



American String Teachers Association  
Florida Chapter

September 2008

## *The String Section*

Vol 4, issue 1



### Message from the President

Hello to all FLASTA members! I hope all of you are having a great fall season. As your new president, I would like to thank Jessica Talbott for everything she did over the last two years as both secretary and president in addition to her chairs! I'm looking forward to working with Jessica in addition to our new officers and chairs.

Some exciting endeavors are presently taking place in our chapter. Our website is getting updated and revised! It's slated for completion by the end of this month. A directory will be on the website along with a listing of our members and their contact information for easy access. Since we won't have a security login or password to access the directory, please notify me by Sept. 15, if you would like to have your name and/ or personal information on our website directory. Secondly, FLASTA is going to sponsor a piece for the 2010, 7&8 All-State String Orchestra! Dr. Nick Curry, assistant professor of cello at the University of Florida, is going to chair this special commission project.

A summer conference with the Florida Orchestra Association took place July 24 & 25 in Orlando. Our keynote speaker was Justin Locke, a former bassist with the Boston Pops Orchestra. Presently, Justin is an author of two books and is starting a new career as public speaker. Justin shared a lot of entertaining stories with us from his first book *Real Men Don't Rehearse*. I would like to thank Barbara Cripe our National H.S. Orchestra Chair and Dr. Claudio Jaffe our Certificate Chair for presenting a session on important ASTA opportunities.

The National ASTA Conference is going to take place in Atlanta, Georgia, March 19-21. Keynote speakers for this conference and session topics will be announced soon on our website at [www.flasta.org](http://www.flasta.org). The deadline for the bi-annual State Solo Competition is quickly approaching. Please send your applications and cd to Dr. Simon Shiao, our State Solo Competition Chair, by October 27, 2008.

Please make plans to attend our FLASTA breakfast on January 9, during the FMEA conference, in the Riverview Room, at the Sheraton Riverwalk Hotel in Tampa, Florida. The Executive Board thought having our members attend a nice breakfast with live music in a serene and scenic room would be a wonderful way to start your day! Awards will also be presented. Please take a moment to contact Lisa Hopko, our Awards Chair to nominate an outstanding FLASTA member!

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the FLASTA members that are currently organizing activities for their chapter! Let me know if I can be of any help to you!

Nancy Beebe, President of FLASTA

## AWARD NOMINATIONS

We would like to recognize *outstanding ASTA members for the following awards:*

Private Studio Teacher of the Year, School Teacher of the Year, Young Artist Award, New Teacher Award, Service Award, Outstanding Educational Support Award, Distinguished Service Award and Lifetime Achievement Award. To nominate a deserving ASTA member, please contact Lisa Hopko, our Awards Chair, by email at: [hopkol@ocps.net](mailto:hopkol@ocps.net) or by phone at 407-623-1462 ext. 230. The deadline to submit nominations is December 1, 2008. Please write a detailed paragraph explaining why you want to nominate your candidate. Awards will be presented at our breakfast in Tampa.

## FLASTA BREAKFAST IN TAMPA

A FLASTA breakfast will take place during the Florida Music Educator's Association Conference in Tampa on Friday, January 9, 2009 from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the picturesque Riverview Room at the Sheraton Riverwalk Hotel on Ashley Street.

Come and start your day off on a great note! Live music will be featured along with a relaxing breakfast. Come and meet your new officers and chairs.

Our new membership directories will be ready too! Each member will be served a plated breakfast of freshly squeezed orange juice or grapefruit juice, farm fresh eggs, choice of bacon, sausage or, ham, breakfast potatoes, freshly baked danish and biscuits with jam, and coffee or tea.

Our state chapter is going to cover the cost of using the Riverview Room. Breakfast for each member will be \$18.50.

To make your reservation, please contact Jessica Talbott by email at [jesscia.talbott@ocps.net](mailto:jesscia.talbott@ocps.net) or by phone at 407-207-4474.

We want to encourage all our FLASTA members to please attend and support our state chapter!

## CELLOBRATIONS!

Dr. Claudio Jaffe is going to be hosting a Cellobration at St. Andrew's school in Boca Raton on Saturday, November 1, 2008. Cellists of all ages are invited to participate in this special event. An informal concert will be presented at the end of the day for the parents and the community. For more information please contact Dr. Jaffe at: [claudiojaffe@comcast.net](mailto:claudiojaffe@comcast.net).

