



Alla Corda

*NC Unit of American String Teachers Association
WITH National School Orchestra Association*

NC ASTA WITH NSOA Board Members

Past-President:	Ruth Johnsen
President:	Greg Hurley
President Elect:	Nancy Bargerstock
Treasurer:	Johanna Kislik
Solo Competition:	Lynn Peters
Certificate Program:	Susan Wallace

From the President

Dear Friends,

This is an exciting time for private string teachers as we kick off the first ASTA WITH NSOA Certificate Awards Program to be offered in North Carolina. Through Mike Weaver's work in investigating the program and what it entailed, to collaborative work between Mike Weaver, Susan Wallace and me, the first awards program will be held at Meredith College on May 20, 2006. This issue of *Alla Corda* is primarily dedicated to helping everyone understand the goals of the Certificate Program (the "why"), how to register, who is eligible, when it will be held, and the rules and obligations of teachers and students for participation in the program.

In addition to the certificate program, students should prepare now to participate in the NC ASTA WITH NSOA Solo Competition. This year, the state solo competition is a preliminary qualification requirement for selection to participate in the National Solo Competition. ASTA WITH NSOA has a required repertoire list for participation in the

competition, and this repertoire must be performed at the state level competition. The state competition will be held in November 2006 at the North Carolina School of the Arts. Division levels are determined by the age of the student on March 10, 2007. The junior division is ages 19 and under, and the senior division consists of students who will be 19-25. Further details will be coming in the fall issue of *Alla Corda*. Required repertoire is listed at <http://www.astaweb.com/competitions/Repertoire.html>

It is with great pleasure that William Dick will be the guest clinician for the ECU - ASTA String Workshop this summer. Dates for the workshop are July 5 – 7 and will be held in Greenville. More details will follow in the spring issue of *Alla Corda*, but you can see Mr. Dick's bio in this newsletter. I hope that many of you will plan to attend. For teachers looking for CEU credits, this workshop will fit the bill and be stimulating and exciting! Come see this nationally acclaimed string educator in action!

NC ASTA WITH NSOA is currently having an election for President-Elect. The person in this elected to this position will serve two years as President-Elect, two years as President, followed by two years as Past-President. Please vote in this important election.

One of the goals I set for my presidency was to reinstate advertising to the *Alla Corda*. I recently sent over 40 letters inviting various string oriented businesses to advertise with us. One early response to my invitation has been received. I hope that you will thank John Montgomery for advertising with us, and let him know that you saw the ad in *Alla Corda*!

All the best to you!

Greg Hurley

I have received the following announcements of job openings:

Cumberland County Schools located in Fayetteville, NC will have full-time Orchestra position available for the 2006-2007 school year. Cumberland County Schools supports one of the largest Orchestra programs in the Southeastern United States. Positions involve teaching at the elementary and middle school and high school levels. Candidates must either possess or be eligible to apply for N. C. Licensure in Music Education. Teachers will receive the regular salary plus an 8% local supplement. All candidates must submit a Cumberland County Schools application to be considered. Applications may be downloaded for the Cumberland County Schools website at www.ccs.k12.nc.us. For more information, please contact Julie Robinson, Lead Orchestra Teacher at 910.867.3116 ext. 3272 or jrobinson@ccs.k12.nc.us

The Beaufort County (SC) School District has several strings/orchestra positions available for the 2006-2007 school year. Attached is a flier about those positions. Please share this information with all interested candidates. If they are interested, they should complete an application as soon as possible for consideration. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the numbers on the flier or by contacting Peggy Copley, a current strings teacher, at (843) 522-1236 or at pcopley@islc.net

Dr. Susan Wallace: Candidate for President of the North Carolina Unit of ASTA WITH NSOA

Dr. Susan Wallace lives in Raleigh and is currently part of the music faculty at Meredith College. She began studying violin at an early age and graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston where she studied with Eric Rosenblith. Later, she received a Master's degree from Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia under the tutelage



of Dr. Kenneth Sarch and received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Texas in Austin studying with Dr. Eugene Gratch. While in Austin, Susan was the Director of the University of Texas String Project for two years. In that capacity, she directed and taught 20 graduate music students as they taught music and orchestra performance to 250 local children. Currently, she is contact person and host for the first North Carolina Unit of ASTA WITH NSOA Certificate Program.

