

The Western New York Conference Day for Music Educators
Sponsored by the Erie County Music Educators Association and Erie 1 BOCES
January 24, 2024, at the Buffalo Convention Center

7:45 - 8:25 AM

Registration – Lobby

Coffee in the Exhibit Hall with *John Hasselback, Jr. and Friends*

Lisa Hasselback, piano; John Hasselback, trombone; Wayne Moose, bass; John Bacon, drums

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

“Finding Your Squad – Building Professional Communities”

Aaron Staebell – Hal Leonard Music Corporation - Room 103

Music teachers often feel like they have to go it alone. Maintaining a network of friends who you can count on, for both professional advice and an outlet for stress, can help ease loneliness and remind us that we are not alone. This clinic will provide ideas for developing, maintaining, and staying connected with your squad.

“Creating a Culture of Singing in the Elementary Music Classroom”

Heather Holden – Orchard Park Central – Room 101B

Come explore how we can build the singing skills and musicianship of our K-5 students by encouraging musical independence, providing growth opportunities, and creating a music room culture that supports students as they become confident and competent young singers.

“Timpani Tips for Music Educators”

Matthew Bassett – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra – Room 106

Timpani are an essential part of any band or orchestra. Yet they can be intimidating to student percussionists. In this session, Mr. Bassett will demonstrate strategies for introducing the instrument and developing technique. He will also provide practical tips about tuning, mallets, and maintenance.

“Junior High Choral ‘Roundtable’ Discussion & Presentation”

Heather Lovelace, Erin Ayer, Ann Mosner - ECMEA Choral Committee - Room 101C

Come and meet in the middle! Nobody knows the life of a Middle School Choir teacher like your fellow teachers in the trenches. Everyone has that little trick, tune, or game that hooks this wacky age group. Gather up your best warmups, go to, never-fail rep, and goofy games and share them in a junior high roundtable session led by your choral committee queens. We will help move the conversation along and collect materials as we go! EVERYONE has something to share!

“Band and Orchestra Recruitment and Retention”

John Hathaway – Kenmore-Tonawanda / Mt. St. Mary’s - retired - Room 102

In this session, Mr. Hathaway will explore various ways to #1 – Get more students into your program, and then #2 – How to keep those students IN your program!

9:30 – 10:00 AM – Coffee “Hour” (continued!)

Visit the Exhibits!

Exhibitors are an important component of our conference.

Plan to visit each of them with your DOOR PRIZE CARD!

10:00 – 11:00 AM

“Jazz for the Unindoctrinated”

Aaron Staebell – Hal Leonard Music Corporation - Room 103

Let's dig into the basics of teaching jazz. Nothing is too simple for this session, including key definitions, concepts, and recommendations to help ANYONE be successful when teaching jazz! Move beyond your fear of the unknown and enter the fun & rewarding world of jazz.

“Teaching Improvisation in the Elementary Music Classroom”

Julie Furlong – Amherst Central – 101B

In this session, we will explore activities for the elementary general music classroom and choral ensembles that foster improvisational skills vocally, rhythmically and on classroom instruments.

“Listen, Move, Sing: Creating Exceptional Lessons for Exceptional Students”

Kathleen Bassett – Buffalo Girlchoir and BPO Teaching Artist – Room 101C

In this session, Kathleen will lead participants through an adaptive music lesson and provide resources and ideas for creating your own exceptional curriculum for students with a wide range of abilities.

“Instrument Emergence Repair Clinic”

David Wozniak – Wozniak Music – Room 104

In this session we will learn a myriad of things related to instrument repair and maintenance: The role of the teacher in instrument repair and maintenance; teaching students to handle their instruments correctly; maintaining school instruments; basic supplies; assessing instruments; basic repairs: ones EVERYONE should know; more involved repairs; more adventurous repairs; how can I learn more about repair?; where can I get supplies and tools?

“The Musicians' Union and YOU!”

Jim Pace, President – Buffalo Musicians' Association – Local 92 – Room 102

At this session, current Local 92 (Buffalo Musicians' Union) president and retired music teacher Jim Pace will discuss what the "union" is, its history, and its relevance to music educators who wish to perform professionally on their own. Also discussed will be how the union can help music teachers when they are pressured to provide "entertainment" by student groups at venues outside of school, i.e. shopping malls or school board cocktail receptions. Jim brings a unique perspective to this topic by having been a public-school music teacher (high school orchestra/department chair) for 30 years as well as an active musicians' union member for close to 50 years.

**11:15 AM Keynote Address
Room 106**

“The State of Our Art – Problems and Possibilities”

Jo Ann Falletta – Music Director, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra

12:15 PM Lunch Hour

with music by “The Jim Beishline Quartet”

Jim Beishline - piano, Janice Mitchell - vocals, Marc Cousins - bass, John Bacon, Jr. - drums

Luncheon Entertainment Compliments of the

Buffalo Musicians' Association Local No. 92, American Federation of Musicians

James Pace, President

*Fredonia College Choir – S.U.N.Y Fredonia School of Music
Dr. Adam Luebke – Conductor*

*Clarence Wind Ensemble - Clarence High School
Louis Vitello - Conductor*

2:15 – 3:15 PM

“Incorporating Chamber Music Into Your Curriculum”

Louis Vitello – Clarence Central – Room 106

Chamber Music is often overlooked as a part of a well-rounded ensemble program. This presentation will feature performances of five Clarence High School chamber ensembles where the members are drawn from the Clarence Wind Ensemble. Benefits of chamber music program will be discussed along with ideas for implementation.

