

# CHICAGO SCHULWERK



Greater Chicago American Orff Schulwerk Association

Fall 2012

## President's Message

Manju Durairaj

Greetings, and welcome back to another great year at the GCAOSA. It is a privilege to step into the office of president of the GCAOSA. Our chapter is truly grateful to the incredible support and leadership provided by outgoing president Marnie Macke, outgoing program chair Caitlin Lucci and outgoing assistant program chair Carol Vrotny. In addition to other contributions, Marnie is responsible for the excellent audio visual setup we are currently able to provide our presenters and members with, Caitlin has lined up some amazing clinicians for the next two years, while Carol ensured that we have the instrumentarium set up and organized well before our workshops.

The GCAOSA executive board has had an active summer, with hosting luncheons at the local institutions that offered Orff Levels courses, namely DePaul and VanderCook. This newsletter will introduce you to the members of the executive board, a group of individuals committed to the healthy growth of the chapter.

The 2012 AOSA professional development conference is almost upon us. We are proud of our chapter members; Caitlin Lucci, whose students have been selected to perform, and Thom Borden who will be presenting. It is a double honor for me to represent the chapter as President and as a first time presenter at AOSA. If you are attending the conference, please lend us your support, vocally, physically, and if these are not possible then just send us warm positive thoughts.

In a recent email to me, our October clinician, Nick Wild referred to our chapter thus; It's great to see another healthy chapter. There aren't that

many of us! Chicago, Colorado, Las Vegas, New England...'

Help us keep our chapter vibrant by making connections with each other, and with the board. Let us know if you have any suggestions or ideas. Send us your news, let us know of jobs available, bring in new members, make a new friend or two at the next workshop, and/or pitch in to help put away the instruments. Join us for our Chapter Share in January (please note the date change.) Consider presenting a successful lesson. Please consider volunteering in any way you can. If you are interested in serving on the board, please talk to a board member who can provide you with more information.

I look forward to meeting you either in St. Louis, or at our next workshop in January. I wish you a successful, happy and healthy school year.



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Gateway to Exploration  
2012 AOSA Professional Development Conference  
Renaissance St. Louis Grand Hotel  
St. Louis, MO  
November 14 - 17, 2012

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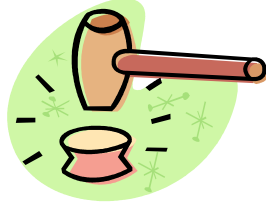
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## GCAOSA 2012-2013 Workshop Schedule

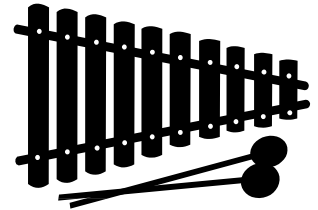
November 14 -17, 2012 AOSA Professional Development Conference St. Louis, Missouri

January 19, 2013 Chapter Share (change of date)

February.23, .2013 Vivian Murray Caputo

March 16, 2013 Beth Melin Nelson

April 20, 2013 Michael Chandler



**ATTENTION:** The Chapter Share date has been changed to January 19th due to a conflict with the Illinois State Music Conference. Chapter members can find the form to present online at [gcaosa.org](http://gcaosa.org). and in this newsletter.

### Chapter Share

Jennifer Schramm

The year 2013 is just around the corner, and with it comes an opportunity to present at the Chapter Share on Saturday, January 19 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please consider sharing some of your lessons that are kid tested. If you are a member of the chapter, you are eligible to apply. The deadline to apply is November 24th, 2012. You can find the form on the last page of this newsletter as well as online The Orff approach is at the heart of our chapter and must drive your presentation. I look forward to hearing from you

### Greater Chicago AOSA Honors Linda Perney

GCAOSA honored their newest Lifetime Member, Linda Perney, at the September workshop. This award honors Linda's long-time dedication and service to the chapter. She was nominated because of her many terms of office on the Executive Board, her faithful service behind-the-scenes, and her warm, welcoming personality. She joins a small, distinguished group of Chicago Orff members who hold this distinction: Lillian Yaross, Marion O'Connell, Pat Hamill, and Sheran Fiedler.



### The GCAOSA Mentoring Program

Manju Durairaj

We have a strong chapter because we have strong members. I would like to acknowledge the veteran teachers like Linda Perney, who was awarded a lifetime membership to the GCAOSA in September, and all the pioneers who set the foundations of the Schulwerk in Chicago. We have a rich resource in our retired and veteran teachers. How wonderful if we could all benefit from their wealth of experience. In keeping with this, we would like to formally re-introduce the GCAOSA Mentoring Program.

The mentoring program connects younger teachers with veterans. The objective is the sharing of ideas, philosophy, and resources (depending on the mentor) that will foster a better understanding of teaching in general, and Orff Schulwerk in particular.