Dr. Wallace has been a member of the Maryland Symphony, the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra, the Miami City Orchestra, the Palm Beach Pops, and the Palm Beach Symphony. She has attended and performed at numerous international festivals. She enjoys teaching violin to students of all ages.

Candidate for President (please vote for one):

_____ Dr. Susan Wallace

_____ Write-in Candidate _____ (Name of candidate)

Return ballot to: Greg Hurley, School of Music, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858

NC ASTA WITH NSOA CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Certificate Program is a framework for the graded periodic assessment of the string instrument student's technical progress and musical development. The program provides guidance to the teacher in setting goals and choosing appropriate material, while at the same time gives new incentives to students to persevere and excel in their instrumental studies. The program sets expectations and standards of performance on eleven progressive levels: elementary to advanced. Each level is defined by a set of goals and a list of appropriate study materials: scales, technique, etudes and solo. The program is currently available for violin, viola, and cello levels Foundation (F) -10. Students earn a Certificate of Achievement as they complete each level to a satisfactory degree as determined by the adjudicator. It is open to students, preschool through adult whose teacher is a member of ASTA WITH NSOA. Students take the exam appropriate to their level of development, regardless of age, and may enter the program at any level, repeat levels, and may skip levels. The benefits of participation in the program are numerous and include: 1) A graded program that assures a systematic, developmentally logical progression for improving technical and musical skills, 2) periodic examinations 3) comments of a highly qualified, impartial examiner, 4) flexibility in choice of repertoire, 5) a boost to the prestige and professionalism of the private studio teacher, and 6) motivation for the student.

The first NC ASTA WITH NSOA Certificate Festival will be held at Meredith College on May 20, 2006 from 8:30 to 6:00. Because this is the first time that we've offered this program, it is hard to predict the number of participants; therefore, students will be accepted to participate on a first come/first serve basis until all adjudication times are filled. Applications received after an April 15 postmark will not be accepted. Suggested repertoire that would indicate performance levels can be found by visiting the NC ASTA website at <http://www.ecu.edu/music/ncasta/NCASTAcertificateprog.html> Here you will find a complete description of the program, the application, exam rules, system of evaluation, and graded lists of music for violin, viola, and cello. **It would be helpful if you could print the application from the website as all gridlines have not been displayed in the copy in this newsletter.**

I hope that many of you will send your talented students to this wonderful opportunity for motivation, advancement, and recognition! The eventual goal is to have various sites held all over the state for this professional program. If you are interested in hosting an event such as this, please contact me at hurleyc@ecu.edu.

NC ASTA WITH NSOA Certificate Program Exam Rules

- Students should take the exam at the level, which corresponds, to their level of development, to be determined by their teacher.
- **To assure confidentiality during exams, the students will be assigned a number.**
- Students may take their first performance exam at any level, may repeat levels and may skip levels, as recommended by their teacher.

- **Memorization is required for all scales arpeggios and solo pieces. except sonatas in levels 7 -10 and etudes at any level**
- No etude or piece may be presented for exam more than once, unless one of the exams was for "Comments Only," or the student is taking the same level exam a second time.
- The completed examiners' forms will be sent directly to the teacher. The examiner's decision is final.
- Teachers are asked to distribute the evaluation forms and discuss the comments with the student.
- Publishers are listed for reference -most works are available from several publishers.
- Photocopies are not allowed unless the music is out of print. If the student uses unauthorized copies, he/she will receive the examiner's comments but no grade and no certificate.

Examiners and Monitors

- There will be one examiner per room, carefully selected by the ASTA with NSOA Certificate Program Committee or NC Certificate Program Chair. This person will be an experienced and respected teacher of the instrument he/she will be to be judging.
- The monitors will be the teachers whose students are participating in the Performance Exams as well as older students. They will also assist with registration and running the exams. The examiners and monitors will provide a positive atmosphere to assure that participation will be a pleasant experience for all students.

