

The Scroll, Winter, 2013

# *The Scroll*



*The Official  
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of the  
  
Illinois  
American  
String  
Teachers  
Association*

# Music at Augustana

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# President's Message

by David Eccles  
Illinois ASTA President



Welcome to the new look Scroll! Whether you are reading this edition of the Scroll online or holding it in your hand, we are excited to begin the process of updating our brand and making access to our resources even easier. As we move forward, it is imperative that we use technology for efficient and cost effective communications. The board will continue to implement initiatives like PayPal, Constant Contact, online voting, Facebook, Twitter, and an updated website to keep our organizational and fiscal house in order. Your input is vital in this endeavor. Please continue to update your contact information to make sure you receive all communications.

There is a sincere and concerted effort by the national office to identify string music professionals and merchants who may not be familiar with ASTA. Each of us who are passionate about our profession and this organization must strive spread the word. Consider this your call to action to not only increase membership but also create and suggest networking opportunities for our studio, classroom, merchant, and collegiate members. Ours is a profession built on relationships and it is these connections that generate the inspirational impetus that keeps us energized.

One of the greatest benefits of membership is the opportunity for meaningful artistic and educational interaction with colleagues. We must continue to cultivate and support these connections. As we look to the future, our artistic talents must be celebrated. Activities like commissioning works, establishing an ILASTA member orchestra to perform at state, national, and international conventions, and sponsoring member recitals around the state serve as amazing artistic opportunities for all constituents. If you are sponsoring an event in your community, please let us know.

As you look to the winter and spring, be sure to plan to attend the annual ILASTA Luncheon in Peoria on Friday January 25, 2013. The food is delicious and the opportunity to celebrate and recognize our 2013 award winners even sweeter. In addition, the ILMEA Conference will feature many great string sessions and orchestra performances by our members.

Remember to register early for ASTA National Convention that will be held in Providence, Rhode Island on February 27 to March 3, 2013. The national convention continues to be an inspiration through the sheer number of quality sessions on every aspect of our profession. First time attendees, high school and collegiate members, and new teachers can take advantage of reduced registration fees.

Continued success and best wishes for a productive and musical fall and winter.

www.mya.org

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Apply Online: [www.mya.org/competition.php](http://www.mya.org/competition.php)

## Chicago Area Music School, Midwest Young Artists Introduces iPod Donation Drive for Alzheimer's Patients

by Carl Jasieniecki for Midwest Young Artists

(Highwood, Illinois) Ask anyone who works at Midwest Young Artists (MYA) or any other non-profit organization: perhaps the most rewarding thing about what we do is that we are provided unique opportunities to impact the lives of the people in our community in a powerfully positive way.



MYA, the top rated youth music school in the Midwest, very excited to share one of these opportunities with you today; but first, a story from Kat Jasieniecki, an Occupational Therapist and wife of MYA's Director of Marketing and Communication, Carl Jasieniecki:

"A patient with Alzheimer's was extremely rude and combative (through no fault of his own) unless he was talking about his late wife, or something reminded him of her. They had run out of things to talk about until one of the techs brought an iPad and guessed about what sort of music the patient would have listened to in the 1930's. He chose a song from a popular musical and the patient stopped yelling, calmed down immediately, and asked "how'd you get that song on the calculator like that!?! My wife and I used to sing that all the time!" And from that point forward, the patient would always be calmed down before therapy (which lead to more improvement) with the song played from the one iPad they had there, even if someone

had to be summoned from across the building to provide it. When the patient was being discharged and sent home, he was saddened that he didn't have a way to play the song, and asked repeatedly "well, how am I going to play the song though? What will I do??"

The impact of music on patients with Alzheimer's has been well documented. If you have the chance, I highly recommend watching this clip which shows a patient who begins slumped over and unresponsive and becomes energetic and enlivened when he hears his favorite song.

Midwest Young Artists is proud to introduce Soundbytes for Seniors. Through early January, we will collect used iPods, headphones, chargers and speakers that we can load with familiar music and directly give to Alzheimer's patients. We are working closely with the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Illinois as well as Manor-Care Health Services on this project, and we need your help!

If you have any items to contribute to our drive, you may either do so in person at our Highwood facility or mail them in to: Midwest Young Artists, 878 Lyster Road, Highwood Illinois 60040. Our friendly staff will be accepting iPods in the MYA lobby on weekends or the MYA office during the week. We will have a station set up to accept all donations and donation forms for you to record your gifts for tax purposes.

Contact information for MYA -Email: [ben@mya.org](mailto:ben@mya.org) Phone: (847) 926 9898 Web: [www.mya.org](http://www.mya.org) Social: [facebook.com/midwestyoungartists](https://www.facebook.com/midwestyoungartists); watch free MYA podcast performances: [WMYA.fm](http://WMYA.fm)

### About MYA

Midwest Young Artists (MYA) is one of the leading youth music ensemble programs in the country and represents some of the brightest young musicians in the world. A top rated nonprofit by Great Non-Profits, MYA offers exceptional training in jazz, choral, chamber, wind symphony and orchestral performance. Founded in 1993, MYA currently reaches more than 1,000 students from 74 communities in the Chicago area, with students ranging in age from 12 months old through 12th grade. MYA encompasses 8 youth orchestras, more than 65 chamber music ensembles, four choral groups, a comprehensive jazz program, a wind symphony and a multi-level music theory program. Students have the opportunity to travel abroad and perform in major venues throughout the United States and around the world. MYA graduates are accepted at the most prestigious conservatories and colleges in the USA and abroad.

## A Mentor, A Friend

By Fran Fatta



Frank Lestina has been a mentor and friend to students and colleagues alike. As Fine Arts Supervisor of Vernon Hills High School, Frank not only gives students a thorough music education, but he goes beyond the call of duty, influencing and inspiring educators everywhere. He is famous for his dedication; giving other fine arts teachers specific guidance on how to improve their ability to relate to students and staff, their lessons, and even themselves. The passion he brings to school with him every day is more than infectious and is a true pleasure to be around. It is still hard for me to believe that he is retiring this year.