A Cellobration is going to take place in the central Florida area in April. Jessica Talbott will be organizing this inspiring event for all interested cellists. For more information please contact Jessica at: [jessica.talbott@ocps.net](mailto:jessica.talbott@ocps.net).

## VIOLA DAY!

A Viola Day is going to be hosted by Adam Michlin on Monday, January 19, in Naples, Florida. For more information, please contact Adam at: [amichlin@gmail.com](mailto:amichlin@gmail.com).

**NATIONAL STRING PROJECT CONSORTIUM**  
**Announces Grants for New String Projects**

**\$10,000 first year, up to \$25,000 over five years.**

**The NSPC is a coalition of String Projects based at colleges and universities across the United States. These sites are working to increase the number of children playing stringed instruments, and addressing the critical shortage of string teachers in the US. There are currently 32 sites in the NSPC. Grants from this program will help to incubate new projects.**

**Application Deadline: November 17, 2008**

**For more information and an application form, see the website at: [www.stringprojects.org](http://www.stringprojects.org). For questions, contact Robert Jesselson at [Rjesselson@Mozart.sc.edu](mailto:Rjesselson@Mozart.sc.edu) or 803-2033.**

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**A NOTE of Humor:**



**Eden Vaning-Rosen as Einstein**

**Albert Einstein (1879-1955), German born physicist, lived in Princeton, New Jersey, where he loved to spend his evenings playing violin in a string quartet.**

**You won't want to miss checking out his "hot" new video on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) , "Einstein's Smoking Violin". Prepare to chuckle! (For future humorous Video releases, check the website, [www.TheViolinBook.com](http://www.TheViolinBook.com) frequently.)**

**IMPORTANT ASTA DATES**

**Deadlines:**

**October 1 - Alternate Styles Competition**

**October 1 - Potter's Violin Instrument Awards**

**October 3 - Research proposals for juried poster session at ASTA's 2009 National Conference.**

**October 27, 2008 - State Solo competition application due**

**ASTA National Conference**

**March 19-21 in Atlanta, Georgia**

**Featuring: National Orchestra Festival, National Solo Competition, Alternative Styles**

**Awards and great exhibits!!**

## **FLORIDA STATE OFFICERS: 2008-2010**

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### **THE MERIDIAN ENSEMBLE**

**Paul Martin, director**  
[paulsusana1@msn.com](mailto:paulsusana1@msn.com)

### **THE MERIDIAN ENSEMBLE**

**Based in the Miami area, the Meridian Ensemble was created in 2003 in order to take advantage of the uniqueness of the ensemble's instruments (classical guitar, flute, violin/viola and when needed, cello).**

**This ensemble performs music from J.S. Bach arrangements to contemporary pieces written for this combination. For more information please visit the website at:**

**<http://meridianensemble.net>**

**FOA & FLASTA SUMMER CONFERENCE,**  
**July 24 and 25 in Orlando, Fla.**



**FOA President Dr. Scott Rudes, Keynote speaker-Justin Locke and our FLASTA President, Nancy Beebe.**



**Dr. Claudio Jaffe and Barbara Cripe presenting an informative session on ASTA events.**

**Beethoven and Company**



**FLASTA Treasury Report, Fiscal Year**  
**2007-08**

**Balance June 30, 2007    \$9348.10**

**Income**

**Rebates/Grants    +\$2525.38**  
**Fundraisers        +\$1848.00**

**Expenses**

**Conferences        -\$855.00**  
**Services Projects - \$2546.11**  
**Meeting Expenses- \$140.13**  
**Postage             -\$90.20**  
**Printing             -\$45.13**  
**Miscellaneous    -\$46.92**

**Balance June 30, 2008    \$9997.99**

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Valerie Arsenault, treasurer**

## Reading Session



**Dr. Claudio Jaffe conducting  
at reading session**



**Dr. Scott Rudes conducting at  
reading session.**



**Members playing at the reading session.**

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### **Florida American String Teachers Assn.**

FLASTA Newsletter

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