



The purpose of Music EdVentures is to search for and practice ways of making music and interacting with people that preserve and celebrate the dignity of both. As a guiding principle, this purpose will focus our work on:

1. Practices that foster interactive, facilitative learning environments.
2. Strategies that empower the learner within the context of music experience and study.
3. Networks that encourage collaboration between diverse disciplines, professionals, and interest groups.

**Are you interested in hosting a workshop or class in your area? Send requests to the email address shown above, to be routed to the appropriate presenters/coordinators.**

**Officers:**

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## *News and Notes*

*August 2009*

### **From Our President** Deb Eikenbary, Indiana

August is here! “Back to School “ sales are in full sale, and now is the time we all gear up for another year of school.

One of my educational experiences this summer took place on a riding lawn mower- yes, a lawn mower! Our old riding mower had finally succumbed to long hours of service. The replacement was one of the lever-controlled models – no old fashioned steering wheel for us! (Can’t you imagine the grin on my husband’s face??) As I sat down the first time to learn to drive this implement I realized it was a whole new world. Information was being generously shared with me about engines and steering ratios and more. I suddenly realized I just couldn’t process all that at once and that, quite frankly, what I **needed** to know was in what order to release the brake, turn the key and fold in the handles which would become my method of steering. You see where I’m going here, don’t you? Do I do that to my students? In my desire to be helpful do I flood them with too much information that isn’t what they need to deal with what they immediately need or are able to process? I leave the answers to you, dear friends. I feel it is a question worthy of consideration. How do we observe our students and see just what it is they need at the moment in order to progress in their learning.

I’m off to squeeze what I can out of the few fleeting days that remain before the first teacher’s meetings, open house, and “how was your summer “ conversations. Enjoy your days and all the best to you as you prepare to return to your students.

I am beginning to hear that plans are shaping up for the next conference. Please consider attending. Marilyn Winter and her committee have been making plans for a wonderful experience for us all.

-Deb

*News and Notes* is the monthly communication of Music EdVentures, Inc. (MEI). Regular features will keep members and friends up to date on coming events and the latest teaching techniques, tips and strategies. Submissions are due on the 15th of the month prior to publication and may be submitted months in advance, indicating the month in which they are to be published. The committee reserves the right to select material to be published according to length and appropriateness. Articles should be 200-325 words. Visuals should be scanned and submitted as PDF or jpeg files. Submissions may be sent to [PamBridgehouse@hughes.net](mailto:PamBridgehouse@hughes.net) and may be edited to accommodate space limitations.

**Is your membership up to date?** Regular - \$35   Sustaining - \$50   Patron - \$100   Student - \$10

Send check payable to MEI (US funds) to: Paige Macklin

Please include your name, address, phone and email address.

23021 Woodland Rd.

Lakeville, MN 55044

## ***Plan now to attend Conference 2010***

***March 5 & 6 in Portland, Oregon  
(Update for returning members on March 4)***

Connections Between Educational Philosophies with Dr. Peggy Bennett  
Healthy Voices with Dr. Anna Langness  
Potpourri of Puzzles for Reading  
Four Faces of a Song  
Dancing, Song Games, and Singing in the Education of Children  
plus  
Teaching English with Music by our friends from Japan

### **Philosophy, History, Tradition: The Why, What, and How of MEI**

Featuring wisdom, and history that are foundational to MEI

Visit some of the links on the web page to find out more  
about the philosophy, history and tradition  
of excellent teaching by MEI educators.

Watch this space for future contributions from our founders and mentors.