Judith Thompson-Barthwell
Candidate for Treasurer

Judith Thompson-Barthwell is a retired music educator of 44 years. In her career, she has taught general/vocal music, dance, and choir K-12.

She has taught in many Orff courses in the U.S. and some in Europe. Most recently, she has worked on the Teacher Education Curriculum Ad-Hoc Committee and is working on the Diversity Sub-Committee.

CANDIDATE FORUM

1. What do you see as the role of Orff Schulwerk?
Orff’s ideas on music education have continued for almost 100 years. Orff Schulwerk’s philosophy is broad and deep enough to utilize the enriching findings of other approaches to music education, and still remain true to its core in music and dance. The Schulwerk embraces child development; acknowledges the creativity in every person; teaches about the world through music; and helps build global citizens. Orff Schulwerk is indeed powerful and far reaching in its impact on today’s students.

2. What are your leadership strengths and how do you think they would contribute to the work of AOSA and promoting Orff Schulwerk?
Besides the ability to be organized, thoughtful of issues, prioritize and select important topics to tackle in as timely a manner as possible, I possess skills of observation and cultural competency which help in communication with others. AOSA expects no less of a person who would be in the position of working with others to promote Orff Schulwerk. Years of educational experience have led to assisting and uplifting the work of the teachers in the trenches. Also having worked in groups on the local, state and national level of music education, I have a sense of how to help our music education brothers and sisters of need and promise.

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?
Aiding the members of AOSA positively impact more children is the main goal of being a member of the National Board of Trustees. The Treasurer is a member of the National Board of Trustees who maintains this goal by helping to keep our organization financially responsible and by serving on several committees who use funds to help our constituents. As Treasurer, I would fulfill this role and work to increase membership.

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

My vision for AOSA and Orff Schulwerk in the United States is to increase our pool of teachers who are members from even more areas of our society. We must find even more ways to reach out to teachers to support their situations and thus impact more children. Orff is for all children.