The first year I worked with Frank, he turned my world of string education upside down. My previous mentors provided me with a solid background, but they were all very similar in their expectations as well as their approach to rehearsing. Frank's orchestras had always impressed me, but given the markedly different techniques I had seen him use, I couldn't help but wonder how he could get such excellent results. In one of my first lessons I remember planning to use a 3-octave scale warm-up to instill skill and technique into every student. Instead, Frank suggested using the piano as a teaching tool to help the students execute a one-octave scale perfectly in tune. Using this technique, warm ups never last more than a few minutes and the orchestra maintains a high standard of intonation throughout the rehearsal. In addition, I learned that the piano helps maintain the pulse of a rehearsal so that we never have to use a metronome, yet the students do not rush nor do they ever rob a dotted quarter note of its full value.

More than any other educator I know, Frank understands the compromise necessary for students. He tactfully delivers even the most delicate messages to fragile egos. When there is a student conflict with concert or rehearsal attendance, rather than react rashly, Frank simply helps the student decide how to make the most responsible choice. He always strives to do what is best for the student and the orchestra, and knows how to choose his battles.

As a promoter and spokesman for fine arts, Frank constantly brings a multitude of creative ideas to the table. These always leave a positive and lasting impression on others. Several years ago, the administration instituted a contest to encourage teachers to take accurate attendance such that the department with the worst attendance taking would have to serve breakfast to the one with the best. Our department had to admit defeat early, so Frank collaborated with the music and art teachers and was able to treat the social studies department to a live chamber music performance and an artwork display. They still talk about it to this day.

Needless to say, Frank has forever made an impact on me as well as a long list of colleagues, student teachers, students and even family. His daughter, Amy Tonaki, was well aware of the long hours and hard work required of a music educator, so she initially chose another major. She soon realized the full impact of her father's influence. She switched to music, hoping to nurture and inspire students just as Frank has done throughout his career. I feel fortunate to have had the pleasure of working with Frank. He has not just improved my teaching skills and understanding of music, but has also proved that music is so much more than melodies. It's a force that can bring people together in an incomparably unique way.

# A Tribute to Pam Hendrix

by Rebecca Oppenheim



“Ms. Hendrix is the reason I am still playing violin. She has made me a better player and taught me a lot more than any other teacher and she was the highlight of my freshman year” stated Mia Temkin (Niles North High School class of 2015). Pam Hendrix is an outstanding music educator who has been teaching at Niles North High School for 22 Years.

When I was placed at Niles North High School in 2011 as Pam’s student teacher she immediately took me under her wing. She has a warmth and enthusiasm about her that is contagious to anyone who comes in contact with her. She has a wonderful way of making every student feel important and loved. I remember Pam standing by the door and greeting every individual student who entered the classroom. She holds her students to a high standard and pushes them to always strive for excellence.

“The thing about Ms. Hendrix is that it is not only about the music but about her students as well. She always takes every possible step to help her students in any way she can.” Jazib Gohar (Niles North High School Class of 2014). Pam is such an incredible musician and educator. The students and teachers of Niles North High School adore her.

“Not only is Pam Hendrix a great director and music educator, but she is an incredible person with a kind heart. Her students look at her not only as a teacher and mentor, but as an extra parent, or in some cases their main parent. She is kind, sensitive and always is willing to step up and help her students, colleagues, school and community, especially when it involves educational experiences to further students’ experiences and knowledge.” Daniel Gregerman (Choral Director Niles North High School)

“Pam is one of the most inspirational teachers I have ever had the pleasure of working with. I have seen her not only train students to be better musicians, I have seen her train them to become mature and caring young adults. She has certainly made her mark in string education and has led the charge of making music education a valued aspect of a student’s life.

Several years ago as I was a new teacher in the Chicago area, I was looking to start a string program in northern Lake County, where none existed. The person everyone told me I had to observe was Pam Hendrix. She had created and developed a beginning strings program that brought new meaning to beginning an instrument at the high school level. Through her dedication and recognition for this need, I was able to begin one at the high school level in my own school district.

Pam Hendrix has accomplished many things with her students, both at the high school level and beyond. She has trained “the best of the best” student teachers to become extremely accomplished music educator’s themselves. I value her as a colleague, fellow music educator and friend. Congratulations to Pam Hendrix on her retirement and on her years of stellar contribution to music education.” (Teralyn Keith, Department Chair for Fine Arts, Maine South High School).

Pam is a star in the world of orchestra teaching and her presence in the classroom will truly be missed. During retirement she plans to help find forever homes for the greyhounds and work with her therapy dog, Lily, helping autistic children. Thank you Pam for all of the lives you have touched over the years. You are a gift to the teaching profession.

## ILASTA College Student and Chapter Mentors,

### SAVE THE DATE!

I hope your 2012 – 13 school year and semester have begun well!

ILASTA Board invites you attend the College Student Chapter Meeting and PIZZA SUPPER Friday, 6:00-7:30 PM, Friday, January 25, at the IMEA Conference. As we get closer to the date, we’ll provide the location in Peoria. There will be “all you can eat pizza and soda” beginning about 6:00 PM. In addition, there will be conversation and discussions led by college and public school faculty centering around:

- **private studio fees and recruiting students**
- **methods and warm-up models**
- **developing a portfolio**
- **current job market**
- **job interview questions**

I will send you and your college advisor by email a list of college students based upon information I have received from National ASTA membership lists. After you receive my email, if you are no longer a music major, please let me know by return email. LIKEWISE, if you know someone in your school, not on the list, who should be included, please send me his/her name and email address.