If you are a veteran teacher, or a teacher who would be interested in mentoring a younger teacher, please email me with your contact information, and a brief bio.

If you are a new teacher, or someone who would like to have a veteran teacher as a mentor, please email me with your contact information

## Meet the GCAOSA Board

### President Manju Durairaj



Manju Durairaj was born and raised in India. She studied in London, England. She graduated with her second master's degree from VanderCook College of Music, Chicago. Manju is certified in Orff-Schulwerk, completing her levels training at VanderCook College, George Mason University, University of St. Thomas, and at the Orff Institute in Salzburg, Austria. Manju currently teaches Pre K-5 general music at the Latin School of Chicago. She teaches MECA courses at VanderCook College of Music,. She has presented at ISME, AOSA, OAKE, ILMEA, ECMMA, MKMEA and NAFME (formerly MENC) and has been published in the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*.

### Vice President Maryann Loda



I am honored to serve as Vice President of our chapter. I have always been grateful for the national-level presenters at our workshops and for you, the talented and well-educated teachers who learn and create here with me. Thank you for participating in our 2012-2013 workshop series, which I hope you will find to be meaningful and inspiring. I received my formal education from the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, earning BME and MM degrees in Music Education/Bassoon. My passion for Orff Schulwerk began with a general music methods class with Dr. Leona Wilkins during my senior year at NU, when we visited Sister Marcia's classroom in Franklin Park. I have completed Levels I and II Orff certification and Level I Kodaly certification. Since 1996, I have taught elementary general music in Deerfield District 109. Since 1986, I have served as bassoon section leader in the Northshore Concert Band, and I am an active woodwinds and double reeds adjudicator for IGSM, IMEA, and IHSA.

### Program Chair Jennifer Schramm



Hi my name is Jennifer Schramm and I am your program chair for 2012-2014. I have been an Orff/Kodaly teacher for 25+ years and have taught K-6 music and chorus for 6 years at Mark Twain Elementary School in Niles, Illinois. My experiences have been in the private and public sector, more specifically in Montessori schools. I have served on the board since 2005 and encourage each of you to serve on the board in our grass roots organization..

### Assistant Program Chair Lesley Pretkelis



Lesley Pretkelis has been teaching general music and choir in Glendale Heights since 2002. She completed all three levels of Orff-Schulwerk certification at VanderCook College of Music. Since her first class, she has been hooked on the creativity and process, which has opened up so many possibilities for her students. This year, she decided to become a part of the board to help serve the GCAOSA organization. Lesley has enjoyed meeting others who share this same love and learning from those who are experts at pulling creativity out of students. Her love of learning and continuous improvement keep her career in check and just a little exciting. Outside of teaching, she enjoys spending time with her husband and two young children. reading. and dancing Zumba!

## **Treasurer Melissa Marchman**



Melissa Marchman has been teaching in the Dist. 34 school system for the last 14 years, and overall she has been teaching music students for 29 years. She currently teaches general music to 2nd - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at W. C. Petty Elementary in Antioch Illinois. She also teaches chorus, percussion ensemble, mallet club, and recorder club during the lunch recesses and after school. Melissa received her Bachelor of Arts in Music Ed. and Mathematics from Eastern Illinois University and her Master of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Colorado. She also has certification in Orff Levels 1 and 2. She is a member of NAFME/IMEA as well as a member of American Choral Directors Association. Melissa has been treasurer of GCAOSA for last 9 years.

## **Corresponding Secretary Janet Tindell**



Janet has been teaching for 27 years and currently teaches at Central Elementary in Plainfield. She holds a B.M. from Milliken University and an M.S. in Literacy from St. Francis University. Janet has completed Orff Certification Level 1. She has been an active member of GCAOSA for 25 years and is a member of AOSA. Janet has served as the IMEA JEM Representative for 15 years and has served on the GCAOSA Board as Corresponding Secretary for 12 years.

## **Recording Secretary Regina Gibbon**



Regina Gibbons taught preK-8 general music and 3-6 choir for 8 years at St. Cletus School in LaGrange before becoming a full-time mother of two boys. This is her sixth year as Recording Secretary for GCAOSA. She has written articles for the GCAOSA newsletter and two children's book reviews for the Orff Echo. She has participated as a mentor for Elmhurst College's Center for Professional Excellence as well as served as a choir member, cantor, and VBS coordinator and teacher for her local church.

## **Members-at-large**

### **Jason Glashauser**



Jason currently teaches K-4 general music for Concord Community Schools in Elkhart, Indiana. He holds three levels of Orff-Schulwerk Certification. In addition, he is an adjunct horn instructor at Bethel College and St. Mary's College, where he also teaches a brass methods class. Jason has a Bachelor of Music from the University of Toledo, a Master of Music from Western Michigan University, and a teacher's certification from Trinity Christian College. He currently lives in Elkhart, Indiana with his wife Zofia, and their three children.

