



*Strengthening the importance of music
in our life and culture since 1940*

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2008

CMA MUSIC FESTIVAL STRIKES UP THE BAND TO "KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING" FOR METRO NASHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

NASHVILLE - Nashville Mayor **Karl Dean**, BNA Records star **Kellie Pickler** and Country Music Association Chief Executive Officer **Tammy Genovese** were at Thurgood Marshall Middle School on May 8th for a special delivery. A truckload of musical instruments and equipment were delivered to the students courtesy of "Keep the Music Playing" and CMA Music Festival.

"We are thrilled to be making this delivery today," said Genovese. "Due to the generosity of the artists who donate their time to perform for free at CMA Music Festival, we are able to supply not only Thurgood Marshall, but 29 other schools in the Metro Nashville public schools system with the musical equipment they desperately need."

"The Keep the Music Playing program is an example of the community involvement needed to improve our schools," said Mayor Dean. "Through this donation, CMA is bringing music education into our classrooms and making a difference in the lives of our students and, in turn, the future of our city."

"Music is so dear to my heart," said Pickler. "I think it's great that these kids are able to

get involved in music at a young age. It's an outlet to get away from your normal class schedules, it's a challenge, and it's a positive thing for kids to get involved in."

CMA Music Festival contributes half the net proceeds from the annual four-day event to music education for Metro Nashville's 75,000 public school students through a partnership with the Nashville Alliance for Public Education called "Keep the Music Playing." To date, CMA has donated more than \$1.1 million to purchase hundreds of instruments, lighting and sound equipment, piano labs and more on behalf of the artists who donate their time and perform for free at the annual Festival. The instruments donated this year were purchased with a gift of \$655,624 from proceeds of the 2007 CMA Music Festival.

CMA Music Festival is Nashville's signature musical event celebrating America's music. The event brings together not only people in Middle Tennessee, but also fans from all over the world. With record setting attendance in 2007 of 191,000 over four days, CMA anticipates being able to contribute even more to the Nashville Alliance for Public Education to be used for school music programs in the future.

Now in its 37th year, the 2008 CMA Music Festival will be held on Thursday through Sunday, June 5-8 in downtown Nashville. Dubbed the "crown jewel of Country Music Festivals" by *USA Today* and winner of the

International Entertainment Buyers Association's 2006 LIVE! Award for Festival of the Year, the event features four days packed with music, autograph signings, family activities, sporting competitions, and much more.

For more information on the 2008 CMA Music Festival, including a list of artists appearing and a schedule of activities, please visit www.CMAfest.com.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAZZ EDUCATORS FILES FOR CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY

The world of jazz education is mourning the loss of the one organization that was dedicated to this specific field of music as the IAJE (International Assn. of Jazz Educators) has officially closed its doors. According to a letter from Chuck Owen, the President of IAJE on Friday, April 18, "the board voted to file for bankruptcy under Chapter 7 of the Federal Bankruptcy Law." This leading music education association, which had over 8,000 members, an international convention, a bi-monthly journal, and a history of over 40 years has been crushed under a mountain of debt, according to an article in the *Seattle Times*, April 18, 2008. The *Times* article indicated that the organization is rumored to have been over \$1 million in debt, according to Greg Yasinitzy, an IAJE division coordinator. It is difficult to pinpoint the exact reasons for this unprecedented downfall, but there were obviously festering financial difficulties which were not specifically addressed by either the paid management team or the elected board.

According to the Web site Guidestar.org, which provides information for charitable

organizations, IAJE's 2005-2006 tax return indicated a negative asset value of approximately \$90,000. The timeline regarding the financial difficulties is unclear from this point on, as this was the last publicly available statement filed with Guidestar.org. Indications suggest that due to a combination of poorly attended conventions, escalating costs of publications, and other increasing expenses, the group continued to lose money until there was no further way to control the debt load. According to Owen's letter, there was a late effort made by the board to raise funds to alleviate the financial problems, but this fell far short of raising the necessary funds. It's difficult to understand how the debt levels were allowed to increase so dramatically from '05-'06 to the present without steps being taken earlier in time in order to reverse the cash outflow and perhaps save this venerable Association.

In the field of music education, there are many well-run associations that are an integral part of many music educators' career enhancement and training... The lectures, performances, networking opportunities and trade shows that organizations provide offer a wealth of benefits for serious educators. The loss of the IAJE is not only a powerful blow to the 8,000 members who invested their time and money into supporting the association, but also to the greater music education community which benefited indirectly from the efforts of this group.

As IAJE's Chuck Owen noted, "Our efforts and our passion should be to collectively rally the community to recognize the importance IAJE has had and continues to have in the life and development of jazz and jazz education - seeking new strategic partnerships, new government structures, and a revitalized mission that embraces

current needs... Mary Jo Papich, who would have begun serving her term as President of IAJE beginning this July, is dedicated to recreating such an association. As many know, Mary Jo has been a tireless advocate for IAJE, serving it long and well. You will undoubtedly be hearing from her in the near future. When she does contact you, I urge you to join me in offering her every support and assistance. Of course others may also seek to fill this void by promoting alternative visions for empowering, serving, and gathering the jazz community. While I generally believe such diversity is quite healthy, I would strongly encourage all such efforts and leaders to attempt to collaborate and seek ways to unite us in spirit and strength."

THE NAMM FOUNDATION AWARDS MORE THAN \$1.1 MILLION TO MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

CARLSBAD, Calif., May 15, 2008- NAMM, the trade association of the international music products association, today announced the 26 recipients of The NAMM Foundation's 2008-2009 grants program, allocating more than \$1.1 million in funding to support community music-making programs, scientific research on the effects of making music, and music programs for seniors and school-aged children.

The new grants, while only a small portion of NAMM's overall annual multi-million dollar reinvestment back into the music products industry, serve an important function by enabling worthy organizations to run programs designed to increase interest and participation in making music, as well as helping leading universities better

understand the outcomes of making music for people of all ages. This important music-brain research continues to help the industry strengthen its marketing messages that more people should play music.

During the recent NAMM Board of Directors meeting, the following programs received approval:

2008-2009 NAMM Foundation Program Grants

NAMM Foundation Program Grants support innovative community-based music learning programs for people of all ages and abilities.