Sincerely,

Charles Emmons

ILASTA Membership Chair

cemmons0220@sbcglobal.net

A black and white advertisement for Bradley University's music program. The top left features the Bradley University logo. The top right has the slogan "GO far, GO BRADLEY" in a stylized font. The center and right side of the ad show three smiling students: a woman with glasses playing a violin, a woman with curly hair playing a violin, and a man with glasses playing a cello. The text on the left side of the ad discusses the benefits of studying music at Bradley University, mentioning opportunities, choices, and technologies of a larger university, as well as the quality and personal attention of a small, private college. It also lists the string faculty members and their instruments.

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Peter Wessler, String Techniques

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## Concert Review: Midwest Young Artists October 28th, 2012

by Michael Cameron

It seems like Midwest Young Artists burst onto the Chicago area music scene only a few years, but anyone walking into their Fort Sheridan complex on any given Saturday (with its bustle of hundreds of students, parents, and faculty) might well surmise that an organization of these standards must have taken generations to build. In fact, only a few short years after its inception they had devised a winning blueprint for high-level musical training for young Chicago area students, and within a decade they were established as the premier one-stop institution for the best in performing arts education. It's hard to believe that 20 years have passed since its inception, and Dr. Allan Dennis celebrated the occasion with a program dubbed "20 Years of Prestige".

The progeny of the many of the area's musical heavyweights occupy prominent spots in MYA's ensembles, yet the school welcomes students of all backgrounds, as long as they embrace Dr. Allan Dennis' oft-stated values of work ethic, character, and leadership. The concert I attended at Pick-Staiger Concert Hall in Evanston featured three jazz ensembles and the Symphony Orchestra in a program that, not surprisingly, was ambitiously imagined and compellingly realized.

Chris Madsen led three jazz ensembles that featured musicians of varying age and levels of experience, but the same palpable thrill of discovery was apparent up and down the line. Greg Yasinsky's "That's How We Roll" and Armando Rivera's "Armando's Hideaway" were the opening numbers for the young Jazz Ensemble, and soloists Luis Salazar, Mikaela Ritchie, William Kendall, Josh Wrobel, and Josh Klein contributed invigorating solos.

The Jazz Orchestra more than did justice to Lee Morgan's classic "The Sidewinder", complete with solos from pianist Nick Kosarek, Grace Cusick, and Joe Azzaro. Quincy Jones' "Jessica's Day" moved with and easy groove, with stylish contributions from Colleen Cusick, Daniel Nibeck, and Alex Cruz. Ray Wetzel's "Intermission Riff" boasted fine solos from Eugene Yakubovich and Raef Sengupta,

The more seasoned Big Band finished the first half with Jerome Richardson/Thad Jones' "Groove Merchant" and Gil Evan's arrangement of Delibes' "The Maids of Cadiz". Six saxophones set the tone in the former, while trumpeter Aidan Lombard lent his silky, mellow tone to the latter.

Long ago I stopped being surprised when informed of the challenging repertoire chosen by Dr. Dennis for his Symphony Orchestra. Over the years they have tackled a hefty chunk of the standard repertoire, from the symphonies of Brahms, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, to works by Strauss and Bartok that are usually thought to be the sole province professional orchestras. If a few of these scores led to momentary panic from the musicians upon first glance, the maestro consistently lead them through the thickets, stressing personal responsibility for their individual parts, and ultimately guiding them to performances that were memorable and satisfying for MYA's dedicated supporters.

The 10th Symphony of Dmitri Shostakovich is still one more project that logic dictates would be out of reach for pre-college age players. MYA's Symphony Orchestra has performed literature with similar technical challenges, but this touchstone of mid-century symphonic literature would seem to require a world-weary, pessimistic view of authority and humanity, points of view that are (hopefully) far removed from the lives of MYA students.

During the period of this work's genesis in the early 1950's, the composer was still reeling from his second denunciation from Stalin. He lost his position with the Moscow Conservatory, and his public duties included the creation of patriotic music and film scores, music that he hope would eventually restore his earlier lofty status. After the death of Stalin in 1953, there was enough of a cultural thaw in the Soviet Union that the premier of his 10th Symphony was given over to the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the nation's finest.

-more-

The composer never lets the listener doubt his frame of mind in each of the four movements, and Dr. Dennis and his forces gave potent, characterful readings, from the brooding opening pages to the brutal but triumphant chest-thumping in the final minute.

The lower strings set the mood at the outset with dark legato musings, establishing the appropriate gloomy mood. Flutist Kathryn Chiodo and clarinetist Theodore Mavrakis contributed expressively spun solos, and the brass provided bold punctuations in the central climaxes of the movement. The second was a breathless, seething cauldron of activity from beginning to end, and all participants threw themselves into the task with relish.

The third movement was notable for the endearing conversational exchanges between oboist Elliot Lichtenberg and bassoonist Marissa Takaki, with singing interjections added by concertmaster Genevieve Smelser. The broadly lyrical phrases of the violins and cellos were a highlight of the finale, while the timpani drove the orchestra to the exhilarating final pages. It was a grand ending to a formidable undertaking, and the grateful audience responded with well-earned gratitude.

Michael Cameron, Professor of Bass at University of Illinois (for Midwest Young Artists)

### *The Chicago Viola Festival*

#### *The 2013 Chicago Viola Festival at Ravinia: Strength in Numbers*

Ravinia Festival, Highland Park The 2nd annual Chicago Viola Festival, organized by Highwood based Midwest Young Artists ([www.mya.org](http://www.mya.org)) will take place on Sunday, March 17th, 2013 on the verdant grounds of Ravinia Festival in Highland Park.

Clinics offered range from basic technique classes focused on fundamentals like scales, to a high level orchestral excerpt class with none other than the principal violist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Charles Pikler. Other clinicians represented DePaul University, Northwestern University, Wheaton Conservatory, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Lawrence University (WI), Ball State University, Illinois State, Music Institute of Chicago and University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

At the end of last year's event, to cap off the 18 sessions, the clinicians put on a recital for all those who had been performing in their master classes throughout the day. Featured performances included a viola trio by violist Michael Kimber performed by ISU's Kate Lewis, Lawrence University (WI)'s Matthew Michelic, and Lyric Opera of Chicago's Frank Babbitt as well as an incredible performance by Ball State University's Elias Goldstein of the technically demanding Sonata per la Gran Viola by Nicolo Paganini.