“Advanced Choral Techniques Session”

Dr. Adam Luebke – S.U.N.Y. Fredonia School of Music – Room 101C

“Teach me something NEW Today!”

Deborah Zehler – Sweet Home Central – Room 101B

“Start with a greeting song. Everyone can play along! Play Recorder 1-2-3. We will start with B-A-G. Lines and Spaces, come what may...Sing and Say, Move and play, Everybody shout "Hooray! Teach Me Something New Today!"

“Advice and Care for Raising Beautiful Oboists”

Anna Mattix – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra – Room 102

In this session, Buffalo Philharmonic Oboist, Anna Mattix, will present various tips and techniques for helping shape school Oboists into great musicians!

“All Things Violin!”

Amy Glidden – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra - 103

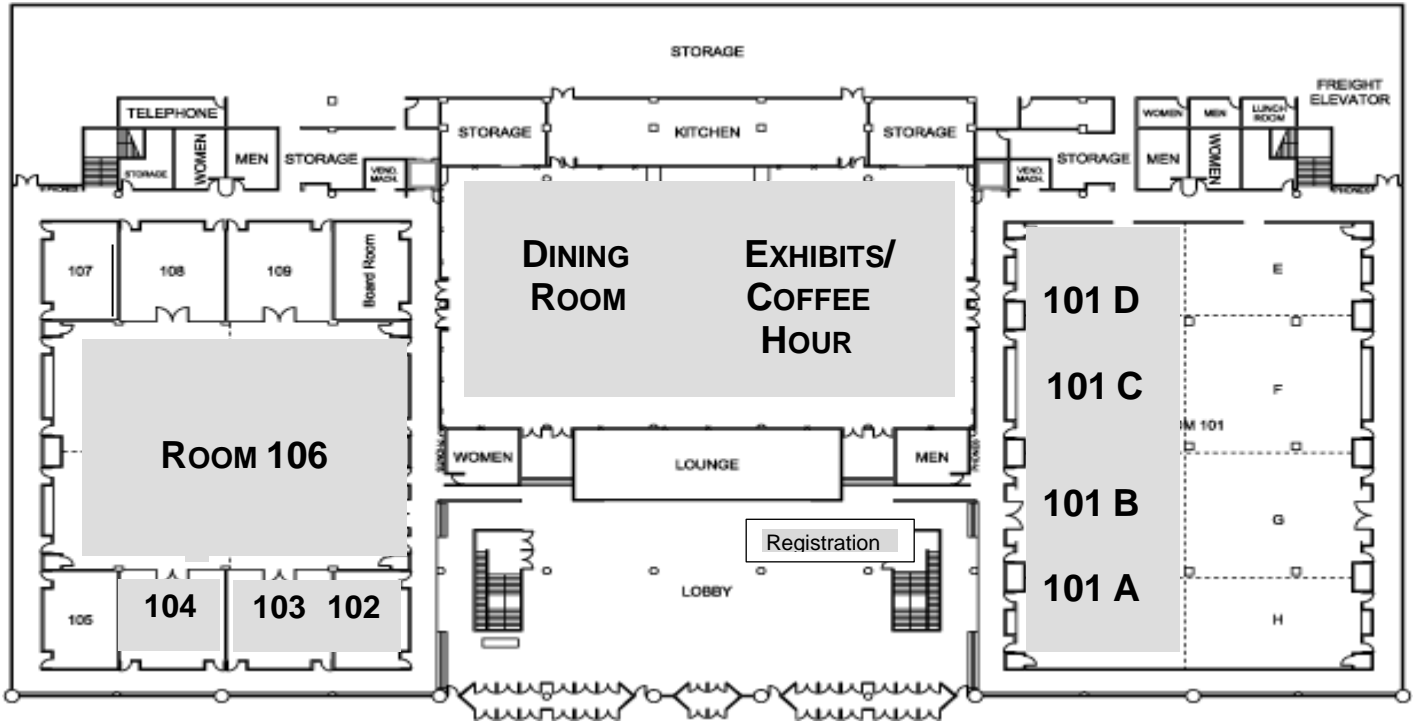
Buffalo Philharmonic Associate Concertmaster Amy Glidden talks about “all things violin,” including tips for beginners, development of intermediate and advanced techniques, repertoire choice, developing practicing skills, and fostering inspiration. Come prepared with all of your string instrument questions!

"Class Guitar Resources for All Educators”

Sungmin Shin – University at Buffalo – Room 101A

This session will share a wide range of up-to-date resources for teaching guitar in the classroom for all music educators. Whether you are looking to start a guitar program or boost an existing one, we will explore guitar resources and happenings on the regional and national music education scene.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Hal Leonard Music Corporation, Inc.
Our Wonderful Exhibitors
Heather Lovelace & Paul Siekierski Technology Consultants
The ECMEA Executive Board and Advisors
Christie Walker and the staff of the Buffalo Convention Center



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE
2024 WNY CONFERENCE DAY FOR MUSIC EDUCATORS
PLEASE COMPLETE A CONFERENCE EVALUATION FORM
TO ASSIST US IN PLANNING FUTURE CONFERENCES