Dear Jazz Educators,

Congratulations to the 2018 All State Jazz Band for a fine performance at MMEA. Thanks to the students for their hard work, their directors for encouraging them, and to Byron Stripling, the All State Jazz Band Clinician for a job well done! Also, congratulations to the All State Collegiate Jazz Band, conducted by Tia Fuller, for a wonderful performance as well. I hope you had a chance to sit in on some of the rehearsals. What great teaching and mentoring! Also, congratulations to all the Missouri jazz bands who gave outstanding performances at the MMEA conference, as well as the wonderful jazz clinics that were offered this year.

Thank you all for the support you have shown to our state organization. What a great turn out we had for our general business meeting at the MMEA conference! Thanks for the great ideas and for wonderful networking. If you have any questions regarding our organization, want to contribute ideas, suggestions, and articles for the upcoming newsletters, or just have questions about what our state organization does, please feel free to contact me or any executive board member. If you would like to run for an office, please contact Dr. Joel Vanderheyden, president, or any MOAJE officer. Please visit our website at [www.moaje.org](http://www.moaje.org) to keep up on current information. Join us on Facebook, too!

I am *Kind of Blue* to announce I am stepping down from the secretary position. I would like to thank everyone for their support of the MOAJE organization. Our organization has made *Giant Steps* for jazz education and hope everyone continues to support jazz education in the future. Thank you, Jeff Melsha, for asking me to come on board ten years ago for my *Maiden Voyage* and thanks to everyone for this wonderful opportunity. Serving the MOAJE board in this capacity has been one of *My Favorite Things*!

Sincerely,

*Lori*

Lori Hutton
MOAJE Secretary
In this Issue...

From the MOAJE President...
MOAJE Outstanding Jazz Educator Award
2018 All State Jazz Band
2018 All Collegiate Jazz Band
MOAJE Reading & Jam Session at MMEA
Leon Bradley Memorial Grant
District & State Audition Music
Jazz Events at MBA Convention
Downbeat Education Subscription
JEN Conference
MOAJE Corporate Sponsors
Greetings Musicians and Educators,

What a year for jazz at MMEA in 2018! Both Tia Fuller and Byron Stripling were fantastic ambassadors of jazz for our All-Collegiate and All-State jazz students to work with, and they each presented wonderfully inspirational clinics. We also had insightful presentations from Phil Dunlap and Jerry Tolson, a great jam session, big band reading session, and a real sense of jazz community, culminating in the Jim Widner Big Band’s final MMEA Members Mixer performance, complete with a fiery sendoff that featured Tia, Byron, and the great Harry Watters! We honored Jim with the Outstanding Jazz Educator Award, and were able to present the inaugural Leon Bradley Memorial Grant to Riverview Gardens High School Band Director, Harvey Lockhart.

I want to say a big thank you to everyone who helped make our jazz events a success this year, and especially the MOAJE board, including Grant Maledy, John Evans, Lori Hutton, Cathy Coonis, Dave Dickey, and Ron Sikes. Also, a big thank you to Brian Silvey for his work in bringing Tia Fuller out and coordinating the All-Collegiate Jazz Band.

Thank you to all of our members who voted to approve our revised constitution and bylaws, and those who nominated candidates for our MOAJE Secretary position. We appreciate your input! The election for the secretary position will be coming soon and will be handled online through our Members Only portal on the website. Be on the lookout for an email with the details.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas for nominations for our Outstanding Jazz Educator Award, the Leon Bradley Memorial Grant, or ideas for new member benefits you’d like to see, please visit our website at www.moaje.org and get in touch!
Jim Widner, former bassist with Stan Kenton, Woody Herman and the Glenn Miller Orchestra directed by Buddy DeFranco, is celebrating his 31st year anniversary as leader of the Jim Widner Big Band and his summer jazz camps. Jim is a Professor and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he directs the UMSL Jazz Ensemble. In 2013 he was the recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award from the College of Fine Arts and Communication.

A graduate of the University of Missouri, Jim also holds an MA degree from the University of Memphis and has done postgraduate work at the University of North Texas, where he directed the Three O’Clock Lab Band. He has performed at the world famous Lionel Hampton and Montreux (Switzerland) Jazz Festivals as well as tours of Japan, Europe, Australia and China. His performance background includes concert dates with Clark Terry, Lou Marini, Louie Bellson, Mulgrew Miller, Bucky Pizzarelli, Wycliff Gordon, Randy Brecker, Bill Watrous, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and an appearance before former President Bill Clinton. In 1999, students at the University of Missouri renamed the music wing of the Fine Arts Residential College "Widner House" in honor of him. The title of "Statesman" was conferred upon him by The Statesmen of Jazz. Jim is a recipient of "Downbeat" magazine's Achievement Award for his work in jazz education and has been featured in subsequent articles in "Downbeat" and "JazzEd" magazines.

