



CANDIDATES FOR AOSA VICE PRESIDENT

Tiffany English

1. What do you see as the role of Orff Schulwerk in music education today?

Music education in general, and Orff Schulwerk in particular, is becoming more and more affected by national educational trends such as Common Core and 21st Century Learning. Fortunately for Orff teachers, collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking are hallmarks of the Schulwerk. I think one of the most important things that AOSA can do is to effectively communicate this not only to administrators and parents, but also to music educators who are not aware of the value of the Schulwerk. Orff Schulwerk encompasses the learning of the whole child. In a society where test taking is the hallmark of the day, this is a very important attribute that is vital to the learning of children throughout the world.

2. What are your leadership strengths and how do you think they would contribute to the work of AOSA and promoting Orff Schulwerk?

I am meticulously organized, highly motivated, and strive to always see the gifts others bring to the work. I make a point to lead by example and to recognize and affirm the efforts of others. I think this shows respect and appreciation, which is invaluable when leading. I manage my time well and am able to plan my tasks so that I complete work on time. AOSA is an organization where many committees and individuals rely on others in order to function correctly, which promotes the organization's mission. My leadership style of utilizing organization, thinking of how one aspect of the organization affects another, and striving to be empathetic to others, will allow me to do something extremely important to me – give back to AOSA.

3. What is the role of the National Board of Trustees as it relates to the general membership and how would you fulfill this role?

The AOSA National Board of Trustees is entrusted by the membership to promote Orff Schulwerk and to support teachers in this endeavor. This ranges from providing the highest quality professional development possible through conferences and teacher education courses, to advocating for members and Orff Schulwerk, to cultivating conversations about the future of the organization. As a member of the NBT, my job is to be mindful of the full workings of the board and assist in coordinating efforts in a positive way.

4. What is your vision for AOSA and Orff Schulwerk in the future?

As our American population ages and more and more teachers retire from the profession, I see that young teachers need the support of AOSA. Young teachers frequently leave the profession early due to frustrations brought about by our testing society and the lack of support of parents and administrators. If we expect Orff Schulwerk to be promoted and to continue as a viable approach to teaching music, AOSA must realize these problems and strive to find solutions that will enable young teachers to survive. AOSA itself will not survive without younger members who will carry the torch forward. With respect and gratitude to our founders and those who have made AOSA the strong organization it is today, we will take the lessons we have learned and apply those to supporting our future members.



CANDIDATES FOR AOSA VICE PRESIDENT

Jane Hoch

1. What do you see as the role of Orff Schulwerk in music education today?

My vision of Orff Schulwerk in music education today and in the future is one that continues to provide a valid platform for instructional focus centered on the 21st Century Learning Skills: (1) communication, (2) collaboration, (3) critical thinking and (4) creativity. The music and movement of the Schulwerk innately address the importance of these skills and does so eloquently through a process of lesson planning and presentation that encourages children to make connections to their total curriculum through creative active and joyful active participation. Music education approached through the Schulwerk philosophy encourages individual expression for students, offers children choice in ensemble participation, and fosters valuable leadership skills in the classroom. I consider the most effective aspect of the Schulwerk to be the invitation for children to enter the world of their imagination - to wonder and create, to experiment, to develop and understand the value of their contribution as individuals.

As new standards for education evolve bringing changes to the core curriculum along with clearly defined essential standards for education in the arts, my firm belief is that Orff Schulwerk will continue to be a strong catalyst for music educators in helping children meet and excel far beyond standard expectations.

Educators who embrace the Schulwerk philosophy will extend their level of instructional impact by connecting and collaborating with their colleagues, locally, nationally and internationally. Making these professional connections gives Orff Schulwerk educators a strong voice in the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of music instruction as a foundation of musical literacy, along with an inspiration to explore, experience and expand the ever changing possibilities of learning.

2. What are your leadership strengths and how do you think they would contribute to the work of AOSA and promoting Orff Schulwerk?

I consider the fundamental nature of my leadership approach to be collaboration. My leadership strengths include being a person who listens, researches, analyzes and synthesizes information, reflecting on the past while visualizing the future. I seek the advice of my colleagues and value their opinions and expertise. I encourage the sharing of ideas and talents to accomplish goals aligned with a mission. I share a vision for the future and work to create pathways which will lead us forward.

The leadership qualities I have identified work well with my passion for Orff Schulwerk and for promoting the experience and success that teachers and students share with this creative music and movement education approach. I have relied on these strengths while serving as a founder of the Central Carolina Chapter and later as vice president and president, AOSA Local Conference Co-Chair for the 2008 AOSA Professional Development Conference, and as a member of the National Board of Trustees, Region IV Representative (2011-2013). My vision of AOSA is a touchstone for music educators, demonstrating the value of the Schulwerk, providing the highest quality of professional development, and advocating for an arts education national standard that will ensure the equitable provision of music as an essential element in the total education of every child.



CANDIDATES FOR AOSA VICE PRESIDENT

Jane Hoch (continued)

3. What is the role of the National Board of Trustees as it relates to the general membership and how would you fulfill this role?

The role of the AOSA National Board of Trustees is to provide leadership and support for members and local chapters with their work in demonstrating and promoting the value of Orff Schulwerk as an effective, creative and active approach to music education. The regional representatives elected to Board positions are dedicated and view their responsibility to serve in this liaison capacity for chapters and members as an opportunity to learn as well as lead.

The work of the NBT, its committees, and sub-committees is an artful and effective network of collaborative efforts: to promote professional growth within the organization, to provide multiple venues for professional development and teacher training. The NBT strives to maintain effective communication and a close connection with our membership and local chapters to assure that our energies are focused on meeting their professional needs in our contemporary educational and economic arena.

The work that I have done as a Regional Representative for AOSA has given me a multi-faceted perspective of the challenges that our members, our local chapters and our national organization are facing. As a member of the NBT executive committee I would continue to be a strong advocate for AOSA and the impact that Carl Orff's Schulwerk has on the creative spirit of children. I would share a vision for our organization focused on membership growth (national and local chapter), for expanding the resources and professional development opportunities for our members, and for promoting the value of Orff Schulwerk as a contemporary music education approach which empowers teachers to excel in providing active and creative learning environments for children.

4. What is your vision for AOSA and Orff Schulwerk in the future?

My vision for AOSA and Orff Schulwerk in the future is an extended vision of the organization that welcomed my inquisitive nature and provided numerous opportunities for expanding my skill as an educator that would in turn provide creative and effective instruction for my students. This vision includes the personal-professional connections made through collaboration with colleagues, presenters, and levels training courses. It is a vision that moves AOSA forward as we expand the reach of these fundamental elements, exploring and establishing multiple venues for teachers to connect with and learn about the Schulwerk as they develop and grow in their expertise in this instructional process and philosophy.

My vision focuses on the dedication of our members, the guidance and leadership of our executive director, our staff, and the wealth of support and collaboration that unites our efforts to provide relevant and rigorous professional development for music educators in their quest to provide innovative and effective instruction for children through the music and movement inspired by the work of Carl Orff and Gunild Keetman. It extends the scope of possibilities for creativity within the classroom to embrace the standards of instruction that become the framework for curriculum choices in our educational systems. It is a vision of connectivity, continuance, expansion, collaboration, and adaptation; essential strands of life for an organization, the components that promote growth and nurture stability.