



NORTH CAROLINA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

Fall Business Meeting

4:00 p.m. Saturday November 9, 2025

Board Members Present

Chris White - President

Jim Kirkpatrick - Past President

Andrew Jameson - President Elect

Rodney Workman - Honors Band

Fran Shelton - General Account

Rodney Workman - Honors Band Account

Michael Hough - Webmaster

Secretary - Karen Williams-Lanning

Call to Order - Chris White Meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.

Agenda was motioned and approved by the membership.

Approval of Minutes - Chris White, Karen Williams-Lanning

[Spring 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion was made to approve the minutes. Membership approved.

Acknowledgements - Chris White

Thanks to Andrew Craft, Robert Johnston, Justin Sumners, Adam Joiner, and WSFCS for supplying percussion for the NCMEA conference.

Introduction of the District Chairs:

- Eastern – Jake Wentzek
- Southeastern – Olivia Spell
- East Central – Tim Kohring
- Central – Michael Capps
- Northwest – Terry Reid
- South Central – Ashleigh Cook
- Western – Tim Sale

Thanks to our Past District Chairs:

- Eastern – Karen Matthews
- Southeastern – Steven Kelly
- East Central – Page Newsome
- Western – Kelly Saunders

Recognition of past NCBA Presidents

Moment of Silence for directors we have lost this year.

Hall of Fame Inductions - Andrew Jameson

NCBA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

- Dr. Scott Carter - Award accepted on his behalf by Creighton Flowers
- Mr. Samuel “Buddy” Gudger - words spoken in introduction by Kimberly Benson. Award accepted by Samuel “Buddy” Gudger.

NCBA Hall of Fame Member Recognition

There is an informal Hall of Fame celebration and performance of the Directors Jazz Band in the lobby after the meeting.

Special Recognitions - Chris White

Award of Excellence recipients were recognized by their district chairperson.

2025 NCBA Award of Excellence

- Western: Jennifer Gibson
- Northwest: Michael Howell
- South Central: Carrie Lineberger
- Central: Andy Oldham
- East Central: Tony Powell
- Southeastern: Olivia Dove Spell
- Eastern: Karen P. Matthews

2025 ASBDA Ed Rooker Encore Awards - Rodney Workman

Award recipients recognized:

- Cameron Garris; Jordan HS
Nominated by Andy Weiss
- Ryan Wing; Lufkin Road MS
Nominated by Matthew Pellas
- Isaac Brewer; Winkler MS
Nominated by Drew Carter
- Kristen Graham; Swansboro HS
Nominated by Perry Ditch

2025 ASBDA Ron Payne Legacy Award - Bill Witcher

Bill Witcher introduced a new award from ASBDA to honor the memory of Ron Payne. The first recipient of this award is Mr. Forest Munden who accepted the award to a standing ovation.

NCBA Treasurer's Report - Fran Shelton

[Finance Report](#)

Each district was assessed \$2000.00 in October to cover the shared expenses for NCBA events. This increase was discussed, approved, and announced at the spring meeting. Fran reminds the membership that receipts must be included for all reimbursements.

NCBA General: \$23,784.21

NCBA Honors Band Treasurer's Report - Rodney Workman

[Finance Report](#)

NCBA Honors: \$25,121.68

- A Cheddar link will be available this year for both audition and clinic fees.
- Music Buy Back after the Clinic made \$510
- The event is back to operating on budget without raising the clinic fee after adjustments were made by board and membership.

Webmaster Report - Michael Hough

Chris recognized Michael Hough for his willingness to take on the role as webmaster. Chris thanked Michael, Ruth and Jamie for their willingness to serve in the roles posted below.

- Michael Hough, NCBA webmaster
- Ruth Petersen, NCBA social media
- Jamie Bream, Hall of Fame Plaque and NCBA History Boards

All-State Honors Band - Jim Kirkpatrick

Auditions Committee

[Committee Agenda Link](#)

Jim shared that plans for auditions are still planned for Atkins High School unless there are fees that will be charged for auditions. Davie High School has generously offered to host auditions as a backup location if necessary.