Jim is a Yamaha and D'Addario Performing Artist. He was a founding member of the Jazz Education Network and served on its Board of Directors. The Jim Widner Big Band records on the Chase Music Group label and their critically acclaimed CD's include "Yesterdays and Today", "Body and Soul", "Live, The Jim Widner Big Band Rides Again", "Flying High", "Out Of This World", and "The Beat Goes On".
2018 All State Jazz Band

Byron Stripling, Conductor

2018 All Collegiate Jazz Band

Tia Fuller, Conductor
MOAJE Reading & Jam Session at MMEA

**MOAJE Reading Session**

One of the highlights of the MMEA jazz educators is our annual Reading Session. This year it was held on Thursday night in Salon C. Many jazz educators were there to share their talent.

**MOAJE Jam Session**

Another highlight is the Jam Session, held on Wednesday night at Mr. D’s Lounge. What a fun night for jazz educators and musicians to perform and listen!
Leon Bradley Memorial Grant

2018 Recipient: Harvey Lockhart, Riverview Gardens High School
Congratulations!

The Leon Bradley Memorial Grant seeks to further his life's work through encouraging "emergent" directors in the field of jazz, increasing their professional affiliations, helping promote excellence & garnering community support!

Eligibility
Directors who have between 2 but no more than 10 years teaching with an active jazz program.

Nominations
- Nominations can be submitted by school principals, professional colleagues or the director themselves.

- Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation from a college professor, colleague, principal or similar person.

- Applicants must submit a current video clip of their jazz ensemble in performance.

Submit All Nominations/Applications to:
LeonBradleyMemorialGrant@gmail.com

Visit the Leon Bradley Memorial Grant Facebook Page

District & State Audition Music

The District and State auditions will use Approaching the Standards and Blues in All Keys. In addition, etudes will be included as part of the audition material and will be available for download for free on the MOAJE website. The etudes should be on the website sometime this summer. We will use Set 3 for the 2018-2019 school year. Auditions will be held at Columbia Hickman High School on Saturday, December 1, 2018.
Jazz Events at MBA Convention

The Missouri Bandmasters Association will hold their 50th annual conference from **June 17-20, 2018** at Tan-Tar-A Resort at Lake Ozark, MO. MOAJE will have a booth in the exhibits. Come check us out!

Please visit the MBA website at [www.missouribandmasters.org](http://www.missouribandmasters.org) for a complete schedule and information on how to register.

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**Downbeat Education Subscription**

*Downbeat* is a monthly magazine that caters to the jazz world. It is terrific resource for both jazz musicians and jazz educators. They offer a free educational subscription program to schools, called “*The Future of Jazz.*” This is a great way to get jazz into the hands of our students. They can read about current jazz musicians, up and coming jazz musicians, as well as historical jazz music and musicians from days gone by. Many jazz universities and colleges advertise in the magazine, along with different instrument companies, new technology, and accessories. There are articles, interviews, CD reviews, transcriptions, lessons, etc.

If you would like to receive the Downbeat magazines for your students, please contact Sue at [suem@downbeat.com](mailto:suem@downbeat.com). The educational free subscription runs for 9 months from August through May. Each school is allowed up to 25 copies. Email Sue and she will send you a form to fill out. Then you will begin receiving the monthly issues. It’s that simple!

Downbeat magazine is also available online: [www.downbeat.com](http://www.downbeat.com)
Jazz Educators Network (JEN) Conference

The 9th Annual Jazz Education Network Conference was held in Dallas on January 3 -6, 2018. The site of the 2018 conference was the Hyatt Regency-Downtown. To read about the conference, check out the March 2016 edition of JAZZed. Also, you can connect with JEN online to view additional photos and videos from the conference at: www.jazzednet.org.

Congratulations to the Missouri Jazz Ensembles who performed at the 2018 JEN Conference:

- Missouri Southern State University Jazz Orchestra - Freddie Green, director
- University of Missouri- St. Louis Jazz Ensemble - Jim Widner, director
- Webb City High School Jazz Ensemble – John Evans

facebook.com/jazzeducationnetwork

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tyoutube.com/jazzednet

The 10th annual JEN Conference will be held January 9 – 12, 2019 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV. If you are interested in attending, you will need to visit their website: www.jazzednet.org and become a member. There are several different membership levels to choose from. Registration information for the conference is available on their website. If you are interested in becoming a member of JEN, visit their website and press the button that says “join” and follow the prompts.
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We would like to say a big “thank you” to our sponsors:

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