

Volume 8, Number 3

# ON THE UPBEAT

Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators' Council

<http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us>

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**Good News from the HCEMEC**

Hillsborough County Public Schools

901 E. Kennedy Blvd.  
PO Box 3408  
Tampa, FL 33601-3408  
School Mail Route #7

## Elementary Multicultural Music Festival

The 9th Annual Elementary Multicultural Music Festival was held on January 20, 2017 at Philip Shore Elementary Magnet School for the Arts. The festival included performances from 9 different school with 240 students performing!



Philip Shore Chamber Orchestra



Dunbar Beats And Orff Jammers



Bevis Broncos Orff Ensembles



Seminole Heights Soaring Eagles Band

**Elementary Music Ensembles participating in the 2017 Multicultural Festival:**

Philip Shore Chamber Orchestra  
Dunbar Beats and Orff Jammers  
Kimbell Paw Crushin' Orff and Drums  
Roland Park Dragons with Mallets  
Bevis Broncos Orff Ensembles  
Sessums Stallion Thunder  
Springhead Pioneer Band  
Ippolito Otter Band  
Seminole Heights Soaring Eagles Band



Kimbell Paw Crushin' Orff and Drums



Roland Park Dragons with Mallets

♪ Carol Baccoli, Lopez Elementary,  
Rebaeeca Traenkner, Shore Elementary,  
Music Heritage Co-Chairs

# 2017 FMEA Professional Development Conference

## Diversity in Music Education - Music For All!

### HCPS students shine at Florida Music Education Association Conference

More than 10,000 attendees, including music educators, school administrators, K-12 students performing in the All-State ensembles, college students, and professional musicians converged on Tampa in January for the 2017. The Florida Music Educator's Professional Development Conference is one of the largest music education professional development events in the United States.

This year's conference theme, "Diversity in Music Education, Music for All!", was celebrated in approximately 250 clinic sessions and concerts, including the All-State Bands, Orchestras, and Chorus. Brian Dell, the band director at H.B. Plant High School, said, "I am so proud of Hillsborough County Public Schools for our representation this year at FMEA. I have been teaching in Hillsborough County for 13 years and this year is by far the most students selected to the audition bands. This is a result of the effort of the directors, students, and their parents. Congrats to all of you!"

Dell was the coordinator for the All-State Symphonic Band. High School juniors and seniors statewide auditioned for this band and the best of the best were selected. The band members rehearsed for more than 18 hours over three days under the tutelage of Dr. William K. Wakefield, the professor of music, director of bands and coordinator of instrumental ensembles at the University Of Oklahoma School Of Music before a Saturday afternoon concert at the Tampa Convention Center.

Student musicians from all areas including chorus, orchestra, jazz band and guitar followed similar protocols including a chorus of elementary school students. Several ensembles from Hillsborough County were invited to perform demonstrations during music clinics including Dell's Wind Ensemble from Plant High School and Gaither High School's Jazz Band.

Individual educators as well as schools themselves received awards and recognition from the state for their support and excellence in music education. Anita Travaglino, a music teacher at Maniscalco Elementary School, received the FMEA Elementary Music Educator of the Year award. Seven Hillsborough County schools received awards for the percentage of students enrolled in a music education class including: Walker Middle Magnet, Progress Village Middle Magnet, Benito Middle, Burns Middle, Williams Middle Magnet, Davidsen Middle and Martinez Middle Schools.

*Ray Padgett, Hillsborough County Schools Communications Manager*



*Rosalie Lathers & Rachel Murphy,  
Pizzo Elementary, presenting at the  
FMEA Curriculum Fair*

*Ernesta Chicklowski, Roosevelt Elementary,  
presenting at the FMEA Curriculum Fair*



*Christine Jackson,  
Dunbar Elementary Magnet,  
presenting at the FMEA Curriculum Fair*



# 2017 FMEA Professional Development Conference

## Anita Travaglino: 2017 FMEA Elementary Music Teacher of the Year

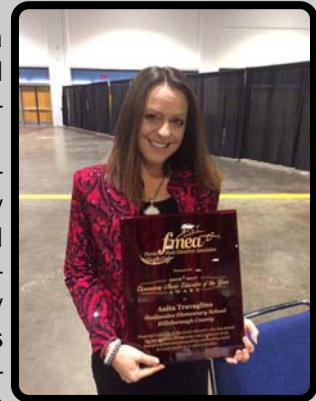
The FMEA Music Educator of the Year designation is awarded to the music educator who has served his/her students, community and profession in an exemplary manner. This award recognizes outstanding merit in music teaching. The recipient must have demonstrated notable achievement as a music education professional for 10 or more years.

Congratulations to 2017 Elementary Music Educator of the Year Anita Travaglino from Maniscalco Elementary School in Hillsborough County; nominated by Betty Trascritti on behalf of the Florida Elementary Music Educators Association.