## Peter Hinch



I graduated from DePaul University with a degree in Music Education. I completed all 3 levels at DePaul and also took a Master Class at the University of Memphis. I have taught elementary school for the past 20 years and have spent the last 15 years teaching grades 1-6 in West Chicago District 33. I also have presented locally and at two AOSA national conferences. I have been a member of GCAOSA for 20 years and have enjoyed the friendships and workshops. I have been on the board for several years as assistant program chair and as President. Currently I am part of the support board. I am also on the National Board of Trustees for the AOSA as your Region VI Representative.

## Liz Moore



I am honored to be a member of GCAOSA and to have access to the rich resources of our terrific chapter! I teach at Kingston Elementary School in the Genoa/Kingston School District, located between Hampshire and Rockford. My masters in voice was done at NU in Evanston, and I taught JHS and Elementary School for several years in Kansas City, while also conducting several church choirs in several different denominations before we had our four children. At age 5 our children studied Suzuki piano, violin and cello while we home-schooled them for 14+ years and I was a stay-at-home mom. Today, our 3 sons are musicians in colleges out east, and continue to have many travel opportunities with their music, our daughter sings in a semi-professional group around the Midwest. I was also able to be employed at the Western Springs Suzuki School as a piano accompanist and was very fortunate to have taken the Orff certification levels back in 1983 with Jacobeth Postl and Lillian Yaross. I have re-taken the levels courses again at VanderCook and plan to continue to re-take them, always gleaning more from different teachers. It is a pleasure and a joy to belong to our chapter and to serve on the board!

## Deanna Varagona



Deanna Varagona has been teaching for one year at St. Sylvester School in Chicago. She has been a professional musician and composer for over 20 years and a private music instructor since 1979. Deanna has earned degrees in Computer Accounting from Branell Business College and in Recording Industry Management from Middle Tennessee State University. She has been a member of GCAOSA for one year. Deanna is new to Orff Schulwerk and is eager to learn as much as she can .

## Carol Vrotney



My name is Carol Vrotny and I reside in Wilmette with my husband Vinnie, daughter Sarah, and Princess our Pug. I have a B.S. in Music Area Education grades K-12, from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and M.A. in music from Ball State as well. I have taken an Introductory Orff Schulwerk course and a Level 1 course at De Paul University, and a Level 2 Orff course at VanderCook University. I look forward to being on the Chicago Chapter Board again this year as a Member at large!

## Summer Levels Training

Regina Gibbon

Over the summer, **Greater Chicago AOSA** hosted lunches for the AOSA Orff Levels classes at DePaul University and VanderCook College of Music. It is part of GCAOSA's college liaison efforts to encourage teachers to participate in the organization while celebrating the people and universities who train teachers in Orff-Schulwerk.



GCAOSA Program Chair  
Jennifer Schramm with Recorder  
Cynthia Seputis.



Training teachers enjoy their lunches



## Photo Gallery - Artie Almeida Workshop



**CLIMBING UP THE APPLE TREE**

(Children's rhyme with possible teaching extensions)

CLIMBING UP THE APPLE TREE,  
LOOKING ALL AROUND,  
COUNT HOW MANY APPLES THAT I  
SHAKE TO THE GROUND.



As a finger play:

- Echo teach the poem by phrases. Add motions:
- Climb up with your hands
- Look around with one hand shading eyes
- Gesture with pointer finger
- Shake the tree

As a listening activity:

- Have the class recite the poem. At the end of the rhyme, teacher plays a number of beats on a drum and students identify how many beats were played.
- Have a volunteer pick an apple icon (without showing the class) and play the number of beats indicated. The class identifies the number that is written on the apple icon.

As a processing/listening/responding/ cooperating playing with a group:

- After the class recites the rhyme, the teacher holds up an apple icon with a number printed on the front. The class claps/plays the number of beats indicated on the apple icon.
- If students are having a problem starting together, the teacher can give a starting cadence such as: "Hands ready, now we play".
- When the students are comfortable with the activity, they may be ready (or suggest) making a game of the activity. Write a "T" for teacher and a "(" for class on the board. If they play the correct number of beats indicated on the apple icon and stop together, the class gets a point. If they play too many, the teacher gets a point.
- Once they have had several experiences playing as a class, individual students can take turns playing a "solo" by reading and playing the numbers displayed on an apple icon at the end of the poem. The teacher may hold up one apple icon, or each student may be given an icon showing them how many beats to play when it is their turn. Students without an instrument can tap along quietly on their legs with their fingertips.
- To make the activity move along, have three or four students take their turns (one at a time) when the poem ends.