American String Teachers Association

NAMM funding supports the implementation of the American String Teachers Association's program, "Increasing Access to Strings," a pilot project introducing and promoting strings to students in schools with diverse populations that are typically underserved by arts education programs. www.astaweb.com

Blue Bear School of Music

NAMM funding supports the Blue Bear School of Music's STAR Program, which brings a classroom-based band ensemble and the after-school program, Studio 101, to public middle schools in the San Francisco Bay area. www.bluebearmusic.org

Bread and Roses

NAMM funding supports Bread and Roses, ongoing Youth Outreach Initiative, reaching 6,800 children and teens in the San Francisco Bay area through high-quality interactive music-making programs with youth who are chronically ill or otherwise in need. www.breadandroses.org

Coalition for Music Education in Canada
NAMM funding supports the expansion of the Coalition for Music Education in Canada's "Music Monday" program, engaging thousands of music makers of all ages to experience and understand music, a vital role in school and in life.
www.weallneedmusic.ca

Guitar and Accessories Marketing Association
NAMM funding supports the expansion of Guitars and Accessories Marketing Association's Teacher Guitar Workshop program into more communities and additionally provides advanced training for those already involved in the program. Teacher Training Programs will also expand into Canada.
www.discoverguitar.com

Guitars in the Classroom
NAMM funding supports Guitars in the Classroom's new program "The AMIGO Project: Achievement through Music Integration." The program introduces music making to California educators whose K-6 general classrooms include more than 27 % Hispanic students who are English language learners.
www.guitarsintheclassroom.com

Levine School of Music
NAMM funding supports the Levine School of Music's multiple recreational music programs for seniors 55 years and older, offered daily under the title "A Little Day Music." www.levineschool.org

Little Kids Rock, Inc.
NAMM funding supports the launch of Little Kids Rock's program "Songwriting Video Curriculum," providing video-based lessons that will complement their current print-based resources and enhance their offerings in guitar, keyboard, drum and bass

for elementary-aged students.
www.littlekidsrock.org

Merit School of Music
NAMM funding supports the Merit School of Music's Band Builders initiative, which enriches band programs in Merit's Bridges sites with in-school and after-school music instruction. www.meritmusic.org

Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation
NAMM funding supports the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation's "Special Projects" program, which helps after-school programs, community schools of the arts, youth orchestras and qualified music therapy programs, all assisting underserved youth primarily attending Title 1 schools.
www.mhopus.org

Music For All (UK)
NAMM funding supports the expansion of Music For All's (UK) "Learn to Play" program into schools. Trained instructors will travel to as many as 30 schools for 2-3 days each, providing introductory lessons.
www.mia.org.uk

National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts
NAMM funding supports the expansion of the National Guild's "Creative Aging Initiative," increasing the number of active music makers and artists among Americans aged 65+.
www.nationalguild.org

National Piano Foundation
NAMM funding supports the expansion of the National Piano Foundation's Recreational Music Making Piano project, training piano instructors to establish new informal learning methodologies for teaching recreational students.
www.pianonet.com

National String Project Consortium
NAMM funding supports the expansion of the National String Project Consortium's "Creating and Sustaining Four String Projects" program, addressing the shortage of qualified stringed instrument teachers. www.stringprojects.org

New Horizons International Music Association
NAMM funding supports the launch of New Horizons, "Lift-Off" project that will help establish 16 New Horizons bands, orchestras or choruses in the United States and Canada. Each group will create an environment for older adults to start or resume group music making. www.newhorizonsmusic.org

North Shore Boys & Girls Club
NAMM funding supports the North Shore Boys & Girls Club's "Rock Lobster Monthly Band Night" program. This provides youth with a unique music-making venue that encourages bands to perform by offering an accessible, free and safe venue where they can practice, gain stage experience, be mentored and even develop a following for their music. www.nsbgc.org

Percussion Marketing Council
NAMM funding supports the expansion of Percussion Marketing Council's signature school percussion programs, "Roots of Rhythm" program and the Percussion in the Schools assembly program. www.rootsofrhythm.net or www.playdrums.com

Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls
NAMM funding supports the Girls Rock Institute's program, providing girls in Portland, Oregon, a place to learn an instrument, form a band, write an original song and perform in front of an audience. www.girlsrockcamp.org

Technology Institute for Music Educators
NAMM funding supports the expansion of TIME's current multimedia project, which trains teachers to use the multimedia lesson plans in their schools and adds new materials to their Connect with Music Web site. www.ti-me.org

VSA Arts
NAMM funding supports the establishment of a task force and new program "Sustaining Music Making for People with Disabilities." VSA Arts brings a variety of active arts experiences to people with disabilities nationwide. www.vsarts.org

Walla Walla Symphony
NAMM funding supports the Walla Walla Symphony's Community Instrument Lending Library program, serving lower-income youth in a 10,000-square-mile agricultural region of southeastern Washington State. www.wwsymphony.org

NAMM Foundation Research Grants provide support for projects that explore the impact of active participation during various stages of life and on human experience and conditions. Grants are made in three research-funding areas, as follows:

2008-2009 NAMM Foundation Scientific Grants

University of North Carolina at Greensboro,
Human Division & Family Studies
Title: The Effects of Musical Instrument Instruction on Executive Functioning in Young Children

Drexel University, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania
Title: Evaluating the Impact of Music Video Games on Musical Skill Development

2008-2009 NAMM Foundation Sounds of Living Grants

University of Iowa

Title: New Horizons for Older Adults: Relationships Between Leisure Music Making, Social Engagement and Quality of Life

2008-2009 NAMM Foundation Sounds of Learning Grants

University of Kansas

Title: Galvanizing Factors of Communities Chosen to Be One of the Best 100 Communities for Music Education

University of Colorado, School of Public Affairs

Title: Money for Music: The Real Cost and Benefits of K¹² Music Education

For more information about the NAMM Foundation's Program Grants, please e-mail grants@namm.org.

PHIL RAMONE PRIMED TO BRING PERFECTION TO 2008 SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY JUNE 19

John Legend, Lee Ann Womack, Natasha Bedingfield and Blake Shelton Scheduled to Perform

"Recording-studio genius" (Hollywood Reporter) Phil Ramone gears up for another star studded evening of exciting musical pairings for the 2008 Songwriters Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony June 19th at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York. This year's inductees are Desmond Child, Albert Hammond, Loretta Lynn, Alan Menken and

John Sebastian. John Rzeznik of the Goo Goo Dolls will receive the Hal David Starlight Award, Paul Anka will receive the Johnny Mercer Award, and Anne Murray will receive the Hitmaker Award.

Confirmed performers for this year's ceremony include Lee Ann Womack, Blake Shelton and Natasha Bedingfield. John Legend is also scheduled to honor Paul Anka with a special performance during the show.

Describing Ramone's skillful work on last year's Induction Ceremony, *FoxNews.com's* Roger Friedman raved, "The show... put on courtesy of producer Phil Ramone is a lesson in perfection."

SNAAP: NEW NATIONAL PROJECT TO EXAMINE IMPACT OF ARTS TRAINING

The Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP) was launched today to examine the impact of arts training. It will provide a first-ever in-depth look at the factors that help or hinder the careers of graduates of arts high schools, arts colleges and conservatories, and arts schools and departments within universities, whether the alumni work as artists or pursue other paths.