Participants ranged in age from grade school to grey-and-out-of-school, and the level of collaboration coupled with a sense of community really made the event stand out as something special. Visit the official Viola Festival website for updates on next year's activities and events: <http://chicagoviolaFestival.mya.org>. Event sponsors: A440 Violin Shop, Dixon & Stein, Chicago Strings, and William Harris Lee.

*For more information, please visit [www.mya.org](http://www.mya.org) or call (847) 926-9898.*

*MYA on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/midwestyoungartists](http://www.facebook.com/midwestyoungartists)*

## Midwest Young Artists to Celebrate 20th Anniversary with Symphony Center Concert Event

*by Carl Jasieniecki for Midwest Young Artists*

(Highwood, IL) - Top rated Illinois youth music school Midwest Young Artists (MYA) is pleased to announce the details of their 20th Anniversary concert event at Symphony Center in Chicago on December 28th at 5:00pm in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association. The award winning MYA Symphony Orchestra with MYA Alumni and the MYA Big Band will combine on stage for a powerful musical experience, all emceed by actor and advocate David Hyde Pierce. There will be a special performance by Pierce and vocalist Nathan Gunn that is sure to be unforgettable. The concert will be followed by a dinner at The University Club, Chicago at 7:00pm. Proceeds from concert ticket sales and donations will benefit both MYA and the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter.

Founded in 1993 with a single orchestra and fifty-five students, MYA has expanded over the last two decades to an organization that enriches the lives of over 1,000 students annually through its 8 orchestras, comprehensive Jazz program, 4 choral ensembles, 65+ chamber ensembles, National concerto & chamber music competitions, wind symphony, early childhood music & movement program, and community outreach activities. MYA provides a nurturing and supportive environment for students to thrive musically and socially. The non-profit music school was looking for a special way in which to both celebrate this momentous anniversary and bring attention to an issue in which music plays an important role.

The Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter serves over half a million Illinois residents with family support services, dementia research funding, and work to influence public policy in the fight against this disease. Some research shows that memories of or associated with music are treated differently by the human brain. A recent documentary and instances of clinical observation have shed light on a new tool in the treatment of Alzheimer's patients: playing recognizable music from their past. Some patients will seem to "wake up" and become lucid, recalling when and where they listened to that song or the other when presented with their favorite old tunes. With a large population in America at retirement age, it seems appropriate to explore this connection.

These two organizations are collaborating to promote this dual fundraiser concert in addition to an iPod drive for local Alzheimer's patients in the Chicago area. The mission of the Alzheimer's Association is: "To eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health." MYA students will be able to share their love of music, and recordings of their own ensembles with members of the community who could use it the most.

The Midwest Young Artists Symphony orchestra and Big Band will perform celebrated works like the Shostakovich Symphony 5 and Beethoven's 9th Symphony for the crowd at Symphony Center, along with other classic compositions and swing hits. As mentioned, David Hyde Pierce will emcee the event. David is a longtime friend of the Alzheimer's Association and previous distinguished guest speaker at the 2012 MYA Benefit. Preferred seating will be given to our dinner and concert combo patrons; the link to purchase combo tickets can be accessed here: [www.mya.org/benefit/index.php](http://www.mya.org/benefit/index.php) Tickets for the concert only may be purchased online or in person at the Symphony Center website and box office at [www.CSO.org](http://www.CSO.org).

The public is also invited to a dinner to singularly benefit the Midwest Young Artists program after the concert at the historic University Club in downtown Chicago at 7:30pm. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased through the MYA website or by phone: [www.MYA.org](http://www.MYA.org), (847) 926-9898. Please join us and help MYA celebrate 20 years of enriching the lives of its students and community through the power of music at this poignant event.

*For more information about this special evening, please call the MYA office at (847) 926-9898 or email [mya@mya.org](mailto:mya@mya.org). The MYA Center is located at 878 Lyster Road, Highwood, IL.*

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC



### AUDITION DATES:

December 1, 2012   January 19, 2013   February 1, 2013   February 2, 2013   February 9, 2013

[www.finearts.illinoisstate.edu/music/](http://www.finearts.illinoisstate.edu/music/)

## The Summer Music Experience at Midwest Young Artists Midwest Young Artists Announces 2013 Summer Music Experience

Fort Sheridan, IL – The Midwest Young Artists (MYA) youth music conservatory announces its Summer Music Experience Workshops and Camps for the summer of 2013. Midwest Young Artists brings the brightest young music students from around the country as well as the finest faculty and staff together. This experience offers unparalleled educational opportunities in addition to enriching social activities with peers.

“I came here not knowing what to expect but this experience exceeded any expectations I could’ve had. Thank you for the wonderful experience, it was life changing!” -Student on MYA’s Summer Festival 2011

The 2013 MYA Summer Music Festival will consist of the following Workshops and Camps:

Chicago Chamber Music Workshop (July 1 - 20)

Young Musicians Chamber Music Workshop (June 24 - 28)

Flute Workshop (June 24 - 28)

Clarinet Workshop (June 24 - 28)

Chicago Jazz Workshop (July 22 - 26)

Evening Jazz Ensembles (July 8 - 26)

Evening Orchestra (June 25 - July 20)

### Faculty and Guest Artists for the 2013 MYA Summer Music Festival will include:

John Bruce Yeh, Clarinet: Assistant Principal Clarinet, Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Charles Pikler, Viola/Violin: Principal Viola, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; Faculty, Northwestern University and North Park University

Tom Rosenberg, Cello: Artistic Director, Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition; faculty, University of Minnesota, Macalester and Carleton Colleges

Deborah Price, Viola, Artistic Director: faculty, Denison University; Artistic Director, Chamber Music Connection; recipient, CSO Community Music Educator of the Year Award

