

# THE FLORIDA BANDMASTER

(Bulletin of the Florida Bandmasters Association, Inc.)

89th Year, No. 3

Pembroke Pines, Florida

January 21, 2025

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*The 2025 FBA SUMMER CONFERENCE - The Summer Professional Development Conference will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton Orlando SeaWorld, July 8-11, 2025, and will have as our Keynote: Dr. Paula Crider. Some great clinics are planned and will also feature a Masterworks session with Dr. Crider (bring your instrument). More information will follow on the web site, and it's going to be great, AGAIN! Bring the family, enjoy the clinics and great fellowship, and get inspired for next school year! We will again have the Southern Winds with Doug Phillips, along with a concert by the highly successful Seven Star Honor Band to be conducted by Larry Clark (Excelcia Publishing) and the Nine Star Honor Band to be conducted by Mara Rose (Retired Life Member). In addition, look for information about the FBA Jazz Institute.*

## ATTENTION SENIOR HIGH DIRECTORS

### STATE S&E MPA 2025

State S&E North: March 17-18, 2025: Matanzas HS, Palm Coast  
State S&E Central: March 20-22, 2025: Lakewood Ranch HS, Bradenton  
State S&E South: March 24-25, 2025: American Heritage HS, Plantation  
State Auxiliary: March 27, 2025: Collier County Only at Palmetto Ridge HS  
State S&E Northwest: March 29, 2025: Leon HS, Tallahassee

### STATE BAND MPA 2025

State Band North: April 24-26, 2025: UF Phillips Center, Gainesville  
State Band Northwest: April 28-29, 2025: NW Florida State College, Niceville  
State Band Central: April 28-30, 2025: Riverview HS, Sarasota  
State Band South: May 1-3, 2025: Broward College, Broward County, Davie

Check the FBA Web Site under MPA/State Solo & Ensemble or State Band for further information. Please adhere to the assigned site as shown on the FBA website. Refer to the FBA Handbook, page 13, #7.b. if you find it necessary to attend a site outside your assigned Region. The Entry Instructions and Information is posted on the FBA website under "MPA" - "State Solo & Ensemble" or "State Band".

## OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

*Look for the State Bulletin which will be posted early February on the FBA website.  
Be sure to READ the State S&E Instructions posted on the FBA website.*

**GENERAL MEETING of the FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION  
Tampa Convention Center - Tampa - January 9, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President **Jeff Cayer**. Big THANK YOUs go out to everyone who helped with setting up the conference, and especially a big “thank you” to the All State Band Committee, Hannah Jennings, & Jeremy Williamson Co-Chairs, and Kristy Dell, Percussion Coordinator. Kudos to Nick Eggen for his work in the roll as FBA Conference Manager for the FMEA Conference. After the introduction of the FBA Officers, the attendees were asked to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of FBA members who have passed away during 2024.

Jennifer Brooke Wingate - January 11, 2024	Edmund J. Duhy - May 10, 2024
John “Jack” Post - September 18, 2024	Clifford “Paul” Steuart - September 22, 2024
Jared R. Benyola - September 25, 2024	Robert Carnochan (UM) - September 18, 2024

Attendance was recorded electronically and by sign-ins. 342 registered their attendance.

Minutes of the July 2024 Board and General Business meeting stands approved as posted on the FBA website.  
Minutes of the December 2024 Executive Board stands approved as posted on the FBA website.

**TREASURERS REPORT** - As of Jan. 1, 2024 (figures in () indicates report at the December 2023 Board Meeting)

FBA Operating Account (\$129,790.38)	\$117,564.29
FBA Commissioning Acct (\$33,408.44)	\$ 33,408.72
FBA Transfer Account (\$40,280.01)	\$ 27,855.34
FBA Severance Fund CD (\$50,239.08)	\$ 50,239.08
FBA Hall of Fame Fund CD (\$48,395.28)	\$ 48,395.28
FBA Emergency Fund Ck. (\$118,951.92)	\$118,951.92
FBA Reserve Investment Acct. (\$118,901.11)	\$118,901.11

**FBA Composition Contest Award** - The FBA Composition Contest winner was announced

Gabriel Nair from Timber Creek High School in Orlando. Band Director: Rhett Cox  
Katie Hoey, assistant director was present for this presentation.