Arts alumni who graduated 5, 10, 15 and 20 years earlier will provide information about their formal arts training. They will report the nature of their current arts involvement, reflect on the relevance of arts training to their work and further education, and describe turning points, obstacles, and key relationships and opportunities that influenced their lives and careers.

The results of the annual online survey and data analysis system will help schools

strengthen their programs of study by tracking what young artists need to advance in their fields. In addition, the information will allow institutions to compare their performance against other schools in order to identify areas where improvements are needed. “SNAAP will allow arts education institutions to assess their effectiveness and help them better prepare their students for the careers they enter - in the arts or not,” says Mary Schmidt Campbell, Dean, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.

The Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research will administer the annual survey in cooperation with the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University. Steven J. Tepper, Curb Center associate director, says “SNAAP is a milestone for cultural policy research, because it will go beyond profiles of individual artists and provide a comprehensive look at the creative workforce in America and the critical role of training institutions in preparing artists and creative workers.” The project will be guided by a National Advisory Board comprised of leaders from all types and levels of arts training institutions, visual and performing artists, and arts and community development leaders from the nonprofit and commercial sectors.

Artists often don’t work in the exact fields in which they trained. Instead, they may work at the boundaries between disciplines. They frequently move between the nonprofit and commercial sectors and hold multiple jobs. Moreover, there is a growing demand for arts training, both from students and the rising number of employers in the creative economy. Arts-training institutions and civic policy makers need good data to respond and plan effectively. “More than any arts education project in the past few decades, SNAAP has the potential to guide

needed change in the curriculum,” says James Undercofler, President and CEO of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Over time, SNAAP findings will allow institutions to learn more about the impact of their educational programs to better understand, for example, how students in different majors use their arts training in their careers and other aspects of their lives. Policy makers and community leaders will be able to use SNAAP findings to understand local, regional, and national arts workforce issues and market patterns. The results will also indicate how students who have trained intensively in the arts contribute to their communities and different areas of the economy.

According to George Kuh, Indiana University professor and SNAAP project director, the arts alumni survey will be extensively field-tested in 2008 and 2009 with as many as 100 institutions before its first national administration in 2010. “We’ll learn a lot about what matters in arts training from these early results and also be able to fine-tune the survey for future use,” stated Kuh. The Vanderbilt University Curb Center will host a national conference in 2010 to explore the educational and cultural policy implications of SNAAP findings.

After several years of studying the need for and feasibility of the project, the Surdna Foundation recently awarded a five-year \$2,500,000 leadership grant to help launch the project. Phillip Henderson, Surdna Foundation President, believes that SNAAP will be “one of the signature accomplishments of our foundation in this decade, and its value to arts training institutions will only increase over time.”

“For the first time, SNAAP results will allow us to see how high-quality, deep

training in the arts guides professional careers of creative American citizens,” says Sarah Bainter Cunningham, Arts Education Director at the National Endowment for the Arts.

In addition to Surdna and the National Endowment for the Arts, support from other funders is anticipated to support the testing phases of the project and insure widespread participation. SNAAP is expected to become self-sustaining through institutional participation fees by 2012.

The Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP) is based at the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research, School of Education, 1900 East Tenth Street, Suite 419, Bloomington IN 47406-7512. More information is available at: www.snaap.iub.edu.

NAMM ENCOURAGES PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY ARE NOT MUSICAL TO STRUT THEIR STUFF IN NATIONAL 'SAY YOU WANNA PLAY?' CONTEST ON YOUTUBE

CARLSBAD, Calif., May 5, 2008— NAMM, the 107-year-old trade association of the international music products industry, is encouraging people who have always wished they could play an instrument or sing, but never pursued their dream, to compete in the organization’s Say You Wanna Play contest hosted on YouTube.

The contest is part of NAMM’s first annual National “Wanna Play Music” Week, May 5-9. the week includes an array of activities to raise public awareness about the vital role that music and music education play in people’s lives, and how even recreational

music making can directly affect the health and social wellbeing of people in all stages of life. The event is part of the association’s national “Wanna Play?” public awareness campaign created to communicate the benefits of playing music to people of all ages.

“Say You Wanna Play” contestants just need to shoot a short video of themselves playing and/or singing any original or public domain song, and telling the world why they play music or why they want to start playing. Videos should be posted at www.youtube.com/sayyouwannaplay between midnight on May 5 and midnight on May 26. NAMM will review all entries and pick a contest winner.

The winner will receive travel and a hotel room for two, and an opportunity to play live at the NAMM Show, the largest music products trade show in the United States. The winner will also receive a music lesson from Scott Houston, “The Piano Guy,” host of a 30-minute educational show that runs on PBS television stations around the country. For more details about the contest, visit www.youtube.com/sayyouwannaplay.

“NAMM has conducted research that found 82 percent of people who have never played an instrument wished they had,” said Joe Lamond, president and CEO, NAMM. “This is our way of helping people to discover their inner musician, find their own rhythm and start to reap all the proven benefits that come along with playing.”

For many years, NAMM has funded research showing that playing music provides a variety of positive benefits, ranging from increased intelligence to healthier lifestyles. Studies have found that playing music:

- Fights memory loss
- Reduces stress
- Lowers blood pressure
- Staves off depression
- Enhances cognitive development in children
- Builds confidence
- Creates social connections

In fact, 96% of public school principals believe that participating in music education encourages and motivates students to stay in school longer.

In addition, a new Harris Poll released in January 2008 of more than 2,000 people who don't currently play a musical instrument found that:

-More than one in four (26%) people want to learn to play a musical instrument as their New Year's resolution in 2008

-Almost half (47%) of the people who are interested in learning to play an instrument are finally starting to play

-Nearly half (46%) of the respondents are likely or very likely to make "spending more time with family" and "reducing stress" their 2008 New Year's resolution

-40% believe that playing an instrument reduces stress

-35% say they believe they don't have natural talent to play and that prevents them from learning

-23% responded that feeling too old has held them back from playing a musical instrument.

For more information about Wanna Play Music Week and NAMM's Wanna Play? campaign, visit www.wannaplaymusic.com.

About NAMM

NAMM is the not-for-profit association that unifies, leads and strengthens the \$17 billion international musical instruments and products industry. NAMM's activities and programs are designed to promote music making to people of all ages. NAMM is comprised of approximately 9,000 member companies. For more information about NAMM or the proven benefits of making music, interested parties can visit www.namm.org or call 800-767-NAMM (6266).

About "Wanna Play?"

