

2010 Elementary Music Festival

April 23, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

I am very excited to announce our fifth annual AMEA Elementary Music Festival, which will be held on Friday, October 1 at the Wright Center at Samford University in Homewood. This Festival is designed to showcase our wonderful elementary programs and students throughout the state with a variety of vocal selections that include instruments and dance. We also want to provide our students with a great choral experience and a chance to meet some new friends. In addition, the Festival will raise awareness of music education in elementary schools across the state.



Our clinician, Cristi Miller is highly regarded across the United States as a master teacher, conductor and composer. After graduating from Oklahoma State University, she began her teaching career instructing grades 7-12. She eventually moved to the Putnam City School system in 1989 where she presently teaches at Ralph Downs Elementary. In 1992, Mrs. Miller was selected as the Putnam City Teacher of the Year and in 1998 received one of the four "Excellence in Education" awards given through the Putnam City Foundation. She has also been awarded several grants through this foundation to assist in various music education endeavors. Mrs. Miller recently received the Putnam City PTA Teacher of the Year and in 2009, she became a National Board Certified Teacher. Cristi has served as the Elementary Representative on the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association Board of Directors, as well as the Elementary Vice President for the Oklahoma Music Educators

Association. She currently serves as the President for this organization. Along with her teaching responsibilities, Cristi authors and co-authors a column for a national music magazine entitled "Music Express!" and was a contributing writer for the Macmillan McGraw-Hill music textbook series, "Spotlight on Music." In addition, she serves as the consulting editor for *Little Schoolhouse* book series, "Christopher Kazoo and Bongo Boo." Mrs. Miller is frequently in demand as a clinician and director across the United States and Canada with numerous choral pieces and books in publication through the Hal Leonard Corporation. She has also been the recipient of several ASCAP awards for her music. Cristi and her husband, Rick, live in Oklahoma City.

This one-day event will begin with a morning rehearsal from 9:00 – 12. After lunch, which will be provided, the afternoon rehearsal will be held from 1:00 – 3:00. The performance will begin promptly at 6:30.

Each school may bring up to 10 students, who should be equally divided amongst two parts. Selection of students by their music teacher should be based on the following criteria:

1. Students must be in 4th or 5th grade.
2. Students should demonstrate a high level of interest and participation in the local music program.
3. Students must be able to sing on pitch and follow a conductor.

4. Students must be willing to practice and memorize music before the Festival.
5. Students must exhibit self-discipline.

The cost of the festival is \$20 per student. This non-refundable cost includes a t-shirt for the performance, as well as lunch and a snack. Each school will receive a CD of the music for practice purposes. A piece with Orff accompaniment, commissioned for the Festival, will be sent at a later date. All other pieces are available for purchase from the festival list at J.W. Pepper. Below, you will find a listing of the performance pieces.

1. "The Star-Spangled Banner" – unison with piano accompaniment
2. "Que llueva" arranged by Cristi Cary Miller – two-part with piano accompaniment (J.W. Pepper 3302030)
3. "This Ol' Man" arranged by Greg Gilpin – two-part with piano accompaniment (J.W. Pepper 3130358)
4. "Hava Nashira" arranged by John Leavitt – three-part with piano, unpitched percussion, clarinet, and bass accompaniment (J.W. Pepper 10048652)
5. "Shoo My Love" arranged by Cristi Cary Miller – two-part with piano and unpitched percussion accompaniment (J.W. Pepper 3304259)
6. Unnamed commissioned piece (African folk song) arranged by Cristi Cary Miller – unison or two-part with instruments
7. "Children of Light" by Valerie Ann Webdell – two-part with piano and string quartet accompaniment (J.W. Pepper 9503286)
8. "We're All Children of the World" arranged by Jay Althouse – two-part with solos, piano accompaniment, and riser movement (J.W. Pepper 10047353)

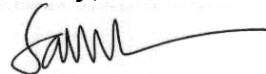
If you plan on recommending students for the Festival, please fill out the attached commitment form and return no later than **Friday, April 30**. Because this is an AMEA event, all music teachers must be members of the organization. Therefore, send a copy of your MENC membership card. If you need to join or renew your membership, visit our website – www.alabamamea.org. Please indicate on your form whether you are capable and willing to teach the instrument or dance parts. These parts will be assigned to schools once all commitment forms have been received.

Once your commitment form is received, I will send you a confirmation e-mail. Then, I will send a mailer with the CD, registration forms, part assignments, and other pieces we will be performing. This will be mailed before the end of the school year so that you can forward to participating students before the summer break. The students should practice over the summer.

Please make sure all contact information is correct. Most of our correspondence will be via e-mail. Your final registration information, along with your registration fees, will be due no later than **Friday, August 27**.

We are looking forward to this exciting event and hope that you and your students will participate! Further information can be found on our website at www.alabamamea.org. You can also contact me at sara@music.org.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sara Womack
Festival Director



COMMITMENT FORM

Due by Friday, April 30, 2010

School: _____

System: _____

School Address: _____

School Phone: _____ School Fax: _____

Music Director: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____ MENC Member Number: _____

How many students are you planning to bring to the festival? _____

Are you Orff-certified? (circle one) Yes No If yes, level completed: _____

Would you be willing to teach dance or instrument parts to your students in addition to the music? Schools that are assigned instrument parts will be responsible for bringing their own instruments.

Dance: Yes No

Instrument Parts: Yes No

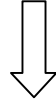
Return by mail, fax or e-mail to:

Sara Womack
1150 Alford Avenue
Hoover, AL 35226
Home Phone: (205) 979-6449
Cell Phone: (205) 317-5010
Fax: (205) 439-3201
E-Mail: sara@music.org

AMEA Elementary Music Festival

TIMELINE FOR PARTICIPATING TEACHERS

Return commitment form via mail, fax, or e-mail by **April 30, 2010**



Choose participating students and order music.



Once mailer is received, make copies of cd and additional music and distribute to students before the summer break.



Students practice music over the summer break.



Once school is back in session, replace participants, if needed, and conduct rehearsals for students. All music must be memorized.



Return registration form, including student names, shirt sizes, part assignments, and height, and registration fee by **August 27, 2010**.



Continue rehearsals with students.



THE FESTIVAL - October 1, 2010