Points of Interest:

Timpani Score Sheets & Script

- The term "pitch/intonation" has been updated to "tuning" on all timpani score sheets.
- The tuning time limit has been increased from 45 seconds to 90 seconds for Middle School, 9–10, and 11–12 auditions. This change was approved unanimously by the Executive Board.
- The timpani solo score has been adjusted from 60 to 50 points, making the total score 100 points (previously 110).

Timpani Long Roll

A visual notation of the long roll with dynamics will be added at the top of each timpani solo to clarify performance expectations. The bottom drum will be pre-tuned by the proctor for this portion of the audition.

String Bass Solos

Feedback from string bass educators has led to consideration of more idiomatic concert band solos. Karen Matthews and Kristina McRaney will review the submissions and present proposed rotations at the All-State meeting, with implementation targeted for 2026–27.

Honors Band Sightreading

A request was made for a formal rubric for sightreading comparable to MPA. Due to the unique nature of each excerpt, a fixed rubric will not be developed. Instead, Matthew Brusseau will compile a list of sightreading resources for directors and students.

Proposals

- Oboe Addition (9–10 Band): Proposed by Rodney Workman and approved unanimously by the Executive Board.
- Electronics Policy Clarification: Proposed by Renee Todd to explicitly include iPads and tablets under the “no electronic devices” rule; approved unanimously.

Student Cancellation Procedure Changes

A formalized procedure has been established for reporting audition and clinic cancellations via a google form. This will improve communication between audition and clinic chairs, allowing alternates to be notified promptly. All related forms will be posted to the website and included in future email correspondence.

Honors Band Auditions - Jim Kirkpatrick

Date: March 7, 2026

Snow Date: March 14, 2026

Location: Atkins High School

Fee: \$20

Audition Chairs:

- Middle School: Colin Tapp
- 9/10: Mallory Hill
- 11/12: Helen Park
- Tabulator: Eddie Deaton

Honors Band Clinic - Jim Kirkpatrick

Date: May 1-3, 2026

Location: UNC-Greensboro

Fee: \$60

2026 Clinicians:

- Middle School: Dr. Jason Worzbyt
- 9/10: Dr. Dominic Talanca
- 11/12: Dr. Peter Boonshaft

Clinic Chairs:

- Middle School: Olivia Spell
- 9/10: Chad Higdon
- 11/12: Tim Sale

MPA Committee - Andrew Jameson

[Adjudication Committee Report](#)

[Operations Committee Report](#)

[Solo and Ensemble MPA Report](#)

Marching Band Committee - Olivia Spell

[Committee Agenda](#)

NCBA Marching Band: \$3,693.10

Olivia thanked Anne Reese for her service to the marching band committee.

The committee has agreed to rescind the state marching championship proposal at this time. Olive thanked everyone who attended the marching band session today to discuss new ideas for the future.

Program of Distinction - Steven Kelly

Program of Merit

Applications will be accepted starting with the 2025-2026 school year. Applications submitted via the [NC Bandmasters website](#) (Links will be active after NCMEA). Submissions will be due by June 2026

List of recipients shared on the NCBA Website and Social Media by August 1 of each calendar year.

Evaluation Committee: At least one person per district will be needed to evaluate the submissions. Steven asked the membership to please let him know who will be serving from each district by the Spring meeting so that he could create a clear communication list.

Advocacy Update - James Daugherty

[NCMEA Advocacy Update](#)

James shared the importance of NCMEA in our state and its positive impact on band programs across the state.

- **Title IV, Part A**—Fund \$1.6 billion for Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants, a flexible block grant that can be used to: (1) provide students with a well-rounded education that includes the arts; (2) support safe and healthy students; and (3) enhance the effective use of technology.
- **Assistance for Arts Education Program**—Fund at \$40 million to promote arts education for all students through professional development activities for arts educators; development and dissemination of accessible instructional materials; and community and national outreach activities that strengthen and expand partnerships among schools, districts, and centers for the arts.

NCMEA has had a crucial role in advocating for music education in our state.

Jazz Section Update - Matt Howard

Thanks to everyone for attending the jazz sessions presented this year and jazz audition numbers continuing to grow.

Audition Material Update

- All parts to all the audition material are updated and posted on the website.