NAMM's nationwide "Wanna Play?" campaign is dedicated to increasing awareness of the proven benefits of playing musical instruments for people of all ages. Since the campaign's launch in November 2006, the key messages of why it is important to play music have reached more than 24 million people through national public relations efforts. In addition, "Wanna Play?" has the support of 34 celebrities, including campaign ambassador Gavin DeGraw, Ashlee Simpson, Taylor Swift, Robert Downey Jr., John Taylor, and The Band from TV. For more information and to get involved, interested parties can visit www.wannaplaymusic.com.

CMA SONGWRITERS SERIES RETURNS TO JOE'S PUB IN 2008

"The Hitmen of Music Row" Will Kick Off the Popular Series On May 17

NASHVILLE - Since its debut in 2005, the CMA Songwriters Series at Joe's Pub has established itself as one of New York City's most popular and intimate nights of music. Due to popular demand, the series is back

for a fourth year to highlight Nashville's internationally-renowned songwriters.

"Since its inception, the CMA Songwriters Series has been a tremendous success," said CMA Chief Executive Officer **Tammy Genovese**. "Contrary to popular belief, New Yorkers are an enthusiastic audience for country music. The intimacy of Joe's Pub makes it the perfect venue to hear Nashville's songwriters perform their hits."

The 2008 series will begin Saturday, May 17 (7:00 and 9:30 PM/ET) with songwriting stars of "The Hitmen of Music Row," a television series for Great American Country (GAC). **Bob DiPiero** ("Blue Clear Sky" recorded by George Strait and "Take Me As I Am" recorded by Faith Hill), **Tony Mullins** ("How Forever Feels" recorded by Kenny Chesney and "Something's Gotta Give" recorded by LeAnn Rimes), **Jeffrey Steele** ("What Hurts the Most" recorded by Rascal Flatts and "Somethin' To Be Proud Of" recorded by Montgomery Gentry), and **Craig Wiseman** ("Live Like You Were Dying" recorded by Tim McGraw and "Believe" recorded by Brooks & Dunn) will perform from their catalog of hits as well as offer insight into the stories behind the songs.

Additional CMA Songwriters Series performances are scheduled for July 17 and October 29 and 30 (6:30 and 9:30 PM/ET). Others will be announced soon.

"Joe's Pub is extremely thrilled to have the Country Music Association back this year as not only part of our regular season, but also as part of our 10th year anniversary celebration that will begin in September," said **Kevin Abbott**, General Manager of Joe's Pub. "Over the past 10 years our intimate stage has been graced by some of the greatest performers of our time, and the

CMA songwriters are among the most respected and talented we have had. We are honored to consider the CMA team as part of our Joe's Pub family and we are committed to showcasing the talent of Nashville's songwriters to the New York audience."

Tickets for the May 17 CMA Songwriters Series at Joe's Pub are \$25 each. For information about Joe's Pub or to order tickets, visit www.joespub.com or call (212) 967-7555 between 10:00 AM and 9:00 PM/ET. Joe's Pub is located at 425 Lafayette St. in New York City. Official sponsors for the CMA Songwriters Series include American Airlines, ASCAP, BMI and Great American Country (GAC). American Airlines is the official airline of the CMA Songwriter Series.

EXCITEMENT BUILDS AS OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN APPROACHES

NEW YORK CITY—The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has designated 2008–2009 as the International Year of the Organ (IYO) and is partnering with organizations worldwide to celebrate the King of Instruments. The celebration will commence with the AGO National Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn., June 22–26, 2008, and will conclude with the AGO Regional Conventions in the summer of 2009. Major support for the International Year of the Organ is provided by Platinum level sponsor Kuhn Orgelbau; Gold level sponsors Reuter Organ Co., Rodgers Instruments, and Walker Technical Co.; and Silver level sponsor Schantz Organ Co.

More than two hundred Organ Spectacular (OS) concerts are planned on Sunday,

October 19, 2008. The award winning *Ornament of Grace* by Bernard Sanders for organ and C instrument, and Stephen Paulus's *Blithely Breezing Along* for organ, commissioned by David and Cindy Vogels, will be featured works on Organ Spectacular concerts. These concerts will be presented by the AGO's local chapters throughout the U.S. and abroad, as well as by partner organizations including: American Public Media's *Pipedreams*, the American Theater Organ Society, Organ Historical Society, and Royal Canadian College of Organists. Separately, the governors of Michigan, Montana, Nebraska and Wisconsin have each issued official proclamations declaring that their states will be honoring the organ during this IYO celebratory year.

All AGO chapters and other organizations producing concerts during the IYO are encouraged to submit a complimentary listing of their events on the AGO Web site. This official list of IYO/OS activities will be constantly updated and will be published in the October issue of *The American Organist Magazine*.

AGO chapters, independent concert organizers, organbuilders, academicians, and others hosting IYO/OS events are invited to adapt for their own use any of the one dozen IYO/OS logo designs available for downloading from the AGO's Web site.

To provide further support for the IYO and OS, the AGO is developing a comprehensive Media Relations Handbook specially designed for AGO Chapters. The Handbook is being produced in cooperation with the Phelps Group, an award-winning international public relations firm. The publication will be available at the IYO/OS booth at the 2008 AGO National Convention and will be discussed in depth during a convention workshop sponsored by the

AGO Committee on Professional Networking and Public Relations. The text and model forms will also be available online at the AGO's Web site.

Complete information regarding the International Year of the Organ and Organ Spectacular is available online at www.agohq.org/os. For information about corporate sponsorships, please contact AGO Executive Director James Thomashower, 212-870-2311 (ext. 4300) or e-mail jet@agohq.org. For general information and inquiries about program listings, please contact IYO/OS Project Coordinator Harold Calhoun, 212-870-2311 (ext. 4318) or e-mail os@agohq.org.

MEMBER REPORTS

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF TEACHERS OF SINGING

The Academy met five times this year in New York to discuss opinion papers currently being written, consideration of proposals for new papers, and consideration of new members. In July 2008 the Academy will present a paper titled "In Support of Contemporary Commercial Music (nonclassical) Voice Pedagogy" for the national convention of the National Association of Teachers of Singing held in Nashville TN. The Academy website, americanacademyofteachersofsinging.org, was updated, and several past Academy statements were added for downloading from the site. New members added to the Academy over the year include Joan Patenaude-Yarnell and Cynthia Hoffman. Several other new members are being considered for membership this summer.

The Academy is sad to announce the death of one of its members, Edward Zambara.

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) will hold its 49th biennial National Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn., June 22–26, 2008. More than 2,000 are expected to attend; more than 1,500 are already registered. Convention registration is open to all and will be headquartered at the Minneapolis Hilton Hotel. Complete details, including convention and hotel registration, are available online at www.ago2008.org.