A national board certified music teacher, Anita Travaglino began her career in 1995 in Florida. Currently the music teacher at Maniscalco Elementary School in Lutz, Mrs. Travaglino holds the BS degree in music education from Ball State University. During her career she has built strong programs of musical excellence in vocal and instrumental music that have served as a model for her county and our state. Her handbell choirs have performed at the FMEA conference as well as at dozens of locations throughout the local community, bringing joy to everyone they encounter. She has consistently had students selected to perform in the FMEA All-State Elementary Chorus and guides her own students to be budding composers in the Hillsborough County Young Songwriters Symposium. Anita has been selected to conduct multiple times for all-county chorus and honors handbell ensembles.

Passionate about providing a "high quality music education for all," Anita served as the executive director for the Florida Elementary Music Educators for 14 years. During her tenure, she played a critical role in developing the online adjudication training and scoring process for the All-State Elementary Chorus. She also played an integral part in the development of numerous important projects such as the Janice Lancaster Professional Development Scholarship, the All-State Orff Ensemble and FEMEA summer conferences, and finding ways to provide more money to schools through FEMEA grants. In 2002, Anita was named the Teacher of the Year at Cannella Elementary School and went on to be recognized as a finalist for Hillsborough County Teacher of the Year.

*Reprinted from the FMEA Professional Development Conference Guide*



*Hillsborough County Schools' FMEA All-State Elementary Orff Ensemble and All-State Elementary Chorus Participants*

# 2017 FMEA Professional Development Conference

## Getting Beyond the Accommodations

In this session, I learned how to communicate and embrace a child's disability rather than ignore it or "tip-toe" around it. As a music teacher, I always try to do whatever I can to make sure a student can be successful in the strings class. After listening to this session, I learned, and realized that I can let the students make the decisions of how they need to be successful, rather than just meeting 504 plans. Asking students about their disability is showing interest in them and getting to know them. This is also helpful so that you are not taking an entire school year to "figure out" that student. Just last week, I had a student come in with a broken arm. I wasn't sure if he was going to play and I didn't say anything to him. By letting him make the choice on his own, he got out his violin and started playing. I told him how awesome it was that he made that choice and how proud of him I was. I think that made his day and he was happy his short-term disability didn't stop him in at least one of his classes.

♪ Brandi Beauchaine, Riverhills Elementary

This session gave several new, fresh ideas for teaching concepts that many of us have been teaching for years.

**First, We Sing! Songs and Games for the Music Classroom**  
*First, We Sing!* the book uses folk songs such as *Circle 'Round the Zero*, *Ida Red*, *Porquoi*, and *Dry Bones*. All activities in this session used easily made items such as a book made from a paper lunch bag, and other manipulatives attached to painter sticks. This session allowed participants to create the movement, which is a great activity for the classroom students.

If you have struggled with passing circle games and activities, the presenter gave solutions for avoiding the difficulties that usually occur when just jumping into an activity like a circle game. After attending this session I look forward to employing a circle passing game in my classroom and approaching it in a different way!

♪ Charla Kerwin, Springhead Elementary

## Hidden Behind the Shelf

The intent of this session, *Children's Picture Books in the Culturally Diverse Music Classroom*, was to encourage music teachers who use children's literature in the music program to incorporate literature that reflects the culture of our students. Students make a better connection with the content when they can "see themselves" reflected in the story. Furthermore, the use of multi-ethnic characters, settings, and/or musical activities will be more meaningful and engaging to students than books that show, for example, all white children to a multi-ethnic class, or books that cast multi-ethnic characters in a dubious light. The presenter shared samples of twenty storybooks she found to be inclusive and diverse, which included: *RattleBone Rock*, *Ben's Trumpet*, *Let It Shine*, *Stompin' at the Savoy*, *The Deaf Musicians*, *Jazz Fly*, *Tikki Tikki Tembo*, and *Uncle Nacho's Hat*.

♪ Carol Baccoli, Lopez Elementary



# 2017 FMEA Professional Development Conference

This workshop had several easy folk songs from islands such as Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. BethAnn Hepburn showed us how we can

use one song to work on Orff technique and layer several others over it. One of my favorites was the song *Dry Weather House* from Jamaica. During this song we used a template of a house and different rhythms were put around each house in a circle. Students will then walk around the circle and must perform the rhythm where they stop. This is a great strategy to use in the classroom in order to make rhythm reading more interactive. Also very enjoyable was the circle game she introduced to accompany the song *I Let Her Go Go*. I am always looking for fun, new movement activities that the older students may enjoy. Having several different layers to each activity allows for an entire unit to be taught with each song as well as integrating instruments into the learning experiences. The session concluded with activities for improvisation as well as ostinato and literacy activities.

## Island Hopping

♪ *Rebecca Scott, Sessums Elementary*

## Behavior Management

This session was targeted at those classes with kids who are a little more difficult to manage.

The main focus of the session was very much

about how you structure the class in such a way as to “head those kids off at the pass”. The presenter discussed how to begin a class, how to incorporate different types of transitions, and how to leverage musical experiences to help those students stay on task and engaged. Throughout the session he gave specific examples of each of the above. The presenter also emphasized that we have to move from a negative mindset and reaction to behavior to a positive and proactive mindset in how we approach those students who are difficult to manage. Many of the strategies presented will help with students who are easily distracted by other students.

