BIOGRAPHY

Rosemary Pilonero is in her 25th year of teaching elementary music. She has completed Orff Certification and a Master Class. Rosemary demonstrates her heart for service as a former Treasurer of Central Florida Orff Chapter, current President of Florida Elementary Music Educators’ Association, and current AOSA Advocacy Committee Chair.

CANDIDATE FORUM

1. What do you see as the role of Orff Schulwerk?

Orff Schulwerk plays a vital role in music education today for many reasons. It encompasses all of the 21st century learning strategies and helps students become true musicians and problem solvers. Creativity sets Orff Schulwerk apart from other ways of teaching music and this is the key that fosters ownership and pride. Everything means so much more to our students if they can “own it” and Orff Schulwerk allows that extra impact on our students. Beyond music, Orff Schulwerk provides children with a true sense of community by building their social skills using a variety of collaborative experiences. These experiences through Orff Schulwerk will help children develop a lifelong love of learning and creativity that will inspire them through all facets of their life.

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 very organized, dedicated, and driven. I thrive on collaboration with others who also share my passion of music education. Through my experience as President of the Florida Elementary Music Educators’ Association (term ends July 1, 2019), I have learned the value of listening to and working with passionate people around me and the powerful impact an effective team can have to move an organization forward. I am passionate about AOSA and very excited about the possibility of serving as a member of the National Board of Trustees. AOSA has done so much to help me grow as a musician, educator, and a person. I would be honored to give back to an organization that has had such a great impact on my life.

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 National Board of Trustees has the responsibility of listening to and working for the general membership. In the process of decision-making, the NBT should always ask “How will this benefit our members?” or “How can we impact our members’ needs?” I believe that the general membership drives the organization and NBT is sitting at the steering wheel. I would do my best to help and listen to members and work WITH members and fellow Trustees to increase the outreach and impact of AOSA.

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

It is an exciting time for AOSA. As our student population continues to change, so must our professional organization change to reflect the needs of our members. I see AOSA having a greater impact by reaching more teachers and students with the ever-evolving world of education. Orff Schulwerk encompasses critical thinking and collaboration to assist with the increasing social emotional needs of the students. Many of the educational trends are already embedded into the Schulwerk. It is the job of the organization to keep those connections present for educators and administrators so that an increased number of children will benefit from the process. After all, it is the CHILDREN that truly benefit from Orff Schulwerk and the job of AOSA is to empower more adults in order to foster the inspiration and skills in the children. THIS is why AOSA is so important and powerful – for the children.