Winning selection: Concert Band selection entitled “Hope Shows a Balm for All my Woes”  
Congratulations

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS & MEMBERS**

- a. Any Special Guests - All FBA Collegiate members present were asked to stand and be recognized.  
Shelby Chipman introduced the FMEA President Elect candidates.
- b. **All State Band Clinicians:** Doug Phillips (Symphonic Band), Kyle Prescott (Concert Band), Dan Wooten (HS Honor Band), Devan Moore (All State MS Band), Tamara Lewis (MS Honor Band), Terell Staford (HS Jazz Band), Mike Kamuf (MS Jazz Band), Kenneth Boyd (HS Honor Big Band)
- c. **All State Band Coordinators:** Michael Weintraub (11/12 Symphonic Band), Lee Commander (9/10 Concert Band), Pablo Elias-Rodriguez (High School Honor Band), David Morden (All State MS Band), Ashley Crosby (Middle School Honor Band), Rick Fowler (HS Jazz Band), Tim Ostrow (MS Jazz Band), Matt Flenner (HS Honor Big Band)
- d. **All State Committee Coordinators:** Hannah Jennings (All State Chair), Jeremy Williamson (All State Co-Chair), Kristy Dell (All State Percussion Coordinator)
- e. Recognize **Past-Presidents** in attendance: Richard Davenport, Jason Duckett, Bernie Hendricks, Neil Jenkins, Cathi Leibinger, Ian Schwindt
- f. Recognize **Hall of Fame** and **Roll of Distinction** Members present: Neil Jenkins, Jim Matthews, John Nista, Lee Ponder, Randy Sonntag, Eddie Steadman, Shelby Chipman (Roll of Distinction)
- g. Welcome all new/first year Active members to FBA - please stand
- h. All FBA members stand: 5 years plus remain standing. 10 years, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 etc. years remain standing  
**Chuck Buettel and Lee Ponder: 56 years of FBA Membership**

- i. Presentation of newly eligible **25-year Life Member Pins**: Jesse Bryant, Kimberly Evans, Scott LaBorde, Allen Lamp, Bill Muse, John Normandin, Philip Porter, Chris Shultz, David Triplett-Rosa, Melissa Westerman, John Wilkerson
- j. Presentation of **LINDA MANN FIVE-YEAR SUPERIOR AWARD**:  
 Amy Beres - Howard Bishop Middle School  
 Marianne Flannagan - Odyssey Middle School  
 Ronald Jules - New River Middle School  
 Christina Moffat - North Ft. Myers Academy For The Arts  
 Paul Morton - Driftwood Middle School  
 Darren Nolff - Mariner Middle School  
 Cory Simpson - Northside Christian School  
 David Triplett-Rosa - Barrington Middle School  
 Jeremy Williamson - Jackson Heights Middle School  
 Damon Willie - Howard Middle School Academy of Arts
- k. Presentation of **HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ FIVE-YEAR SUPERIOR AWARD**:  
 None
- l. Presentation of **MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ FIVE-YEAR SUPERIOR AWARD**:  
 Crystal Golinello - Southwest Middle School  
 Victoria Helton - Rowlett Middle Academy  
 Christina Nichols - Wellington Landings Middle School  
 Brittany Schofield - Howard Middle School  
 Allen Venezia - Clermont Middle School
- m. Presentation of **ANDREW J. CREW FIVE-YEAR SUPERIOR AWARD**:  
 Michael Antmann - Freedom High School  
 Maria Dix - Viera High School  
 Dominick Eggen - Viera High School  
 Cassidy Gleaton - Trinity Catholic High School  
 Colbert Howell - Vero Beach High School  
 Monica Leimer - DeLand High School  
 Brett Robinson - Barron Collier High School  
 Charles Watford - Dr. Phillips High School
- n. **TOM BISHOP** Plaque AWARD PRESENTATION: Rad J. Bolt (George Jenkins HS), Jeffrey Cayer (Marshall Middle Magnet School, Douglas Dobos (A. Crawford Mosley HS), Marissa Lopez (Forest Hill Community HS), Jordan Sawyer (Indian Ridge MS)
- o. **OLIVER HOBBS** Plaque AWARD PRESENTATION: Brett Dawson (Cypress Bay HS), Dominick Eggen (Viera HS), Bernard Hendricks (Ocoee HS), Kerry Waldo (Rock Lake MS)
- p. Recognition of recent Retirees: send to ED via email (See Good of the Association)

**9. RECOGNITION OF DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS**

Dist. 1 - Sean Dyke	Dist. 7 - Bruce Herrmann	Dist. 12 - Mindi Mulligan	Dist. 18 - Mark Dahlberg
Dist. 2 - John Harcus	Dist. 8 - Michael Clemente	Dist. 13 - Clint LaFlam	Dist. 19 - Brittany Schofield
Dist. 3 - Erin Whalley	Dist. 9 - Joe Sipiara	Dist. 14 - Lawrence Shane	Dist. 20 - Edgar Rubio
Dist. 4 - Amy Beres	Dist. 9 - Robert Thomas	Dist. 15 - Charles Mooror	Dist. 21 - Tina Larsen
Dist. 5 - William Luckett	Dist. 10 - Jennifer Zahn	Dist. 16 - Francisco Williams	Dist. 22 - Annabelle Robinson
Dist. 6 - Kerry Waldo	Dist. 11 - Chuck Evans	Dist. 17 - Paul Arnold	Dist. 23 - Scott Abbott

