MOAJE MINUTES  
MMEA 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Dickey at 2:07 pm.

Lori Hutton, secretary, discussed the minutes from the MMEA 2014 business meeting. Minutes were approved.

Chris Miller, All State Jazz Coordinator, gave a report on the All State Jazz Band. Approximately 285 students auditioned for the band. Steve Wiest is the 2015 director. Mr. Wiest put together a Facebook page which has videos and an open discussion forum between him and the All-State students so they can learn, watch and discuss the music. The All State Jazz rehearsal schedule is in the program booklet and everyone is invited to watch the rehearsals. All State Jazz auditions for 2015-2016 will use Set 4.

Danny Watring, VP and Membership Chair, discussed the clinics and concerts at this year’s conference. He also reported that membership is improving due to last year not having State Auditions in Columbia. Anyone can join MOAJE by filling out the form found at the MOAJE booth in the exhibits, contacting one of the officers or signing up online.

Cathy Coonis, treasurer, gave the treasurer report. The financial statement was given to those in attendance. A big thank you goes to Phil Dunlap for his $2000 contribution to MOAJE. Missouri Arts Alliance also contributed this year.

Dave Dickey thanked those who participated in the Jam Session. Thank you goes to Band Instrument Service for stepping in at the last moment to provide refreshments. The reading session was also a success. Thanks go to Bob Long for organizing the event and to JWPepper for providing the jazz charts to read.

Discussion about All State Jazz etudes was discussed. We have had reports that some etudes are too easy, others too hard. The committee will try to find a happy medium. The option of having a lead trumpet and section trumpet again was discussed to be consistent with trombone and bass trombone auditions. There was an issue with the guitar/vibe part online, this is being addressed. Discussion was made about recording drum parts separately so students/teachers know exactly what is required. There was a request to have a clinic at MBA to demonstrate percussion auditions. Also brought up was the idea of having links to the Vic Firth website to help with basic fundamentals when preparing drumset auditions.

Bob Long, past-president, is putting together a survey to all District Jazz VP’s about certain data, such as school size, number of auditioning, etc. Results of the survey will then provide help to possibly get more students to audition.

Larry Green reported on the JEN conference. Only about fifty percent of the states have active jazz units. He congratulated Missouri on having a strong organization and All-State Jazz Band. Larry presented a certificate of “Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Jazz” to MOAJE.

Jim Widner encouraged everyone to join JEN and attend a JEN conference. The 2016 conference will be in Louisville, KY on January 6-9, 2016. The 2015 conference was held in San Diego. Jim challenged us again to bring one new person to next year’s MOAJE business meeting.

If you are interested in running for an office in MOAJE, please contact Dave Dickey or one of the officers. MOAJE would like to thank all of our Corporate Sponsors.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Hutton, MOAJE Secretary