Chris Madsen, Saxophone: Director of the MYA Big Band, Jazz Orchestra, Theory and Composition, Midwest Young Artists; Professor of Jazz Studies, Northwestern University

Rami Solomonow, Viola: Professor of Viola, DePaul University; member, Chicago Chamber Musicians

Dr. Allan Dennis: Founder and Executive Director, Midwest Young Artists; Conductor, Festival Orchestra, MYA Concert and Symphony Orchestras, and Kankakee Valley Symphony Orchestra

Robert Bassill, Violin, Chamber Orchestra, Theory: Chamber Music Director and Orchestra Director,

Midwest Young Artists; Director of Orchestras and Music Theory, Lake Forest High School

Annie Fullard, Violin: Cavani String Quartet; Cleveland Institute of Music

Gene Purdue, Violin: Artistic Director, Midwest Young Artists Summer Music Festival; founding member, Thouvenel String Quartet

Tatyana Stepanova, Piano: faculty, Midwest Young Artists; free-lance pianist and accompanist

Rhona Reagen, Viola, Director of Midwest Young Artists Young Musicians Chamber Music Workshop:

Chamber Music Faculty and Reading Orchestra Director, Midwest Young Artists; PRIVATE TEACHER

Beatriz Helguera-Snow, Piano: Private teacher, accompanist and chamber musician; founder, Chicago Pan-American Ensemble

Hideko Amano, Flute: Private teacher in the Chicago area

Jonathan Keeble, Flute: Assistant Professor, University of Illinois; member; Prairie Winds Woodwind Quintet

Dileep Gangolli, Clarinet: Faculty, Midwest Young Artists; Chicago Sinfonietta, the Joffrey Ballet

Orchestra, the Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra, and the Fulcrum Point New Music Project

...and many more!

*Applications for the MYA Summer Music Festival are posted online at [www.mya.org/summer](http://www.mya.org/summer).*

*Please check [www.mya.org/summer](http://www.mya.org/summer) for more information or email [summer@mya.org](mailto:summer@mya.org).*

*For more information, please visit <http://www.mya.org> or call (847) 926-9898.*

*Follow MYA on Facebook at: <http://facebook.com/midwestyoungartists>*

## Listing of Illinois Organizations Hosting and Sponsoring String and Orchestra Events

The Scroll Calendar Information for 2012-2013

Editor’s note: Please check websites for specific Concert and Event information. For inclusion in this listing contact Charles Emmons, Jr. ([cemmons0220@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cemmons0220@sbcglobal.net)).

Name of Organization: **Augustana Symphony Orchestra** (see website)

Concert Series/Event Name: 2012-13 Concert and Recital Series

Contact Information: Daniel Culver, Conductor

Website: [www.augustana.edu/music](http://www.augustana.edu/music)

Box Office Telephone Number: 309-794-7306

Email Address: [danielculver@augustana.edu](mailto:danielculver@augustana.edu)

Name of the Organization and/or Sponsor: **Bloomington Normal Youth Symphony**

Concert Series/Event Name(s): Fall Concert – Tuesday, November 19, 2012

Contact Information: Deanne Bryant, Conductor/Musical Director

Website: [www.bnyouthsymphony.org](http://www.bnyouthsymphony.org)

Box Office Telephone Number: 309/888-NOTE

Email Address: [dbryant@iwu.edu](mailto:dbryant@iwu.edu)

Name of the Organization and/or Sponsor: **Central Illinois Youth Symphony**

Concert Series/Event Name(s): 2012-13 Orchestral and Small Ensemble Concert Series

Contact Information: Amy Zordan-Moore, Executive Director

Website: [www.ciys.org](http://www.ciys.org)

Telephone Number: 309-266-7625 or 888-218-4650

Email Address: [info@ciys.org](mailto:info@ciys.org)

Name of the Organization and/or Sponsor: **Clinton Symphony Orchestra (Iowa)**

Concert Series/Event Name(s): 2012-13 Concert Series

Contact Information: Robert Whipple, Executive Director

Website: [www.clintonsymphony.org](http://www.clintonsymphony.org)

Box Office Telephone Number: 815-625-0922

Email Address: [execdirector@clintonsymphony.org](mailto:execdirector@clintonsymphony.org)

Name of the Organization and/or Sponsor: **DuPage Symphony Orchestra**

Concert Series/Event Name(s): 59th Orchestra Season (five orchestral concerts), Family Concert with Ralph Covert of Ralph’s World, Chamber Concert Series, and Young Artist Auditions

Contact Information: Joanne Gaspar, Business Manager

Website: [www.dupagesymphony.org](http://www.dupagesymphony.org)

Box Office Telephone Number: (located at North Central College’s Wentz Concert Hall) 630-637-SHOW/7469 or online:

<http://tickets.noctrl.edu>

Email Address: [info@dupagesymphony.org](mailto:info@dupagesymphony.org)

Name of the Organization and/or Sponsor: **Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra**

Concert Series/Event Name(s): 2012-13 Concert Season

Contact Information: Thomas Vos, Communications Director

Website: [www.eyso.org](http://www.eyso.org)

Box Office Telephone Number: 847-622-0300

Email Address: [office@eyso.org](mailto:office@eyso.org)



## **From Pilsen to Matsumoto: Merit School of Music to send 18 Suzuki-Alegre Strings students to Japan next March to represent the U.S. at the 16th Annual Suzuki Method World Convention**

CHICAGO, November 28, 2012 – Eighteen talented Chicago youngsters, all students in Merit School of Music's Suzuki-Alegre Strings program, will pack their suitcases and string instruments for the trip of a lifetime to Matsumoto, Japan, where they will represent Chicago at the 16th Suzuki Method World Convention, March 27-31, 2013.

Merit's Suzuki-Alegre Strings' trip to Japan confirms international recognition for the program's unique blend of the Suzuki method of classical music instruction with traditional Latin folk music. In fact, more than half of Merit's world "delegates" are Latino, and many live in Chicago's Pilsen and Little Village communities, where Merit School of Music has concentrated its Latin-infused Suzuki Method instruction for more than 10 years.