**10. RECOGNITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

- A. Adjudication Committee: Charlene Cannon
- B. AllState Bands Committee: Hannah Jennings
- C. Clinics Committee: Jeff Cayer
- D. Concert Music Committee: John Seth
- E. Ethics Committee: Tamara Lewis
- F. MPA Committee: Michael Antmann
- G. Finance Committee: Bernie Hendricks
- H. Past Presidents' Council: Bernie Hendricks
- I. Professional Resources Committee: Jay Watkins
- J. Sightreading Music Committee: Thomas Dougherty
- K. Solo & Ensemble Music Committee: Dayna Cole
- L. Benevolence Committee: Mara Rose
- M. Commissioning Committee: Erin Bodnar

N. Auxiliary: Chris Bonner

**11. RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. Awards Committee: John Nista          | I. Legacy Project: Tina Laferriere            |
| B. Classification Task Force: Dre Graham | J. Marching Band Task Force: Jody Dunn        |
| C. Composition Contest: Chandler Wilson  | K. Mentoring: Amber Hansen                    |
| D. FMEA Conf. Facilitator: Nick Eggen    | L. Retired Members: Jim Matthews              |
| E. Hall of Fame: Eddie Steadman          | M. Small Schools: Kelly Dorsey                |
| F. Health & Wellness: Dre Graham         | N. Strategic Planning: Cathi Leibinger        |
| G. Historian: Tim Groulx                 | O. Summer Conference Manager: Cathi Leibinger |
| H. Jazz Band: Rick Fowler                |   |

**12. HALL OF FAME REPORT - Eddie Steadman (found at the end of these minutes)**

**13. JR. HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTORS and HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S FORUM REPORTS**

Summary presented to membership

**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**There are NO MOTIONS requiring action by the Membership at this time.**

**15. NEW BUSINESS:** Any NEW proposals - in the form of written motions. (All motions must be in written form and presented to the Chair. These require a 2/3 majority for passage (more than twice as many voting for as against - abstentions are not considered). Indicate names of persons making motions and seconds. Action or changes to UNFINISHED BUSINESS will require a Motion to send back to the Board. **NONE**

**16. FBA President Elect election results and FBA Jr.HS/MS Representative election results: NA**

**17. GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**Recognition of FBA Partners:** see listing on the FBA website home page:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| All County Music - Fred Schiff         | J.W. Pepper Music - Amber Loper        |
| Lung Trainers - Bill Rose              | Music Mentor Network - Cathi Leibinger |
| Excelcia Music Publishing - Lary Clark | Lakeside Jazz Festival - David Martin  |

Special thanks to our Accounting Firm: Barefoot Accounting, PA - Jo Hagan

Special thanks to all Past District Chairs and Committee Chairs for your hard work serving the FBA membership.

**Special Performances:**

**FMEA Concert Hour:** New World School of the Arts Wind Ensemble - Brent Mounger

**Midwest Clinic:** Douglas Anderson SOTA Jazz Ensemble 1 - Don Zentz

**London New Year's Parade:** Sarasota Riverview High School Band - Tamara Lewis

Venice High School Band - David Wing

Miami Arts Studio Wind Ensemble - Erich Rivero & Steve Rivero

**Rose Bowl Parade:** Seminole High School Band - Gerard Madrinan

**National NBA Blue Ribbon Program of Excellence;** Sickles High School - Keith Griffis & Heather Lundahl

**John Philip Sousa Legion of Honor Laureate:** Kelly Dorsey - Union County High School

**Finalists for the 2025 Grammy Music Educator Award:** Bernie Hendricks (Ocoee High School)

Jennifer Jimenez (South Miami Sr. High School)

**Ellington Jazz Festival:** Osceola County School of the Arts Jazz Band - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, director Jason Anderson

**Teacher of the Year recognitions not reported in the December Minutes:**

- Crystal Bennett: Santa Rosa County  
Dominick Eggen: Viera High School  
Michelle McCarthy: Challenger K8  
Anthony Moore: Imagine School at Broward  
Melissa Westerman: SunRidge Middle School

**Commission Committee update - Tremon Kizer**

FBA Young Composer Competition: Under the age of 30 and grades 1,2,3. Winner earns \$1,500 and a possible performance at FMEA or FBA.