The 2008 AGO National Convention is the first to be held in the Twin Cities since 1980. Celebrating the "King of Instruments," the convention will include many inspiring performances of organ and choral music by internationally recognized artists and ensembles. More than 65 workshops on a variety of professional and interesting topics will be offered, including a Messiaen pedagogy track and choral reading sessions as well as 100 exhibits by organ builders, music publishers, and other vendors providing products of interest and services to the organ and choral music profession.

The International Year of the Organ (IYO), a year-long celebration of the organ, will be inaugurated at the AGO National Convention in the Twin Cities. The year will include various events designed to entertain, inform, and engage new audiences for organ music, while giving seasoned listeners a fresh perspective on the organ's expansive repertoire. The convention will feature the premier performances of works by Stephen Paulus of St. Paul, Minn., and Bernard

Wayne Sanders of Muehlheim, Germany, composed specifically for the IYO.

The AGO's prestigious national competitions in organ performance and improvisation will be conducted during the convention; each winner will be featured in recital. The winners of the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists will be presented in nine "Rising Stars" recitals. The winning compositions of the AGO/ECS Publishing Award in Choral Composition and the AGO Award in Organ Composition will receive their premier performances. American Public Media's *Pipedreams Live* will be a highlight of the convention and will be recorded for future broadcast.

The world renowned Saint Paul Cathedral Choir, London, under the direction of Andrew Carwood, will be in residence for three days of the convention. The choir will give a full concert at the Saint Paul Cathedral in St. Paul, and will sing Choral Matins and Evensong at the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis. The choir's participation in the convention is made possible by a generous grant from the St. Paul Foundation, Katherine B. Andersen Fund.

The commissioning and the premier performances of 11 masterworks representing an hour of new music has garnered the support of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Commissioned composers include Judith Bingham, Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, Aaron Kernis, Libby Larsen, and Steven Stucky. In addition, six short pieces for organ and orchestral instruments were commissioned for the *Little (Minnesota) Organ Book*, to be published by Augsburg Fortress Press. This collection will contain the commissioned works of Carol Barnett, Cary John Franklin, Linda Tutas Haugen, Monte Mason, David

Evan Thomas, and Janika Vandervelde.

For further information, please contact AGO National Convention Coordinator Bill Stump, e-mail whstump@msn.com.

ASCAP

ASCAP has had an excellent year so far in 2008, announcing record revenues and royalty payments as well as success in great initiatives in the protection of the rights of its members. ASCAP, now in its 94th year as a Performing Rights Organization, reported revenues for 2007 that exceeded the previous year's by \$77 million. Final revenues were a record-breaking \$863 million with distribution payments totaling \$741 million. Due to pioneering business strategies, the Society's operating costs reached an all-time low of 11.9%, the lowest in the world for a performing rights organization. ASCAP attributes its exceptional performance to five key factors: tirelessly building revenues from the licensing of existing and new music channels; consistently distributing more royalties to its members; aggressively implementing innovative technology; relentlessly managing operating costs; and tenaciously focusing on providing superior member benefits.

In addition, ASCAP also made huge strides in supporting education for children on the issue of illegal downloading of copyrighted music. In conjunction with i-SAFE, the leader in Internet safety education, ASCAP created the nation's first comprehensive educational program addressing why personal piracy of music and other creative content is harmful. Titled "The Donny the Downloader Experience," this new program is being presented in schools across the U.S.

Since its launch in February, the program, which was conceived to help encourage future music appreciators, has already reached nearly a million students through assemblies and an interactive curriculum.

To address the increasing concerns of its members, ASCAP also released a groundbreaking position paper "Music Copyright in the Digital Age," which outlines and explains the basic rights of music creators. As part of the same multi-tiered plan to protect the future rights of its members, the position paper contains an ASCAP-created Bill of Rights for Songwriters and Composers, which so far has collected over 6,000 signatures online. The Bill of Rights section acts as a reminder to all members of the music industry that the rights of songwriters need to be acknowledged and defended.

In April 2008, an historic decision was reached by the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York that determined a framework for reasonable license fees to be paid to ASCAP by AOL, RealNetworks, and Yahoo!. Rather than settle for a lesser amount, ASCAP fought for three years to guarantee just compensation for the use of its members' works. Based on the formula established by the Court, the total payments to be made for the period between July 1, 2002 and December 31, 2009 could reach \$100 million.

As further proof of ASCAP's dedication to enriching and educating its members, the third annual ASCAP "I Create Music" EXPO brought together the best and brightest songwriters, composers, producers and music industry members in Los Angeles for three days of packed panels, demonstrations and events from April 10-12, 2008. As the only conference devoted to the craft of songwriting and composing, the

ASCAP EXPO has become a must-attend event, drawing songwriters from around the globe. Coverage of the event including audio and video of panels is available through www.ascap.com/expo.

BMI

Ringback Tones Lead Mobile Music Market Growth in '08

BMI has released its annual mobile music market projections for 2008 and figures for 2007, projecting that ringback tones will surpass \$210 million in U.S. retail sales during calendar year 2008, up 50% from BMI's 2007 market estimate of \$140 million. A ringback tone is a musical work that is performed to callers when they place a call to a participating mobile subscriber. BMI also predicted that the U.S. ringtone market will continue to decline in 2008, generating approximately \$510 million in retail sales for the calendar year. Details at <http://www.bmi.com/news/entry/536285>

Jazz Appreciation Month in Washington, D.C.

April was once again designated Jazz Appreciation Month, and BMI was proud to be an anchor sponsor, as it has been since the JAM's began seven years ago. The month-long celebration paid tribute to jazz as a true American art form and featured a variety of activities, including performances, film and displays in venues around Washington, D.C. The National Endowment for the Arts saluted the importance of jazz as an American cultural art form, and supported the kickoff of Jazz Appreciation Month jazz program at their headquarters in Washington DC on March 28. BMI composers represent the majority of the 100 NEA Jazz Masters Fellowship recipients, the

highest honors that our nation bestows upon jazz musicians.

Christopher Young To Receive Richard Kirk Award

Composer Christopher Young will receive the Richard Kirk Award for outstanding career achievement at BMI's annual Film & Television Awards on Wednesday, May 21 in Los Angeles. Staged at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, the black-tie, invitation-only dinner will also honor the composers of the past year's top-grossing films, top-rated prime-time network television series and highest-ranking cable network programs. Named in honor of former BMI Vice President and film & television department founder Richard Kirk, the Richard Kirk Award is bestowed on composers who have made significant contributions to film and television.

Gustavo Santaolalla To Be Honored as Icon

Grammy and Oscar award-winning composer and producer Gustavo Santaolalla will be honored as an Icon on Thursday, June 12 at BMI's 15th annual Latin Awards. Staged at the Beverly Wilshire in Los Angeles, the black-tie, invitation-only gala will also recognize the songwriters and publishers of the past year's top BMI Latin songs played on American radio and television. The BMI Icon award is bestowed on creators who have had a "unique and indelible influence on generations of music makers." An all-star musical tribute will pay homage to the achievements of Gustavo Santaolalla.