As a math activity:

- Display apple icons on the board in a scattered group pattern (resembling apples on a tree) with the numbers showing.
- The class recites the poem while a student chooses 2 apples from the "tree", adds their numbers together and announces how many beats the class needs to clap or play.
- Have 2 students choose 2 apples each. They each announce the sum of their 2 apple icons. Have the class add those 2 sums together and play the larger sum by clapping or with instruments.
- An alternative for counting the apples at the end of the rhyme, use various forms of skip counting (count by 2's, 3's, 5's, 10's, etc.)



As an instrumental activity:

- Play the rhythm of the words using sticks, drums and triangles:
  - Sticks play all of the words at first. Once the drums are added, see if they can stop when the drums play their words.
  - Drums play only on the words "tree", "round", "shake", "ground"
  - Triangles play on the rests after "around" and "ground"
- A chart of the words of the poem with the drum and triangle words and rests highlighted will enforce the reading and help the students respond at the correct time.
- Students should say the words of the poem as they play. Speech helps them anticipate and respond at the proper time.
- As a challenge, when they are ready and comfortable, can they play the rhythm of the poem without saying the words out loud?

## Recorder Lesson

Jennifer Schramm

### Wisdom Rondo

A: Early to bed and early to rise  
makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.



Ostinato: Benjamin Franklin Virtues, rest

Process

1. Say the poem in 4/4 meter
2. Say and clap the poem in 4/4 meter
3. Say and clap the ostinato
4. Play the poem on drums
5. Play the ostinato on temple blocks
6. Break class into groups of 4. Have them improvise a melody on B, A, G using the file card quotes.  
(see below)
7. Make file card quotes of Ben Franklin, such as:
  - a. A penny saved is a penny earned
  - b. Silence is the beginning of wisdom
  - c. Little strokes fell great oaks
8. Construct a rondo using the recorder parts and drum parts



## Coming in February! Vivian Murray Caputo

**Vivian Murray Caputo** has taught music in public and private schools for many years. She has presented workshops for AOSA chapters and for MENC and AOSA National Conferences and for IAJE. She is an instructor for Levels I, II, and III Orff Schulwerk Courses. She served on the AOSA National Board of Trustees as Region V Representative and as Co-Chair of the 2005 AOSA National Conference. Vivian was Co-Chair of the International Orff Symposium in 2000.



**Invite your friends and colleagues to come see what they have been missing with this one time voucher for a free GCAOSA workshop!**  
(feel free to make copies!!!)

**February 23, 2013      Vivian Murray Caputo**

9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Prairie Oak School  
1427 S. Oak Park Ave.  
Berwyn, IL

**This voucher entitles the bearer to a free workshop on 2-23-2013 at the  
Greater Chicago American Orff Schulwerk Association**

## Coming in March - Beth Melin Nelson      Coming in April - Michael Chandler

Beth Melin Nelson teaches K-5 music at St. Paul Academy and Summit School in St. Paul, MN, where she is also the Assistant Principal. She teaches on the faculties of the Orff Schulwerk teacher training courses at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, and at the University of St. Thomas, MN, where she also serves as the Course Director. Beth frequently presents workshops at the local, regional, and national level, and is a founding member of the adult performing ensemble *Schulfunk*. Her background includes experience as an early childhood teacher, artist in residence, and trained dancer.

Michael Chandler lives in Dallas and is the K-5 classroom music specialist at Parkway Elementary in Lewisville, Texas, where he directs the Parkway "Panther" Choir and the fifth grade instrumental and movement ensemble, *Schulspiel*. Michael holds a Master of Music degree in piano performance from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, and is also completing a Master of Arts degree in music education with an Orff Schulwerk concentration at the University of St. Thomas. Michael teaches in Orff Schulwerk certification programs at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota.

## Photo Gallery - Artie Almeida Workshop



## Nick Wild Workshop



***Greater Chicago Orff Schulerk Chapter Share Proposal***  
***Chapter Share for January 19, 2013***

This form must be completely filled out before being considered for this year's chapter share workshop. Return it to Jennifer Schramm, Program Chair no later than November 24, 2012. Please send your notes and application to [jennifer.schramm711@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.schramm711@gmail.com) or snail mail: Jennifer Schramm 34473 Bridle Lane, Gurnee IL 60031.

Completion of Orff Levels Training is not necessary in order to share at our Chapter Share workshop, however, familiarity with the Orff Schulwerk approach and philosophy is expected. In addition, you must be a registered member of GCAOSA in order to qualify to be a presenter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you are an active member of GCAOSA.

How will your presentation demonstrate the philosophy and process of Orff Schulwerk?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What benefits will Orff Schulwerk educators derive from your presentation and their participation.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

On a separate piece of paper, please indicate the process by step that you will be using during the presentation. The process must reflect the Orff Approach. Also, please indicate how many minutes you will need for each step to demonstrate pacing. **Your total time can be no longer than 30 minutes. If you are a national conference scholarship winner, you are confined to 20 minutes.**