

Music Education Week at the Capitol
March 6-9, 2018, Capitol Rotunda, Lincoln, NE
Performing Ensembles and Directors

TUESDAY, March 6 from noon-12:30 pm

Ashland-Greenwood High School Concert Choir
Amy Krance-Wendt, Director

Amy Krance-Wendt is a Graduate of Hastings College and UNO and is in her 7th year as Vocal Director with Ashland-Greenwood High School. Her choirs have received Superior and Superior-plus scores at DMC, and she has All-State and All-National students as well.

TUESDAY, March 6 from 12:30 pm-1:00 pm

Scott Middle School Select Choir, Lincoln
Paul Eschliman, Director

Paul Eschliman has been teaching at Scott Middle since 2008. He directs the Select Choir, the 7th and 8th Grade Choir, the Scott Ukulele Club, and the school musical. Prior to coming to Scott, Eschliman had a 22-year career with The United States Air Force Band as a vocalist. He retired with the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. Eschliman received his Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Nebraska.

~~~~~

**WEDNESDAY, March 7 from noon-12:30 pm**

**Malcolm High School Concert Band**  
**Ryan Marsh, Director**

Ryan Marsh is a 1996 graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he earned his Bachelor of Music in Education. In 2007, he earned a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from Doane College. Currently, he is in his 20th year as the 5-12 band director for Malcolm Public Schools. In addition to directing the band program, he teaches a high school music appreciation course, serves on the scholarship committee and hosts one of the area's largest music contests for middle school students, which consistently brings more than 2,000 students from area schools to participate in the two-day festival. Prior to his tenure at Malcolm, he was the 5-12 band director for Sidney Community Schools in Sidney, IA. His professional memberships include NSBA where he serves as the treasurer, NAFME/NMEA and ASCD.

**WEDNESDAY, March 7 from 12:30-1:00 pm**

**Lincoln Southwest High School Chamber Choir**  
**Denise Cotton, Director**

Denise Cotton is in her 15th year at Lincoln Southwest High School where she serves as Music Department Chair and Director of Choral Activities. Earning her Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Missouri and a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Illinois – Champaign, she received her Music Education Certification through the University of Missouri-Columbia. Currently, Denise directs the Southwest Chamber Choir, co-directs the Freshmen Choir, Concert Choir, Select Varsity Concert Choir, assists with the Prep and Varsity Show Choirs and serves as LSW Musical Vocal Director. Her choirs have been selected to perform at local community events, state conferences, national and international collaborative concerts, giving students opportunities far beyond the classroom.

**THURSDAY, March 8 from noon-12:30 pm**  
**Concordia Jr-Sr High School Concert Band, Omaha**  
**Peter Klemp, Director**

Peter Klemp received his B. A. in Music Education from Concordia College (now University) in St. Paul, MN and his M. A. in Education from Carthage College in Kenosha, WI where he studied with Dr. James Ripley. He taught music at schools in MN, WI and this is his 11th year at Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School in Omaha, NE. As the Music Director of Concordia Lutheran Schools of Omaha, Peter oversees the entire music curriculum (K-12). His duties there also include Band, Jazz Band, Guitar, Music Tech and the annual CHS musical. Peter is a published composer and has performed with the Omaha Symphony several times as a classical guitarist. He holds memberships in NMEA, NAFME, NBA and ASCAP.

**THURSDAY, March 8 from 12:30-1:00 pm**  
**Palmyra High School Choir**  
**Beth McCreight, Director**

Beth McCreight, K-12 Vocal Music teacher, earned both her bachelor's degree and Master of Music Education from the University of Nebraska in 2000, 2017 respectively. McCreight taught for two years at Milford and is in her 16th year of teaching at Palmyra. The choirs sing at the fall, winter and spring concerts, as well as Malcolm music contest, Mudecas music conference, and District Music Contest. Band or choir students may audition for Paradigm, Palmyra's show choir, and 9-12 students may audition for the spring musical, *High School Musical*. McCreight is a member of NMEA, NAFME, NEA, and is certified in Orff.

~~~~~

FRIDAY, March 9 from 12:15-12:35 pm
Dawes Middle School Jazz Ensemble, Lincoln
Richard Marolf, Director

A 39-year career as a music educator in Nebraska, Richard Marolf is currently in his seventh year as band director at Dawes Middle School. He previously was Band director at Scott and Lefler Middle Schools, Lincoln Northeast High School and Norris School District 160. He also taught for two years in Australia. Marolf has served as Audition Chair for NMEA and as President of NSBA. He holds a BME and Master of Music from UNL. He is a recipient of the LPS Gold Star award from Scott Middle School and Lefler and Dawes Middle Schools.

FRIDAY, March 9 from 12:35-1:00 pm
Omaha Westside High School Chamber Ensemble
Lanny Stutheit, Director

Originally from Kearney, Nebraska, Lanny Stutheit is Director of Orchestras for the Westside Community School District in Omaha. He also teaches instrumental music at Westside Middle School, Swanson Elementary and Oakdale Elementary. He holds degrees in Instrumental and Vocal Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado. A double bassist and vocalist, Stutheit has performed with Orchestras in Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado and Wyoming.