The balance of students, ranging in age from 10 to 18, hail from Chicago neighborhoods ranging from Jefferson Park to Brighton Park, and Garfield Park to Ukrainian Village. One suburb, Berwyn, is also represented. More than half have received five or more years of training with Merit on violin or cello.

Next March, they will join more than 2,100 young musicians from all over the globe in the birthplace of the Suzuki method to showcase their talent, and participate in lectures, lessons and master classes taught by the world's leading Suzuki instructors.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime honor for these talented, hardworking students to represent not only Merit School of Music, but Chicago and the U.S. at one of the most prestigious music education conferences in the world," said Thomas Bracy, Executive Director, Merit School of Music. "Chicago can be proud, because the Suzuki Method World Convention will put some of this city's most promising young classical string musicians on an international stage. This initiative will also bolster Merit School of Music's international reputation for our high quality music education as well as our strong sense of diversity and community."

One of the lucky students representing Merit in Japan will be Brighton Park's Andrea Aguilera, 13, an 8th grader at St. Barbara Elementary School who has been learning violin via Merit's Suzuki-Alegre Strings for the last three years. "I'm so grateful to have this opportunity" said Andrea. "There's really no way I can repay everybody who has gotten me involved in this trip. I guess the only way I can is by playing my best at the World Convention in Japan."

Christine Xu of East Garfield Park, mother of 11-year-old cellist Brandon Cheng, a 4th grader at Andrew Jackson Language Academy, added "This is a milestone for my son, and a step to open a big door to brighten his future and make him feel proud of himself. It's priceless."

As a nonprofit organization, Merit School of Music is devoted to giving all children, regardless of their financial abilities, the opportunity to grow through high quality music education. Merit's student body reflects Chicago's diversity with 44 percent of its participants of Hispanic origin. Eighty percent receive scholarships and financial aid.

Merit's Suzuki-Alegre Strings is a particularly rigorous program, with high expectations established for student attendance, practice and performance outcomes. It also serves as a national model, thanks to its singular approach to traditional Suzuki training with its incorporation of Latin folk songs. Students admitted to the program must make a commitment of at least two years, and parent participation is required throughout. Currently, more than 200 students across the city are enrolled in the program.

Overseeing Merit's Suzuki-Alegre Strings program is faculty member, teacher mentor and internationally respected Suzuki expert, Michele George. In addition to traveling to Japan with the students, George has been invited to teach at the convention. She has served on the Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) as a teacher trainer, and on the SAA board and teacher development committee. She is also executive producer of the award-winning documentary *Nurtured by Love*-the life and work of Shinichi Suzuki. Joining George on the trip will be Monica Lugo and Herine Coetzee Koschak, co-directors of Suzuki-Alegre Strings.

"Music has already given our students a world beyond their own communities, and shown them how much potential lies within each of them," said George. "Now they will have the chance to experience a new culture and to learn that people are people all over the world. There will be language barriers, but the kids will communicate with each other the only way that they can – through the playing of music. This will be a life-altering experience for them, with a refrain that will reverberate throughout our Suzuki-Alegre Strings program and the entire Merit community for years to come."

The Suzuki method was developed more than 50 years ago in Matsumoto, Japan by violinist Dr. Shinichi Suzuki. The cornerstone of the Suzuki method is that children can learn music in much the same way they learn to speak their native language – through listening, imitation and repetition in a caring and supportive environment. Another key ingredient is the belief in every child's innate ability to learn, perform and succeed. Throughout the world there are more than 400,000 Suzuki students studying in 46 countries and regions.

In addition to participating in the convention, Merit's students will spend two days in Tokyo, where they will enjoy seeing the cherry blossoms in full bloom. In Matsumoto, their itinerary includes visits to Matsumoto Castle and Suzuki Memorial Hall, and tours of Dr. Suzuki's home and the school in which his method originated.

The 16th World Suzuki Method Convention is sponsored by the Talent Education Research Institute. The convention theme is "The World will be One, Joined Together by Children Making Music." For more information, visit <http://www.suzukimethod.or.jp/indexE.html>

Merit School of Music, [www.meritmusic.org](http://www.meritmusic.org), is a non-profit community music school providing high-quality classical music education to more than 6,000 Chicago-area students, from newborns to age 18. Founded in 1979, Merit transforms the lives of Chicago-area youth by providing the highest quality music education – with a focus on underserved communities – inspiring young people to achieve their full musical and personal potential. Merit's esteemed faculty teaches a continuum of instrumental programs leading to the Alice C. Pfalzer Tuition-Free Conservatory for the most advanced and motivated young musicians.

Contact: **Jay Kelly, L.C. Williams & Associates**  
312.565.4623/312.315.3935  
[jkelly@lcwa.com](mailto:jkelly@lcwa.com)

**Libby Duncan, Merit School of Music**  
312.676.3687  
[lduncan@meritmusic.org](mailto:lduncan@meritmusic.org)



# ASTA Membership Application

## Your Personal Information

Please complete all of the sections below. To help reduce errors, please print clearly.