Clare Howard, composer of *Airs in Flux*, from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Christopher Artau, composer of *20*, from Hialeah Gardens, Florida.

**NBA recognitions - Tremon Kizer**

Citations of Excellence will be presented to all listed above under Special Performances.

**Music Mentor Network** awarded \$3750 in Adjunct/Accompanist grants.

Congratulations to:

Brittany Rath, Music Teacher; Freedom Elementary School (Debary, FL)

Emily Goode, Music Director; Belleview Middle School (Belleview, FL)

Mark Dahlberg, Music Educator; Diplomat Middle School (Cape Coral, FL)

Madison Ickes, Orchestra Director; Colonial High School (Orlando, FL)

Berman Lopez, Music Educator; Hialeah Gardens Middle School (Hialeah Gardens, FL)

Susan Bazin, Band Director; Key Largo Middle School (Key Largo, FL)

Jean-Marie Auguste, Director of Music; Fort Pierce Westwood Academy (Fort Pierce, FL)

**18. ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned by President Cayer at 8:38 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted: Neil E. Jenkins, FBA Executive Director**

*Neil E. Jenkins*

**Additional Reminders:**

**2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Dates: July 8-11, 2025 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld

The Nine Star High School Honor Band: Clinician/Conductor - Mara Rose

The Seven Star Middle School Honor Band: Clinician/Conductor - Larry Clark

The Southern Winds: Dr. Douglas Phillips, Director

Keynote: Dr. Paula Crider

**FBA Hall of Fame 2025:** November 15-16, 2025, Stetson University, DeLand

**FMEA CONFERENCE 2026:** January 14-17, 2026 - Tampa Convention Center

**FBA SUMMER CONFERENCE 2026:** July 7-10, 2026 - DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld

**FBA Hall of Fame 2026:** TBA, Stetson University, DeLand

**FMEA CONFERENCE 2027:** January 13-16, 2027 - Tampa Convention Center

The 2024 Hall of Fame Weekend was held on November 16-17, 2024, at Stetson University in DeLand. On Saturday night, we were all treated to a fantastic concert by the Southern Winds, under the direction of Dr. Douglas Phillips honoring the 2024 Roll of Distinction inductees, Dr. Josh Bula, FMEA Web Development and Director of Information Technology, and Don Snowden, retired Director of Bands and Chairman of the Music Department at Pensacola State College.

On Sunday, the Hall of Fame Concert was held featuring the outstanding Stetson University Symphonic Band under the direction of Dr. Chandler Wilson, Director of Bands at Stetson University, honoring the 2024 Hall of Fame inductees, Jim Matthews, retired Director of Bands at Jackson Middle School in Titusville and John Nista, retired Director of Bands at Ramblewood Middle School in Coral Springs.

Prior to the concert on Sunday, a banquet was held honoring all four of these inductees on the campus of Stetson University.

A tremendous thanks must go to Dr. Doug Phillips, Dr. Chandler Wilson, the entire music faculty and administration at Stetson University, and of course the wonderful musicians that make up both the Southern Winds and The Stetson University Symphonic Band.

If you haven't attended a Hall of Fame Weekend, then I encourage you to plan to get there in November 2025. It is more than an induction ceremony and two concerts. It's a celebration of all band directors in the state of Florida, past and present. When a band director in his or her sixties or seventies is standing on that stage flanked by their family, you can visualize the sense of commitment that all of us in this profession have made. The FBA is much more than an organization that simply assesses fees and runs MPA's. It's an organization that can and will help us grow as teachers and as individuals if we get involved and use the resources available. I encourage you to learn about the history of the FBA in this state. Watch Legacy videos on the FBA website. Learn about the lives of those who came before you and attend these concerts and activities.

As a reminder, any FBA member can submit nominations for consideration to the Hall of Fame or Roll of Distinction. Each year new inductees are selected by the Hall of Fame Board of Directors, which are living members of the FBA Hall of Fame. The dates for the 2025 Hall of Fame Weekend are November 15-16, at Stetson University.

Now, on behalf of the FBA Hall of Fame Board of Directors, I would like to announce the Roll of Distinction inductees for 2025. The first inductee is an FMEA Board Member, Chair of the Corporate and Academic Partners Committee as well as President and owner of All-County Music, Fred Schiff. The second Roll of Distinction inductee is Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Florida State University, Dr. Patrick Dunnigan.

The two inductees for the 2025 Hall of Fame are the retired Director of Bands at Naples High School, Melvin Maxwell and the retired Director of Bands at Chipley High School, Richard Davenport.

Congratulations to the 2025 inductees and we hope to see you in DeLand on November 15 & 16, 2025.