BMI Foundation Awards Woody Guthrie Fellowships

The winners of the third annual Woody Guthrie Fellowship have been announced by Ralph N. Jackson, President of the BMI Foundation, Inc., and Nora Guthrie,

Executive Director of the Woody Guthrie Archives (WGA) and Foundation. The program funds research fellowships for scholars to use the rich and extensive holdings available at the WGA in New York City. For information on the 2008 winners and their projects, see <http://www.bmi.com/news/entry/536462>

Other BMI Foundation News

Dan Visconti is winner of the BMI Foundation's 2008 Boudleaux Bryant Commission Award. Visconti was selected for the honor from a pool of recent winners of the BMI Student Composer Awards by members of the Janaki String Trio, who premiered the work, "Lawless Airs," at [Symphony Space](#) in New York City on May 15, 2008. Established by family and friends to honor the memory of the legendary songwriter Boudleaux Bryant, the commission is given in cooperation with the Concert Artists Guild, a non-profit organization whose mission is to discover, nurture and promote young musicians. Watch for upcoming news from the BMI Foundation (<http://www.bmi.com/foundation/>) as it announces the 2008 winners of the John Lennon Scholarships and Student Composer Awards. In Fall 2008 the Foundation will be announcing a new round of its Women's Music Commission, a classical music competition for women composers aged 20-30 who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States. The winning composer receives a \$5,000 commission to create a new work. For each competition, the Foundation partners with a different world class performer, ensemble or presenter, who presents the premiere performance.

MU PHI EPSILON

Mu Phi Epsilon members are looking forward their convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida, from July 30 through August 2, 2008. The keynote speaker is Dr. Frances Bartlett Kinne, Chancellor Emeritus, Jacksonville University. Dr. Kinne was founder of the College of Fine Arts at Jacksonville University and served as Dean there for 18 years, after which she became President and then Chancellor at the University. She was the first woman President of a Florida University and has numerous honors and awards. Her biography, *The President Wears a Skirt*, has forewords from Bob Hope, Winston S. Churchill and Charlton Heston.

The theme of the convention is *Artistry and Action*. Appropriately, many sessions will be devoted to careers in music. Featured performer will be internationally-known soprano and Sterling Patron Christine Brewer, who will also give a master class. The International Competition winner, cellist Ruslan Biryukov, will present a concert. Additional information about convention performances and events can be seen on the website: www.muphiepsilon.org.

The first Mary Alice Cox Award for Lifelong Learning will be awarded at the convention. This will be given to a Fraternity Alumnus who wants to make a career change within the music profession. The Mary Alice Cox Award is to be given only in convention years.

Six members of the Los Angeles Alumni of Mu Phi Epsilon will travel to Beijing for the 2008 International Association for Women in Music. They will be performing and/or having their compositions performed.

Conductor and Mu Phi Epsilon member Marlon Daniel received the 2008 *Voice of the Arts Award* from the United Nations' Nation-to-Nation Networking Organization. The award was for his work on the "Meditation for Darfur" concert performed in New York City on January 26, 2007.

In April 2008 Violinist Jorge Avila of the New York City Alumni was concertmaster of the orchestra for the televised Mass at Yankee Stadium in honor of Pope Benedict XVI.

Soprano and Fraternity member Joyce Castle was honored with a gala recital by her students at Kansas State University. At that which time she also became a member of the Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation Honorary Board.

Although no new chapters were installed this year, eight collegiate chapters were re-activated and there was a record number of candidates for membership in Mu Phi Epsilon. Certainly this is a demonstration of *Artistry and Action*.

MTNA

Music Teachers National Association continues to develop new programs and initiatives to meet the needs of its independent and collegiate teacher membership and further the value of music study nationwide. Activities and new initiatives include:

2008 MTNA National Conference

The 2008 MTNA National Conference was held March 29–April 2 in Denver, Colorado. Highlights of the conference included an appearance and master class by mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne, in addition to a master class and recital by pianist Lang

Lang. More than 2,300 delegates attended, setting a record for attendance at an MTNA Conference.

Wellness Symposium

MTNA, in partnership with the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations, will present **Empowering Musicians: Body, Mind and Spirit** July 7-9, 2008 at the Yamaha Artist Services Facility in New York City. Clinicians Alan Fraser, Louise Montello and Carol Montparker will offer strategies to help attendees remain energized, injury-free and enthusiastic teachers and performers.

Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum

The fifth National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum (GP3) will be held August 1–2, 2008, at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma. "Staying Focused, Staying Fresh" will be the theme of this year's forum. Friday, August 1 will be devoted to group piano and Saturday, August 2nd will focus on piano pedagogy.

Best 100 Communities for Music Education Survey

Again this year, MTNA co-sponsored the Best 100 Communities for Music Education Survey. Participants in the survey answered detailed questions about funding, enrollment, student-teacher ratios, participation in music classes, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, participation in private music lessons and other factors in their communities' quality of music education.

Trust for Insuring Educators

In 2008 MTNA began to provide comprehensive health care along with many other insurance products through a partnership with the Trust for Insuring Educators - an organization established to bring educational associations together to

secure competitive insurance plans and rates.

MTNA Teacher of the Year Award is Part of Project Excellence

Pi Lambda Theta (PLT) has invited MTNA to enroll its annual Teacher of the Year Award in its Project Excellence program. The purpose of Project Excellence is to give substance to the appreciation of excellence among educators by making more people aware of available awards and encouraging the nomination of more deserving educators. As a participant in Project Excellence, MTNA award-winners are invited to become members of PLT.

New Competition Sponsors

Hal Leonard Publishing and Carl Fischer Music will begin sponsoring MTNA composition competitions, beginning in 2008–2009. Hal Leonard will sponsor the 2008–2009 MTNA Senior Composition Competition. Carl Fischer will sponsor the MTNA Young Artist Composition.

Playhouse Disney

MTNA has been asked to partner with Disney, which is launching a new area within its website, Playhouse Disney (playhousedisney.com). It's designed to promote and encourage music education in children aged two to five. There will be a parent/adult resource section. MTNA will become a "Disney Channel Music Expert Resource." MTNA's role will be to provide expert answers to common musical questions such as "What's a good instrument to start on?"

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

The mission of the National Federation of Music Clubs is to support and develop American music and musicians.

Spring 2008 has been a time for celebration and realization of that mission as thousands of juniors across the nation have performed in festivals, earning Certificates and Gold Cups for their accomplishments. In addition, hundreds of secondary school students, college/university students, and adults have submitted applications for Awards in instrumental, chamber, and vocal composition, poetry, National Music Essay Competition, accompanying, pedagogy, and for scholarships to summer music centers.