New Member       Renewing Member (ASTA ID) \_\_\_\_\_ Referral Source \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Title \_\_\_\_\_ Professional Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Profession

Check only 1 primary profession  
Check any secondaries that apply

Primary	Secondary
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle/Jr. High School	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary School	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> School (Multilevel)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Studio	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Performer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Conductor	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Music Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> String Enthusiast	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Your Instrument

Check only 1 primary instrument  
Check any secondaries that apply

Primary	Secondary
<input type="checkbox"/> Violin	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Viola	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cello	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Double Bass	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Guitar	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Harp	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Brass	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Keyboard	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Percussion	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Woodwind	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Other Memberships

AHS       ISB       CMA  
 MENC       MTNA       IAJE  
 SAA       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contribution to Foundation

Make a tax-deductible charitable contribution.  
 \$5 – \$25       \$26 – \$49  
 \$50 – \$100       More than \$100

### Choose from the following those directories you wish to be excluded from:

Online Membership Directory  
 ASTA Email Announcements  
 Mailing Labels

### Membership Category Check only one, dues paid annually.

- Professional..... \$99
- Senior..... \$70
- Full-Time Student (ID req.)..... \$30\*
- \*Student members only receive the AST journal online.  
(Please provide valid proof of student status for this special rate; otherwise, you will be charged the full Professional rate. Date of birth and anticipated graduation date must be completed above.)
- Dual..... \$138
- Library Subscription..... \$82

For information on institutional membership, call 703-279-2113, ext. 16. Dues are for individual membership only. Dues are nontransferable and nonrefundable. There is a \$27 charge on items returned from the bank.

### IMPORTANT ALERT! RESPONSE NEEDED!

ASTA can now deliver messages and conduct association business online. By completing my email address below, I hereby give my consent to the electronic transmission of member materials and electronic voting regarding ASTA matters via the Internet at the following email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Totals

Membership Category..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Postage..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(U.S. residents: postage included. \$5 for Canada/\$10 for Other)

Membership Lapel Pin (\$7 each)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$50 for 50 New Programs (\$50)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Certificate (\$10 each)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information

Check made payable to ASTA      Check # \_\_\_\_\_

VISA       MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_      Sig. \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership applications should be returned to:**  
 ASTA Membership Department  
 4153 Chain Bridge Road; Fairfax, VA 22030  
 Or use your credit card to join online at [www.astaweb.com](http://www.astaweb.com).

## Top 10 Reasons to Become a Member of Illinois ASTA...

10. Receive national's American String Teacher Journal and Illinois' Scroll Journal. Keep up-to-date on teaching tips, scholarly research, technology, and other developments in the profession
9. Have the opportunity to apply for grants, awards, and instrument outreach programs exclusively for ASTA members
8. Participate in contests and competitions exclusively for ASTA members (ie: Solo Competition, Alternative Styles, National High School Honors Orchestra, etc.)
7. Have access to online discussion groups ("eCommunities") and string employment opportunities through "astaweb.com" and "ilasta.org" websites
6. Receive discounted members-only rates for numerous publications covering pedagogy, classroom & orchestra instruction, private studio, research, literature, and compendiums
5. Receive discounted rates for participation in state and national clinics, conferences, and workshops
4. Enroll in members-only professional development documentation program for approved conferences and workshops
3. Access Institutional Membership directory of educational programs, and locate information from the String Industry Council for instruments, publications, bows, strings, accessories, etc.
2. Receive free materials on advocacy and outreach, including the "Why Strings?" brochure and a public service announcement by fiddler Mark O'Connor
1. Have the opportunity to network with the best people in the profession... Illinois ASTA!

## *The Chicago Bass Festival*

The annual Chicago Bass Festival will take place this year on February 3rd, 2013 at the Ravinia Festival campus in Highland Park, Illinois.

Last year's festival featured 19 bass clinicians, representing a large swath of Chicago area schools and performing institutions. Some of those include DePaul, Roosevelt, University of Illinois, University of Michigan, University of Iowa, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and several more. The clinicians led a total of 27 master classes, technique classes, performance classes, talks and performances for the more than 40 bassists and family members in attendance.

Some of the highlights of the day included a performance by the Chicago Bass Ensemble where they premiered "Autogenous Mining" by Michael Wittgraf, a piece for four basses and interactive electronics – Engineered and orchestrated by the composer using a Nintendo Wiimote and a laptop on stage. Two pieces at the final recital that delighted were a fast paced and energetic performance of the "Passacaglia" by Handel, arranged by Johan Halvorsen originally for violin and viola, but performed by Han-Jui (Henry) Chen on bass (playing the viola part) and Elias Goldstein on viola (playing the violin part). Both performers are on faculty at Ball State University – and a flawless interpretation of Francois Rabbath's thrilling and ethereal "Poucha Dass" by University of Iowa professor Volkan Orhon.



Don't miss out this year, make sure to sign up online and reserve your spot at the Midwest's ultimate bass event!

For more info, visit the official bass fest website: <http://www.chicagobassfestival.com/Home.html> or call MYA at: (847) 926-9898, email at: [matthew@mya.org](mailto:matthew@mya.org)

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## *The 6th Annual Discover National Chamber Music Competition*

The Midwest Young Artists 6th Annual Discover National Chamber Music Competition will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2013, at Bennett-Gordon Hall on the Campus of Ravinia Festival. The annual competition is designed to provide an educational as well as a competitive experience for pre-college chamber ensembles.

The competition is open to chamber ensembles in 12th grade and younger and is comprised of two divisions (Open and MYA). The competition is open to all instruments and is divided into the following two categories: Strings & Piano and All Other Instruments (brass, percussion, voice, winds).

Contestants will be competing for over \$5,000 in cash prizes and scholarships and the winner of each division will perform in a Winners Recital held in March. The competition is open to the public.

For more information on the competition, visit: <http://www.mya.org/chambercomp.php>

## JOIN US IN PEORIA FOR THE ANNUAL ILLINOIS ASTA LUNCHEON

SAVE THE DATE  
FRIDAY, JAN 25, 2013

PEORIA CIVIC CENTER ROOM 135/136  
FROM 11:00 AM -- 12:15 PM



Come join your colleagues and guest clinicians for lunch, fellowship, and a chance to honor the recipients of the 2012 Illinois ASTA Awards.