♪ *Andrew Smith, Bay Crest Elementary*

FMEA presented two sessions this year on Dalcroze Eurhythmics. The sessions were all about purposeful movement and showing duration through movement. I learned so much from this presenter and have already incorporated several activities into my lesson. One of the movement activities was moving to the beat individually and with a partner. We also discussed and practiced rhythmic subdivision using partner hand games and partner activities.

## Dalcroze Eurhythmics

I enjoyed the first session so much that I had to attend this one as well. The second session was more challenging as we had to use both sides of our brain to move and speak. The presenter also broke down activities that would work well with special learners. One special note about the Dalcroze session is that the activities presented can be used virtually anywhere and without any instruments. Since integrating more Dalcroze Eurhythmics in my classes, my students have enjoyed using these strategies for purposeful movement.

♪ *Tracy Lisi, Mitchell Elementary*



# 2017 FMEA Professional Development Conference

## Strum it Up I & II

I remember how dynamic Sandy Lantz and Gretchen Wahlberg were at last year's conference as co-directors of our first All-State Orff Ensemble.

Their *Strum it Up* session this year was also pretty impressive! I thoroughly enjoyed participating in their workshop as a percussionist, Orff instrumentalist, guitarist, singer, and dancer. Their approach to music as a diverse experience is engaging and enjoyable for all. We had a great time practicing a variety of strumming techniques with *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* and *Are You Sleeping*. It was so easy on ukuleles! We then added the G7 chord and played along to *Day-O*, a fun call & response song that is simple to add recorder and Orff instrumentation to as well!

In the second session of *Strum it Up*, we added *Three Blind Mice* to our simple strumming practice and used it as a Partner Song to *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* and *Are You Sleeping*. They then led us in a couple of D minor selections, *Land of the Silver Birch* & *Canoe Song*, which incorporated movement and could also be performed as partner songs. A trip to Hawaii was next with *Eia Makou*, which had us working on moving from an F chord to a C7 chord. The ladies wrapped up with a very sweet song tale about how we can all make a difference to others. I will definitely be purchasing their materials and using them in my classroom!

Todd LeBlanc, FishHawk Creek Elementary

## Winter BellFest

The Annual Winter Bellfest was held at Seffner Elementary School on December 15, 2016. The BellFest featured Handbell choirs from Seffner Elementary, Limona Elementary, Lopez Elementary and Lawton Chiles Elementary.

The four ensembles took turns performing their own selections, then the event culminated in a mass performance of *Ode to Joy* by all combined bell choirs. Students not only had an opportunity to perform their own winter concert pieces for a new audience, but they also enjoyed hearing bell ensembles from other schools.





## HCEMEC Professional Development: Dr. Robert Amchin

### Visiting Music Education Professor Shares Expertise with Hillsborough County Music Teachers

On Saturday February 4, 2017, renowned music educator Dr. Robert Amchin shared his expertise with Hillsborough County elementary music teachers in a fun filled training at Roland Park K8 School. The training was full of hands on musical experiences and rich with engaging activities designed to encourage creativity in students.

Dr. Amchin holds a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music from the New England Conservatory and a Doctoral degree from the University of Michigan. He is currently a Distinguished Teaching Professor of Music Education and Professor of Music Education at the University of Louisville, where he teaches both undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Amchin formerly taught elementary music in Spring, TX and has taught internationally in China, Russia, Austria, Israel, Poland and Canada. He is a greatly sought after clinician and shares his expertise with a joyful, welcoming and approachable manner that encourages both great discussion and great learning.

Dr. Amchin is able to draw on his experiences teaching students of various cultures and backgrounds, sharing standards based activities that were immediately useable for teachers in their daily teaching practice. The training included activities and lessons ranging from Orff, to folk songs, folk dances and Dalcroze based movement activities that are ideal to engage kinesthetic learners. A huge thank you to Dr. Amchin for his visit and we look forward to his session at a future FMEA Conference here in Tampa!

 Jennifer Ross, Muller Elementary



*Hillsborough Elementary Music Specialists spend their Saturday at the Dr. Amchin professional development workshop presented by HCEMEC, learning new strategies and techniques to improve their teaching practice.*



Please follow us on Twitter!  
HillsCoMusicEd @HCEMEC





*Kathryn Jurado, Limona Elementary, School Board member  
Susan L. Valdes, and Jeff Eakins, Superintendent of Schools  
with the Limona Roaring Ringers Handbells.*

*Members of the Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators' Council were joined by their peers from the Secondary Music Council at the School Board meeting on March 7, 2017, for the reading of the Music In Our Schools Month Proclamation. The meeting was preceded by a performance by the Roaring Ringers from Limona Elementary School.*



*Dre Graham, Secondary Music Council, and Jeff Henson, Elementary Music Education Council, speak at the MIOSM Proclamation.*



*The Roaring Ringers of Limona Elementary performed before the School Board meeting.*



*The Ippolito Otter Band at the Multicultural Festival*

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*Excellence in Education*  
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