All National Federation members are invited to attend the 2008 Fall Session in Denver, Colorado, at the Renaissance Denver Hotel, August 5-10, 2008. It will be a time to celebrate musical successes for Federation members and musical productions in their communities. The goal of this Fall Session is to showcase juniors, to offer workshops beneficial to teachers, and to captivate all attendees with creative performances, activities, and speakers. Members will hear the acclaimed Denver Brass, the internationally recognized Colorado Children's Chorale, the conductor for Dave Brubeck Jazz, Russell Gloyd, and NFMC Young Artists Past and Present, Dr. Andrew Cooperstock ('89) and Jesse Blumberg ('07). A special all-day junior extravaganza of activities, "Juniors and Jazz" will include an "Inside the Orchestra" concert, a presentation on The Sacred Music of Dave Brubeck," and a tribute to the music of Colorado composer Bernard Shaak. Join us for this musical extravaganza!

NATIONAL GUILD OF COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OF THE ARTS

Arts and Aging Toolkit Now Online

Studies show that participatory art education programs for older adults improve participants' physical and emotional health. The National Guild's latest publication, *Creativity Matters: The Arts and Aging Toolkit*, describes best practices and demonstrates exemplary models for such programs and is now available online, free-of-charge, at www.artsandaging.org. The *Toolkit*, authored by Johanna Misesy Boyer, is a joint project of the National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA), the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC).

"The *Toolkit* is a tremendous resource for the new and growing field of positive aging," said Gay Hanna, PhD, executive director of the National Center of Creative Aging. "The materials encourage arts and aging service providers to better serve older people by offering ways to tap creativity and to connect generations and cultures through the arts."

The Arts and Aging website positions Guild members as resources for aging services professionals who want to partner with community arts education providers to help develop and implement successful arts and aging programs in their communities, and connect with professional teaching artists skilled at working with older adults.

To order a hard copy of the *Toolkit* (\$35, plus shipping), visit www.nationalguild.org, or contact Annie Walker at (212) 268-3337 ext. 16. To connect with community arts education providers in your area, contact Ken Cole at (212) 268-3337 ext. 18.

Save the Date: 2008 Conference for Community Arts Education

The annual **Conference for Community Arts Education** will be held in the "City of Brotherly Love," October 29—November 1, 2008. The Conference provides essential professional development and networking opportunities for senior staff, faculty, trustees, and teaching artists in community arts education. Join over 500 leaders in the field to develop and practice new skills, share best practices information, and identify new opportunities for collaboration and growth.

This year's program will feature progressive tracks with sessions on program development; assessment, evaluation and research; governance and leadership; management; marketing; community engagement; resource development; and partnership and collaboration. Student performances, showcases of model programs, and site visits to exemplary community arts education organizations will be featured as well, as will networking events and plenary sessions. Workshops will be led by renowned trainers and researchers as well as expert practitioners who tailor their presentations to meet the specific needs of community arts education providers.

The goal of the Conference is to equip delegates with new information, ideas, relationships and inspiration they can use to advance their organization and increase access to quality arts education in their communities.

Registration opens June 30, 2008. Discounts are available to Guild members, early registrants, and those registering two or more delegates. Full members who join the Guild during 2008 receive 50% off their first registration. For program updates,

session proposal forms, and sponsor and exhibitor opportunities, visit www.communityartsed.org.

SESAC

Songwriter/producer Nate “Danja” Hills took home top honors when he was named **Songwriter of the Year** at SESAC’s 12th annual New York Music Awards held May 8 at Manhattan’s gorgeous Chelsea Piers.

The award recognized his astonishing array of hits in the last year including smashes by Nelly Furtado, Justin Timberlake, Timbaland and 50 Cent. **Hills** also was the recipient of another of the evening’s big accolades earning the **Song of the Year** award for his smash hit, “**Say It Right**,” as recorded by Nelly Furtado.

SIGMA ALPHA IOTA

Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity has had a wonderful year of growth and program expansion. With almost 109,000 initiated members, SAI chapters have been installed this year on the campuses of the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Illinois State University. New alumnae chapters in Memphis, Tennessee and Fayetteville, Arkansas were activated, providing more opportunities for music service projects and performances in those areas.

The Director of Music Education, Martha Stoner, was able to represent the fraternity at the 61st MENC National Biennial In-Service Conference in April. There she introduced the new \$5,000 Music Education grant that SAI Philanthropies will be presenting for the first time this fall; the first

grant will go to a music program in the greater Chicago area.

Entries for the InterAmerican Music Awards have been received and sent to the composer-judges, Betty Bertaux of the Children's Chorus of Maryland and Michael Braz, Associate Professor at Georgia Southern University. The winning selection will be premiered by the Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus at the 2009 Sigma Alpha Iota Convention.

NAMM FOUNDATION NAMES THE ‘BEST COMMUNITIES FOR MUSIC EDUCATION’

CARLSBAD, Calif. (April 29, 2008)—The [NAMM Foundation](http://www.nammfoundation.org) today announced the results of the ninth annual “Best Communities for Music Education” survey, which includes 110 school districts across the U.S. The designated programs exemplify a community’s commitment to include music education as part of a quality education for all children. The NAMM Foundation and its music education advocacy efforts work to ensure that all children have access to quality music education programs which encourage lifelong participation in music making.

This year’s roster of schools represents 29 states, with New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia representing the most districts. To view the complete roster of “Best Communities,” visit www.nammfoundation.org.

Hundreds of teachers, school and district administrators, school board members, parents and community leaders, representing communities in all 50 states, participated in

the Web-based survey. The districts were measured across a variety of program support, curricular and programmatic criteria. The results were measured proportionally, so that communities of different sizes were compared equally.

Participants in the survey answered detailed questions about funding, enrollment, student/teacher ratios, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, private music lesson participation, and other relevant factors in their communities' music education programs. The responses were verified with district officials, and the sponsoring organizations reviewed the data.

“We commend these school districts for their commitment to assuring that music is part of a complete education for children,” said Mary Luehrsen, executive director, NAMM Foundation. “It takes the commitment of an entire community to assure that music is part of the core curriculum. Children engaged in music will be the innovation leaders of tomorrow, and there is no better way to build life-long participation in music than with a solid base of music education.”

Luehrsen also noted that throughout the survey's eight years several districts have reported that making the “Best Communities” list has had a tangible effect on their ability to preserve school music programs for their students. This year, recipients cited increased enrollment in music programs and more support from parents and community members as they realize the physical, mental and emotional enrichment music education brings to students.

