

IAJE-WI Meeting
Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 30, 2003 - 8:00 a.m.
Menona Terrace, Madison, WI

Meeting called to order at 8:05 a.m.

I. Introduction of the New Executive Board

Steve Wiest: President, Brad Curran: President-elect, Sam Fettig: Vice President, Bill Denee: Treasurer, Lisa Lichter: Secretary, and Steve Sveum: Past President

II. Report from IAJE U.S. Representative Bob Baca

IAJE-WI board members will receive a list serve for better communication purposes. This will link states together and allow for idea sharing.

General members chat exists on the national IAJE webpage.

This year's convention is in New York.

III. Continuing Initiatives

A. IAJE-WI Website

- ❖ The webpage is an ongoing project that will constantly be changing.
- ❖ Please e-mail Steve Wiest with updates, and Bill Denee with Jazz Festival information.
- ❖ We are looking to add a new page to the webpage, which would contain information about local clinics, concerts, jazz happenings around Wisconsin. We need a name for it. Also, we will need help compiling information for this page. Someone suggested e-mailing events instead of use of the webpage.

B. IAJE-WI Resource Guides (for the WSMA Jazz Improvisation Lists)

- ❖ Wisconsin is the first and only state to have Improvisation on the solo/ensemble list.
- ❖ Steve Sveum is currently working on developing and compiling resource guides for the selections on the WSMA Jazz Improv list.
- ❖ A handout was available for those in attendance to view a sample of the resource guide. This guide may be found at:
<http://facstaff.uww.edu/wiests/iajewi/iajeWI%20Resource%20Page.htm#Resource%20Guide>
- ❖ These guides are created to assist directors in teaching their students, and for students to be able to research their selection
- ❖ We need help with these resource guides. Please pick a tune, and help out by writing a resource guide for the selection, using the sample format. **The deadline for this is December 1.**

C. Middle School Jazz Festival

D. Adjudicator and Clinician Resource (sign up sheets at the IAJE-WI Booth)

- ❖ One of the issues with the new WSMA Jazz Improvisation category is that sometimes judges are less than qualified for this category.
- ❖ IAJE-WI would like to be a part of the judges' training session
- ❖ We have a sign-up sheet at the IAJE-WI booth for those who would like to be WSMA judges for Jazz Improvisation.
- ❖ We also have a sign-up sheet for anyone who would be interested in serving as clinicians for jazz festivals.
- ❖ Although the event is not big enough that you could be hired strictly to judge the Jazz Improvisation category at this time, obviously all of us have a primary instrument that we would know enough about to judge also.
- ❖ Anyone not in attendance at the meeting who would be interested in judging or serving as a clinician can e-mail an IAJE-WI officer to be placed on our resource list.

E. Distinguished Service Award

- ❖ This award was started by Karen Johnson to honor the amazing jazz educators we have in this state.
- ❖ We hope to announce the recipient to all members in the next newsletter (before Christmas)

IV. Wisconsin Honors Program Proposal

- ❖ IAJE-WI would like to make sure that we get more musicians involved in the Honors Project. We want the absolute best our state has to offer.
- ❖ We are looking into combining WSMA and IAJE-WI together for the audition process.
- ❖ There will be no WSMA Honors Vocal Jazz Ensemble group next year.
- ❖ The proposed re-vamping of the jazz portion of the Honors Project would be modeled after the Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Illinois All-State groups.
 - ❖ We could select 3 regions of the state and hold jazz festivals there. Colleges in those areas would host the events, and the Jazz Directors would be in charge of the ensembles.
 - ❖ Students chosen for the State group would be the top musicians from each of the regions' top ensemble.
 - ❖ This has many advantages, including the fact that even those who do not make the State Jazz Ensemble would be receiving a good jazz education.
 - ❖ Comments from the Floor:
 - ❖ The talented kids are pulled in so many directions - they may not come be able to come to a jazz festival in order to audition.
 - ❖ This really wouldn't be that much extra time, since the students are already giving up a Saturday to audition, in the current Honors system.
 - ❖ This would have a great benefit for those who are not as talented, because it would pull up their ability level.
 - ❖ In the current system it is tough to get the best jazz musicians - there are those who are good at their instrument, and there are those who are good at improvisation

- ❖ The push to audition for the Honors Jazz Ensemble should be coming from the directors, and so should some financial aid.

V. IAJE-WI Newsletter Discussion

- ❖ Kurt Dietrich has retired from IAJE-WI Newsletter Production.
- ❖ IAJE-WI is considering preparing an online newsletter instead. **Advantages include:** no cost (saving \$190 per newsletter, with a normal year involving 4 newsletters), limitless article space, quick and timely announcements, links to other websites. **Disadvantages include:** if you don't have e-mail, you don't get a newsletter...
- ❖ A potential solution to the above disadvantage could be a smaller version of the newsletter in hard copy form could be mailed to those who so choose. Perhaps a students chapter could produce the smaller version based off of the e-mail version?
- ❖ **Thoughts from the floor:**
 - ❖ There would be so few people who don't have internet access, that it would be worth alienating a few people to save money
 - ❖ Phasing out the newsletter would be a good idea - sending a mailing that would call for people who still want a hard copy to contact us. (Putting the ball in their court)
 - ❖ When the newsletter is e-mailed out, put links in with little headlines, so that a person would not have to scroll down the entire page to read an article they were interested in.
 - ❖ **All present chose to phase out the hard copy newsletter through the option for everyone to choose a hard copy version if they need it.**

VI. Other Business From the Floor

- ❖ Ideas on how to get people more involved with IAJE:
 - ❖ 8:00 morning meeting is tough, particularly when up against other jazz sessions. Maybe a luncheon would work better?
 - ❖ Maybe make meeting as part of a session?
 - ❖ In the past, pins were given out for all members to wear.
 - ❖ IAJE journal is a good advertisement - we need to educate teachers about who we are and why we do things.
 - ❖ Spreading the word through the newsletter - we can forward to other directors.
 - ❖ Maybe run a membership drive - bring in a new member and their dues will be covered
 - ❖ Possible promotions with our meeting - "show up to the IAJE-WI meeting and get CDs from the college jazz ensembles"
 - ❖ Each jazz session at WMEA should have information about IAJE.
 - ❖ We need to be more visible
 - ❖ **Motion made to pursue making a session that would include our meeting for the next WMEA convention was made and seconded. Motion passed.**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.