

## Summary of 9/22/11 Music in Schools Committee Meeting at YSM

Class of '57 members attending: Tom Chittenden, Gus Kellogg, Bern Kosto, Tom Perkins, Phil Richards, Bob Smith, Nick Tingley, Rob Walker, Steve Wittenberg

Robert Blocker and Michael Yaffe joined us in expressing our feelings about the loss of John Miller. I believe we all appreciated this opportunity. Clearly John was extraordinary- and – he created an extraordinary foundation for our program. It was agreed that John would be included in our 55<sup>th</sup> reunion memorial service and there was some feeling that he should be made an honorary classmate.

Symposium Post symposium surveys were handed out. They can be obtained from [jessica.j.johnson@yale.edu](mailto:jessica.j.johnson@yale.edu).

- (1) 26/50 distinguished music educators and 14/approx 50 New Haven teachers responded
- (2) Both the Thurs night welcome dinner and the Fri night awards dinner received high marks. It is clear that a very important part of the Symposium for the distinguished music educators was the recognition they received and the honor they could take back to their communities.
- (3) Several honorees mentioned that this was a 'leadership' conference and made them think in a broader fashion rather than just about their music classes
- (4) Teachers were offered the opportunity to set up an account with the Yale server enabling long distance collaboration with one another and/or with YSM. 25 attendees have set up such accounts.
- (5) There is a list/serve available to all symposium attendees and we discussed some ways of promoting discussion among them.
- (6) There were a variety of comments including high praise, thoughtful critiques and suggestions for future consideration. The critiques and suggestions will certainly be used in planning the next Symposium.---I admit some bias in quoting one honoree. “ The Symposium was the best professional experience I have had to date in my career.”

### Visiting Professor

Everyone was glad to hear that Brian Lewis will be back this year. His schedule will include 3 days/week every other week throughout the

academic year. He will again teach a course in Community Outreach including school based projects to be done by YSM students. In addition he will continue to shepherd the string program at Lincoln Bassett and to select as well as to mentor the teaching artists who will be involved in other schools.

### New Haven Program

- (1) Clearly it will take time to try and fill John Miller's shoes- but- the relationship between the YSM and the New Haven public schools is very strong- perhaps Yale's most vital interaction with the city.
- (2) Ruben Rodriquez, a YSM graduate and someone who John mentored, will take over the job at the John Daniels school. I spoke with him and watched him conduct the band this morning at a memorial ceremony and he is a really appealing young man with an obvious love for the children and a strong desire to carry on John's work.
- (3) Brian Lewis will continue to shepherd the string program at the Lincoln Bassett school.
- (4) Teaching artists, (YSM students) will work 5 hours/week at 8 different New Haven schools. They will be chosen and mentored by Brian Lewis.
- (5) The citywide chorus and citywide band will continue and will offer opportunities to students in the above music programs
- (6) The year end competitions will continue. Over the last few years, inner city public school students have for the first time had a strong presence rather than having these dominated by students from more privileged districts. We expect this to continue.

### 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Bern Kosto was present and we discussed a Music in Schools Presentation at the reunion. At present the idea is to have a presentation about the program including a live student music group at one of the reunion luncheons. We also hope for a page in Andy Glass's reunion directory and Nick Tingley suggested adding a US map with dots showing the geographical location of all symposium attendees thus far. This appears to be easy to produce.

### Fund Raising

Tom Perkins reports \$190,000 raised thus far toward the goal of \$1,000,000. Tom is to be congratulated – This is a very difficult environment in which to fund raise.

### Succession

We're getting older and therefore we need to begin thinking about the future of the program. This is up for discussion at future group meetings.