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CAAA News

CAAA Executive Director's Report

CAAA will be presenting two sessions at the virtual CMEA Conference. Both sessions are scheduled for Sunday, March 28th. A session entitled "**Get the Job! Interview Strategies for Music Education Positions**" will be presented from 10:00 -11:00 a.m. and another session "**Everything You Wanted to Know About Being an Arts Administrator**" will take place from 12:10 -1:10 p.m.

Thank you again to Holly Maxson and the Waterbury Public School arts teachers for their visitation presentation on February 11th and as always thank you to Andrea Haas for her continuous work on our website.

Rick attended the virtual NafME Music Program Leaders session on Recruiting and Retention Thursday, March 4th. The session was free

and open to NafME members.

Plan ahead for the virtual **CT Summer Arts Institute on July 5-8, 2021**. Registration details can be found on our website. The link is on p.3 of the newsletter.

Dee and Rick met with State Representative John Michael Parker on Tuesday, March 2nd to discuss options and strategies for legislating funds to support an Arts Education consultant in the state budget.

Cardona Confirmed as U.S. Secretary of Education

Brian Cyr, K-12 Fine Arts Coordinator, Meriden Public Schools

Miguel Cardona was officially approved as the U.S. Secretary of Education on Monday, March 1. Dr. Biden, the First Lady of the United States, and Dr. Cardona visited Meriden this week and were joined by Governor Lamont, Randi Weingarten (AFT President) and several state representatives. I had the honor of attending this

event as they visited classrooms, special education facilities and spoke to their priorities for public education and reopening of our schools.

I have worked with Dr. Cardona for many years in Meriden and know firsthand of his dedication to students and teachers and his incredible leadership abilities. Seeing Dr. Biden

and Dr. Cardona together on stage presented a very clear picture of public education as a strong priority to this administration, especially as COVID-19 reopening takes center stage across the United States. The event showcased a strong alliance between the Department of Education and the Office of the First Lady and a focus on K-12 public education in the months and years ahead.

CELEBRATE YOUR ADVOCATES!

We are excited about this year's Arts Advocacy event that will be held virtually on **Thursday, May 13th at 9:00 am**. This is an unprecedented year in arts education where school districts and arts programs are facing challenging times. We learned to partner and collaborate with others at even higher levels than we have in the past, and we have all been fortunate enough to receive the support of someone in our town, district or community who has assisted us in supporting our programs. Some school music programs may have received PPE or alternate scheduling models that kept their programs intact. Others may have received special accommodations or high levels of visibility in order to garner community and parental support.

To all of our incoming arts advocates we would like to say THANK YOU on May 13th! Please don't let this opportunity pass without nominating a worthy recipient of honor. As arts educators it is extremely important that we take the time to publicly recognize our advocates. **We hope to see you at this event and please remember that the deadline to submit names and return the event forms is Friday, April 23rd.** Complete the event form by clicking on this link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qVp9Vd8GqgQ2PwMzRinhDtBY8mHKFnkzfwA0SoBgyH4/edit?ts=603d0ab2#> Download and return the form (also attached) via email to:

Angela Griffin: agriffin@simsburyschools.net AND Shannon Gagne: sgagne@simsburyschools.net. Additional information will be sent at a later date and we hope to see you there!



ADDENDUM 7 REVISIONS

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has reviewed the latest research on aerosols in music classrooms and CDC Guidance to revise Connecticut guidance on operating K-12 music programs for students. Addendum 7 has been revised to reduce the minimum physical distance between instruments, including wind instruments with bell covers to 9x6 from a spacing of 12 feet or more. Superintendents have been notified. The change in recommendation can be found on page 2, bullet 2. Questions can be submitted to Chief Academic Officer Irene Parisi at Irene.Parisi@ct.gov.

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/Addendum7-COVID-19-Reopening-Considerations-for-Connecticut-K-12-Music-Programs.pdf>

CSDE NEWS

In recognition of Women's History month, the Governor's Council on Women and Girls: Subcommittee on Education and STEAM created the **Women and Girls in the Arts Facebook Gallery**. The Gallery is designed to showcase the extraordinary contributions of women and girls in the history and culture of Connecticut and the United States.