Application Fees: Teachers collect all fees and application forms, and make out one check payable to ASTA with NSOA of their state

Levels:

- | | |
|----------------|------|
| • Foundation-3 | \$25 |
| • Levels 4-6 | \$30 |
| • Levels 7-8 | \$35 |
| • Levels 9-10 | \$40 |

ASTA with NSOA Certificate Program for Strings

North Carolina 2006 Performance Examinations Application

Circle selected date and fees: **Official use only:** Student # _____

Exam Date(s): (circle one)

Raleigh, NC (Meredith College) exam May 20, 2006 (postmark deadline April 22)

Fees: (circle one) Levels F-3: \$25 Level 4-6: \$30 Level 7-8 \$35 Level 9-10 \$40

Please complete BOTH the application and evaluation form (separate file).

Student _____ Grade _____ Age _____

Instrument _____ Level _____

Circle if appropriate Level B Comments Only Honors

(refer to online "Frequently asked Questions" <http://www.ecu.edu/music/ncasta/FAQ.pdf>)

Student Address:

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Accompanist _____ (write "no accompanist" if none)

Parents: Please append application fee in cash, or a check payable to the teacher (teacher then writes a single check to NC Unit of ASTA with NSOA)

Teacher _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Teacher's Address _____

Enter teacher time to assist at exams _____

Teacher must be a member of ASTA. The signature below indicates that I understand the rules governing this event and agree to abide by them. Teachers are expected to assist at the event.

Teacher's signature: _____

Teacher ASTA Member Number (see ASTA membership card) _____

Collect all fees, write a SINGLE check payable NC Unit of ASTA with NSOA and mail it with the application forms to:

Dr. Susan Wallace
Wainwright Music Building
Meredith College
3800 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC 27607
wallaces@meredith.edu

William Dick: Clinician for ECU-ASTA String Workshop July 5 – 7, 2006

In 1994 the American String Teachers' Association named William Dick its national "Music Educator of the Year". That same year he was honored by the Texas Orchestra Director's Association as "Director of the Year". Mr. Dick is a charter member of the Fine Arts Educators Training Cadre for the Texas Education Agency; has served as chair of the violin committee for the Texas University Interscholastic League; and served as viola coordinator for the 2002 International Suzuki Teacher's Conference. Mr. Dick has been presented teaching awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and



Sciences, the Sony Corporation, the National Coalition for Music Education, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Mr. Dick retired from the Austin Independent School District in the spring of 2001 after twenty-seven years at O. Henry Middle School and Austin, Bowie, and Crockett High Schools, and as coordinator of the four Austin Youth Orchestras. In the fall of 2002 he joined the faculty of Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, as visiting instructor of violin/viola and music education. Recently the Suzuki Association of the Americas sanctioned Mr. Dick as its teacher trainer for Suzuki in the Schools, and he was named to the editorial board for the American String Teacher. He is co-author with Laurie Scott of the textbook: *Mastery for Strings*.

ASTA with NSOA CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR STRINGS
North Carolina 2006 Performance Examinations Evaluation Form

Name _____ Instrument _____ Level _____
 Scales _____
 Etude _____ Composer _____ Collection/Ed _____
 1st Piece _____ Composer _____ Collection/Ed _____
 2nd Piece _____ Composer _____ Collection/Ed _____
 3rd Piece _____ Composer _____ Collection/Ed _____

BELOW FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY :

Grading Code: V= very good S= Satisfactory N= needs improvement. Use plus or minus signs. Five Ns in either

scales, etudes, or each solo piece indicates need to retake that part of the program at a future date. Circle below if applicable.

