*Mingle: Visit four homes for meal courses, then gather for dessert & coffee*

*\*On-street parking is available; Host homes are all within easy walking distance*

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Respond by Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>** with this form and your check payable to WSMA for \$35 per person\*

**OR please use our secure PayPal Account: <http://wyomingmusic.org/?p=519>**

Name(s) attending \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: Laura Anderson, 102 Central Terrace, Wyoming OH 45215

Note that no tickets will be sent. To request confirmation, send an email with subject "WSMA Progressive Dinner" to [lauraa@cinci.rr.com](mailto:lauraa@cinci.rr.com), Email reservation inquiries are welcome but payment is required to hold your spot. Return email will be sent upon receipt of check.