Reservations Required  
Please contact Gwen Armwood for more information at:  
[garmwood@comcast.net](mailto:garmwood@comcast.net)

## ASTA Board Meeting: August 25, 2012, 11AM, Chicago, IL

Members Present: David Eccles, Gwen Armwood, Clarke Sheldon, Charles Emmons, Michael Duggan,  
Kate Lewis, Jason Heath, Brad Pfeil, Erin Loescher

### I. Agenda-Reports

#### A. Introductions

B. Minutes read and approved by **Charles Emmonds**, second **Michael Duggan**

#### C. President's report: **David Eccles**

- ◇ National Solo Competition held at the national level now
- ◇ Recruiting and retaining in national ASTA: more responsibility to Nat'l office
- ◇ Nat'l office is working on making value of membership more clear to prospective members
- ◇ Nat'l office working on recruiting volunteers for task-force on membership and retention.
- ◇ Tax exempt status has been renewed until 2013 by **David Eccles**
- ◇ Thanks to Gwen for completing financial report

#### D. Treasurer's Report: **Gwen Armwood**

- ◇ Balance as of 8/25/12 is \$3,382.23
- ◇ Gwen is working on streamlining budget to standardize and be more specific, especially for IL ASTA board meetings
- ◇ PayPal accounts need to be checked more often

#### E. Scroll: **Michael Duggan**

- ◇ Discussion on advertisement rates: motion to keep advertising rates the same this year approved **Michael Duggan**, second **Charles Emmonds**
- ◇ **Gwen Armwood** and **Michael Duggan** will research cost (printing/postage) and revenue (advertising) of the Scroll
- ◇ Work on soliciting new programs to advertise
- ◇ Constant Contact to organize updates and advertising

#### F. Membership: **Charles Emmons**

- ◇ Continues to update address information on return scrolls and payments to Post Office for return account
- ◇ updating calendar and school contact lists for Scroll publication

### II. Old business

#### A. 2012-2013 Budget

- ◇ Discussion of line items for 2012-13 budget
- ◇ **David Eccles** will standardize of spreadsheets for accounting for all IL ASTA events (general budget, TEW, luncheon, etc) and add more specific line items
- ◇ Motion to accept changes **Jason Heath**, second **Michel Duggan**

### III. New Business

#### A. Proposal to buy a computer and software for Scroll editor: **David Eccles**

- ◇ store files on cloud and/or backup drive
- ◇ keep cost to under \$1000 (PC based)
- ◇ **David Eccles** will research software
- ◇ **David Eccles** proposed a motion to buy computer/software, second **Jason Heath**

#### B. Electronic delivery of Scroll

- ◇ Beta test during the 2012-2013 year

#### C. Bank account migration

- ◇ Use an online or multi-national bank to make treasurer switches more user friendly
- ◇ Research/compare fee structures of various banks by David and Gwen
- ◇ Motion to migrate bank account **Michael Duggan** second **Jason Heath**

#### D. Set up IL ASTA email address for board members to make contact easier

- ◇ **Jason Heath** will create email address for the board and send forwarding and login info

#### E. POS/Card reading device from PayPal

- ◇ Gwen will purchase/acquire a swipe device for smart phones for TEW/luncheon etc.
- ◇ Motion proposed by David second by Michael

#### F. Electronic Voting

- ◇ Motion to move to electronic voting Michael second Jason

### IV. Committee Chairs Individual Reports

#### A. Luncheon: Hornbacker

- ◇ 2013 Luncheon Jan 25 11am-12pm

#### B. IL ASTA Fall String Teacher Clinic: **Brad Pfeil**

- ◇ Jason will update PayPal for 2013
- ◇ Solicit sponsors for 2013: start with IL ASTA business members
- ◇ Mailing will begin in two weeks
- ◇ Board members will document the event

#### C. NHSO Final Report: Armwood

#### D. Technology: Heath

- ◇ TEW Online registration payment processed through PayPal
- ◇ Website: recruit teacher to keep IL ASTA blog
- ◇ Idea to create Flickr account
- ◇ Create Facebook Page instead of group
- ◇ Create twitter feed
- ◇ Update look of website

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## From the Editor

### Interested in saving a tree?

Consider going paperless and receive the IL-ASTA Scroll publication as an E-Newsletter. Join the pdf community and stay in tune online with the latest information on string education and performance. To request a paperless version of The Scroll please email me at [duggan.med@gmail.com](mailto:duggan.med@gmail.com). Make sure to address your subject heading as **Paperless Scroll**.



### Attention All Members:

If you move or change your email address, please send your updated information to: Charles Emmons, Membership Chair, [cemmons0220@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cemmons0220@sbcglobal.net).

This alert is especially for college students who usually move to a new location each year.

Your action will assist you and ILASTA in two ways:

1. You won't miss an issue of The Scroll and/or the American String Teacher and;
2. You will help your state organization avoid return mail fees.

### IL-ASTA wants to hear from you!

ASTA members,

Drop us a line if you have noteworthy news or information that you would like to share. Send your articles, photos, celebrations, etc.. to Michael Duggan at [duggan.med@gmail.com](mailto:duggan.med@gmail.com).

### Advertise in The Scroll Publication

Your ad could have been here. Connect with hundreds of Illinois ASTA members and their students, and thousands more in schools and libraries. Readers are looking for products and services related to string teaching and playing. Will they see your message, or just your competitors? Contact Erin Loescher at [loeschee@glencoeschools.org](mailto:loeschee@glencoeschools.org) for more information on advertising in the next issue of *The Scroll*.

### Who's Copy of The Scroll are you reading?

If it's not yours, it should be. To get on the mailing list, just tell us where you are. The fact that you are reading this says that you are a member of our Illinois string community and should receive your own copy. It's free. Oh sure, we'll bother you once in a while about joining AS-TA-you really should, you know (membership form in this issue)- but we want you to stay informed about string news in Illinois, and we want to hear about **your** string news.

If this really is your copy, check right now on the back cover to see if your mailing label is the best it can be. We like neat little three-line home addresses, with 9 digit zips so we can send it quickly to you as a person rather than an employee at an institution.

Thank you, and hope to see you in Peoria at IMEA.

**The Scroll**

Michael Duggan, Editor  
P.O. Box 39  
Sterling, IL. 61081-0039

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