Research reveals strong correlations between quality music education in school

and academic achievement. Students actively involved with music programs develop skills needed by the 21st century workforce, including critical thinking, creative problem solving, effective communication and team work.

In conducting the annual survey, the NAMM Foundation is joined by advisory organizations in the fields of music and education:

Americans for the Arts

(www.americansforthearts.org)

League of American Orchestras

(www.americanorchestras.org)

The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation

(www.mhopus.org)

The Metropolitan Opera Guild

(www.operaed.org)

Music for All

(www.musicforall.org)

Music Teachers National Association

(www.mtna.org)

National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts (www.nationalguild.org)

National PTA

(www.pta.org)

Yamaha Corporation of America

(www.yamaha.com) and

VH1 Save The Music Foundation

(www.vh1savethemusic.com).

The survey was conducted by Enterprise Feedback Management company, Vovici, (www.vovici.com).

About The NAMM Foundation

The NAMM Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to advancing active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving and public service programs from the international music products industry.

The complete “Best Communities for Music Education in America” roster is listed alphabetically below.

<u>School District</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Abington School District	Abington	Pennsylvania
Academy District 20	Colorado Springs	Colorado
Albion Central School District	Albion	New York
Allendale Public Schools	Allendale	New Jersey
Ann Arbor Public Schools	Ann Arbor	Michigan
Arlington Independent School District	Arlington	Texas
Baltimore County Public Schools	Towson	Maryland
Bay Shore UFSD	Bay Shore	New York
Bay Village City School District	Bay Village	Ohio
Beachwood City Schools	Beachwood	Ohio
Belmont Public Schools	Belmont	Massachusetts
Benjamin Franklin Classical charter Public School	Franklin	Massachusetts
Berea City School District	Berea	Ohio
Big Horn County School District #2	Lovell	Wyoming
Black River Public School	Holland	Michigan
Bolivar R-1 Schools	Bolivar	Missouri
Brevard Public Schools	Viera	Florida
Bristol Virginia City Schools	Bristol	Virginia
Carmel Clay Schools	Carmel	Indiana
Carrollton/Farmers Branch ISD	Carrollton	Texas
Central York School District	York	Pennsylvania
Cheshire Public Schools	Cheshire	Connecticut
Chesterfield County Public Schools	Chesterfield	Virginia
Clarence Central Schools, NY	Clarence	New York
Clark County School District	Las Vegas	Nevada
Cleveland School District	Cleveland	Mississippi
Clovis Municipal Schools	Clovis	New Mexico
Commack Public Schools	East Northport	New York
Community Unit School District 300	Carpentersville	Illinois
Coppell Independent School District	Coppell	Texas
Cuyahoga Heights School District	Cleveland	Ohio
David Douglas School District	Portland	Oregon
DeKalb Schools	Decatur	Georgia
Denton Independent School District	Denton	Texas
Dubuque Community Schools	Dubuque	Iowa
Ephrata Area School District	Ephrata	Pennsylvania
Fairfax County Public Schools	Falls Church	Virginia

Fargo Public Schools	Fargo	North Dakota
Flemington-Raritan Regional School District	Flemington	New Jersey
Folsom Cordova Unified School District	Folsom	California
Fulton County Schools	Atlanta	Georgia
Garnet Valley School District	Glen Mills	Pennsylvania
Great Neck Union Free School District	Great Neck	New York
Greenwich Public Schools	Greenwich	Connecticut
Guilderland Central School District	Guilderland	New York
Half Hollow Hills Central School District	Dix Hills	New York
Henrico County Public Schools	Richmond	Virginia
Hidalgo Independent School District	Hidalgo	Texas
Hillsborough County Public Schools	Tampa	Florida
Hilton Central Schools	Hilton	New York
Hortonville Area School District	Hortonville	Wisconsin
Hudson School District	Hudson	Wisconsin
Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District	Bedford	Texas
Island Trees School District	Levittown	New York
Jericho Union Free School District	Jericho	New York
Joliet Public Schools District 86	Joliet	Illinois
Jordan Utah School District	Sandy	Utah
Klein Independent School District	Klein	Texas
Lakeshore Public Schools	Stevensville	Michigan
Lawrence Township School District	Lawrenceville	New Jersey
Lebanon City Schools	Lebanon	Ohio
Le Roy Central School	Le Roy	New York
Letcher County Schools	Whitesburg	Kentucky
Lewisville Independent School District	Flower Mound	Texas
Littleton Public Schools	Littleton	Colorado
Liverpool Central School District	Liverpool	New York
Longwood Central School District	Yaphank	New York
Loudoun County Public Schools	Ashburn	Virginia
Lynn Public Schools	Lynn	Massachusetts
Malta School District	Malta	Montana
Metuchen School District	Metuchen	New Jersey
Montgomery County Public Schools	Christiansburg	Virginia
Monticello Central School District	Monticello	New York
MSD Lawrence Township	Indianapolis	Indiana
Nanuet Union Free School District	Nanuet	New York
Niagara Wheatfield Central	Niagara Falls	New York
North Allegheny School District	Pittsburgh	Pennsylvania
North Babylon Union Free Schools	North Babylon	New York

North Rockland Central School District	North Garnerville	New York
Nutley School District	Nutley	New Jersey
Olmsted Falls City Schools	Olmsted Falls	Ohio
Oppenheim-Ephratah Central School	St. Johnsville	New York
Ossining Union Free School District	Ossining	New York
Paramus Public School District	Paramus	New Jersey
Pasadena Independent School District	Pasadena	Texas
Pequannock Township School District	Pompton Plains	New Jersey
Perrysburg Exempted Village School District	Perrysburg	Ohio
Plano Independent School District	Plano	Texas
Polk County Schools	Lakeland	Florida
Port Jefferson School District	Port Jefferson	New York
Pulaski Community Schools	Pulaski	Wisconsin
Putnam Valley Central School District	Putnam Valley	New York
Quaker Valley School District	Sewickley	Pennsylvania
Randolph Township Schools	Randolph	New Jersey
Roanoke County public school	Roanoke	Virginia
Rush-Henrietta CSD	Henrietta	New York
Santa Monica-Malibu USD	Santa Monica	California
South Amboy School District	South Amboy	New Jersey
South Huntington Union Free School District	Huntington Station	New York
Springville Griffith Institute and Central School	Springville	New York
St. John School District	St. John	Washington
State College Area School District	State College	Pennsylvania
Sycamore Community Union School District #427	Sycamore	Illinois
Syosset Central School District	Syosset	New York
Torrington Public Schools	Torrington	Connecticut
Township of Union School Districts	Union	New Jersey
Valier Public Schools District #18	Valier	Montana
Washoe County School district	Reno	Nevada
Webster Central School District	Webster	New York
West Des Moines Community School District	West Des Moines	Iowa