All State Jazz Audition Dates:

Feb. 27 - All-State Audition Registrations due

Mar. 11 - Uploads due

Mar. 18 - Results finalized

- Auditions Chair: Jesse Shelton

All State Jazz Clinic:

April 17-18, 2026

NC State University

- HS Clinic Chair: Margie Harrison
- MS Clinic Chair: Nico Iorio

Jazz Board Members:

- State Jazz Chair: Matt Howard
- Past Chair: Tina Robinett
- Chair-Elect: Whit Blount
- Jazz Section Delegate: Lucas Meade
- Regional Chairs
 - Becca Clemens, Central
 - John Weeks, Eastern
 - Adam Stewart, Western
- Members at Large:
 - Robert Hunter, Jennifer Merry, Tom Shoemaker

Hall of Fame Voting - Andrew Jameson

Nominations for the November 2026 ballot are due July 1, 2026. [The nomination form](#) must be completed by a District chair. 2-3 Letters of support from current Hall of Fame members must be included.

Nominees for Hall of Fame

- Debbie Davis
 - Bill Witcher spoke about Debbie Davis and her experience, quality ensembles and dedication to adjudicating in the state.
- Perry Ditch
 - Gerry Benitez spoke about Perry Ditch and his vision, his accomplishments and dedication to the profession.

Reminders:

All nominees have been reviewed by District Chairs and the Hall of Fame Committee and meet all standards for nomination. Each member must receive 75% of the general membership vote in order to be approved for induction.

You may vote “Yes” for all candidates.

Andrew reminded the membership that if you would like to nominate someone for the hall of fame, please visit the website and make sure your district chair receives the nomination date.

The membership voted electronically and both nominees were accepted into the NCBA Hall of Fame.

New Business - Chris White

- [Marching Band Committee Proposal](#) - The board has returned this proposal to Mr. Workman for further development.
- [Process for proposal submission](#) - Chris wants every member to have their voice heard and there should be a clear process for proposals to be submitted. In the proposal submission, anything in black is in our bylaws and constitution. Anything in red is what is proposed to be change. The meeting today will be considered the first meeting and the vote will take place at the first meeting following this which will be All State in May.

For Constitution or By-law changes, the Board shall then determine one of the following courses of action:

- Recommend the proposal for membership consideration as presented.
 - Upon recommendation by the NCBA Board of Directors, the proposal shall receive a first reading at the next general membership meeting. Voting shall occur at the subsequent general membership meeting following the first reading.
- Return the proposal to the author or a committee for revision; or
- Decline to advance the proposal.

For Policy and Procedure changes, the Board shall then determine one of the following courses of action:

- Recommend the proposal for membership consideration as presented.
 - Upon recommendation by the NCBA Board of Directors, the proposal shall take effect immediately.
- Return the proposal to the author or a committee for revision; or
- Decline to advance the proposal.

Chris opened the floor for any discussion. No comments were made and Chris invited further discussion after the meeting if necessary.

Celebrations! - Chris White and Members

- Thank you to Ruth Petersen for serving as our NCBA Webmaster for 14 years. And to Michael Hough, Jamie Bream, and Ruth Petersen for combining efforts to manage the webmaster role in the future.
- Congratulations to James Daugherty for his induction into the NCMEA Hall of Fame

Congratulations to the following ensembles and directors:

- Midwest Clinic Performance
 - Brass IMPACT!
Dr. Mark Norman, director
 - Midwest Clinic Presenters
 - Dr. Hunter Kopczynski
UNC Charlotte
 - Dr. JT Womak
Mars Hill
 - Dr. Catheryn Foster (Thomasville, NC)
Virginia Tech
 - Midwest Clinic Guest Performers
 - Jim Kirkpatrick, guest conductor, Elkins HS Percussion Ensemble
 - Dr. Eric Willie, guest performer, Elkins HS Percussion Ensemble
 - MFA Southeast Regional Concert Band Festival
 - Lufkin Road Middle School
Ryan Wing, director
 - Morehead City Honors Band
Jason Robinson, director
 - MFA National Concert Band Festival
 - Hickory Ridge Wind Symphony
Chris White, director
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- The Boston Brass Concert is tonight at 8:00pm in BCC Salem 2!
 - Wake Forest University Bands and Fuller's Music are hosting a reception at "Fiddle and Fish" from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. A Harmony Director will be raffled.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Williams-Lanning