Each day in March, the Gallery will showcase a prominent local and/or national female visual artist, performer, author, or designer. The Gallery is also displaying artistic works submitted by Connecticut students, teachers, and residents. In celebration of Women's History Month, please consider incorporating the Gallery into your classroom experiences. Join at: Join the Gallery at [Facebook – @WomenandGirlsIntheArts](#), [Instagram – WomenandGirlsIntheArts](#), or [Twitter - @WomenGirlsArts](#).

Announcement of Acting Commissioner

<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/03-2021/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Appointment-of-Charlene-Russell-Tucker-as-Acting-Education-Commissioner>

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAAA ARTS ADVOCATES CELEBRATION

May 13, 2021

Our annual Arts Advocates Award Breakfast may be virtual or in-person! Nominations will open on April 1. Honor and thank your administrators, parents, teachers, and others for supporting you!

CAAA Summer Arts Institute

July 5-9, 2021

University of Hartford

Our annual arts institute will provide guidance, resources, and networking for arts curriculum development and innovative instruction.

Special sessions on SEL and Social Justice will be included this summer.

The Registration form is on the CAAA website. Two Graduate credits for this course are available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and REGISTRATION FORM:

<https://www.ctaaa.net/ctartsinstitute>



1st Annual Statewide CAS CT High School Virtual Talent Showcase

CAS Talent Show Promo Video

<https://youtu.be/Yzws6QyRIsQ>

Goal To create an opportunity for high school students to showcase their talents by participating in a virtual Talent Showcase.

Purpose To provide a safe and positive way for students and staff to safely stay connected with peers, promote a sense of community, and demonstrate school pride and healthy competition.

Intended Audience Open to high school students across the state. Participants will be able to create ways to promote their “appearances” and students and staff will be encouraged to provide support for participants representing their school/district.

Selection Process Participation requirements include being in good social standing and having positive content messaging. A school staff member must nominate the student and complete the Google form where they will be asked to submit a link to a maximum 2-minute video clip, student name, school, grade level and talent. The student and nominating staff member gives CAS-CIAC all rights to share the student video on CAS-CIAC websites and social media platforms.

Ten finalists will be selected and showcased in the live streaming event on 3/30/21. Of those ten, the top three will be determined by a five-judge panel along with audience input. A list will be posted on the CAS/CIAC website one week prior to the main event.

Submission Process– To nominate a student and provide a link to a video of their talent (2 minutes or less) **a school staff member must complete this Google form no later than 5pm on March 12, 2021.** The CAS-CIAC and Welcome 2 Reality committee will select the top 10 talents and an announcement will be made on March 23, 2021.



JOB OPENINGS

The Waterbury Symphony Orchestra is seeking a full-time EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. The Executive Director (ED) will have overall strategic and operational responsibility for Waterbury Symphony Orchestra's staff, programs, expansion, and execution of its mission. All candidates should have proven leadership, coaching, and relationship management experience. Must have an advanced degree MBA or MFAA with at least 5 years of senior management training experience, with a deep understanding of music and diverse exposure to various genres. Music training is strongly preferred. For a full job description, please visit

<https://www.waterburysymphony.org>

Full-time position open in New Milford for middle school general music. The class is offered virtually and asynchronously, although the teacher reports to the middle school daily to do the work. Students are in the 6th and 7th grade. Contact: Diana Beddows, Choral Director, Schaghticoke Middle School, 23 Hipp Road, New Milford, CT 06776

Find us on the Web
at: <http://ctaaa.net/>



MARCH CABA JOURNAL

See Brian Cyr's article "Curtain's Up" on Page 1 (also attached)!

https://issuu.com/cabepublications/docs/cabe.journal_march_2021ia

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CAAA Mission

"To assist those responsible for local arts education programs in their efforts to ensure that all students have access to quality education in all of the Arts."

To this end the purposes of CAAA are:

- To provide leadership to develop and support quality Arts education programs for all of Connecticut's students.
- To collaborate with national, state, and local organizations to achieve world-class state and national standards in arts education.
- To serve as a forum for communication and collaboration on arts education issues between leaders of K-12 programs, community arts organizations, state agencies, and higher education (including teacher preparation).
- To serve as a support network for sharing information, innovations, and strategies among school arts administrators.
- To provide professional growth opportunities for leaders of arts education programs.