Student # _____ Comments Only Honors Overall Impression (V, S, N) _____

Comments and Suggestions to be continued on the other side

Examiner's

Signature: _____

SCALES ETUDE PIECE 1 PIECE 2 PIECE 3 SIGHT-READING**TO**

Clarity

Volume

INTONATION**POSTURE/STANCE****LEFT HAND****TECHNIQUE**

Position

Articulation

Shifting

Vibrato

RIGHT HAND**TECHNIQUE**

Bow hand

Contact point

Bow use

RHYTHM

Steadiness

Precision

MUSICALITY

Phrasing

Style

Vitality

Tempo

Dynamic contrast

MEMORIZATION X**STAGE PRESENCE**

First Long Distance Fiddling Apprenticeship to be Presented at the National ASTA WITH NSOA Conference in Kansas City

When Amy Sadler returned to teach at the same Raytown Middle School, Missouri that she had attended, she was glad to continue the extra curricular ensemble that she had enjoyed as a teen-ager. *The Bridge Club* played all kinds of “fun” music and it was there that Amy was first introduced to fiddling. Being a violist, however, meant that Amy was relegated to mostly harmony lines and playing back-up “chunks” and so, as she continued to play, fiddling fell by the wayside.

When she got an e-mail through the Missouri chapter of ASTA last spring, offering a middle school string teachers an opportunity to become a long distance apprentice of New England fiddlers Dudley and Jacqueline Laufman, Amy was the first to e-mail them. The Laufmans, who live in Canterbury, New Hampshire are professionally known as *Two Fiddles*. Their idea was to work with a string teacher in the Kansas City area and present a workshop together with some of her students at the 2006 National ASTA Conference. “What drew me to contact them was that they were offering a program that included viola, cello and bass on an equal par with the violins. All my students could learn authentic fiddle tunes together!”

The Laufmans sent Amy a copy of their book and CD *White Mountain Reel, With and Without Calls*. This popular text includes 12 New England tunes with the steps for dancing. The accompanying CD has tracks of the tunes played by an authentic New England “string band,” with Dudley calling the dances. Another set of tracks includes only the music so that teachers or students can call the dances themselves. They also sent a set of *White Mountain Reel Companions*, which are the same tunes arranged for Violin, Viola and Cello/with bass line. The viola, cello and bass can be heard on the CD that accompanies these books. “This allowed all my students to participate in these fiddling

lessons and made it almost effortless for me to teach tunes and dances to our after school club, *The Blue Jay Fiddlers*, and even my lessons groups.”

“I try to teach as many tunes by ear as I can but I am glad to have the Lead Sheets to help my students, who have learned to play by reading music, to learn these tunes. The tunes are so short and memorable that after only a short time my string players can play them without the music!” Everyone will be able to enjoy the fun at the National Conference when some of Amy’s players will join *Two Fiddles* for a demonstration workshop.

“Although this experiment with long distance apprenticeship has worked well, we are looking forward to being able to work in person with Amy and her string students. We wished that we could find a venue where all of the students and their families ~ and anyone else in the greater Kansas City area ~ could meet together to dance and play fiddle.” The *Kansas City Folk Arts Alliance* has given everyone that opportunity by arranging for *Two Fiddles* to do a barn dance at the *Merriam Community Center* on Saturday night. Students are encouraged to sit-in with the Laufmans’ band.

In addition, *Two Fiddles* has also offered another apprenticeship with them as a contribution to the Conference’s Silent Auction and will be sharing their music and teaching ideas in a Showcase and at the Poster Session. “We have enjoyed this so much that we are hoping to continue to work with many more teachers and string students across America!”

Jan Farrar-Royce has been a performer, string teacher and conductor for more than 30 years and has been described in the American String Teachers Journal as “a leading authority on bringing fiddling into mainstream string curriculum.” She is completely a term on the national Alternative Styles committee

*Greg Hurley, President
NC Unit, ASTA WITH NSOA
Fletcher Music Center
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858*

Dates to Remember:



*May 20 – NC ASTA Certificate Program for Strings, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC
July 5-7 – NC ASTA ECU String Teacher Workshop, Greenville, NC
November 2006- ASTA Board Meeting and Luncheon at NCMEA, Winston-Salem, NC
November 2006 –Solo Competition – School of the Arts, Winston- Salem, NC*