

## CHAPTER V

THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER, 1984-20041984-1990: *Music in Mayfield* and the  
Northeast Ohio Teachers Association

By popular request, Richard Gill returned to Cleveland October 12-13, 1984 and presented both advanced and general level workshops.<sup>1</sup> The workshops were sponsored jointly by the Greater Cleveland Chapter and the Northeast Ohio Teachers Association (NEOTA).<sup>2</sup> The new partnership provided greater exposure to the Orff approach, and made available for the first time general music related sessions on the designated NEOTA professional day.<sup>3</sup> Established under the leadership of past-president Marjorie MacNeal, the partnership enlarged the workshop audience, established a larger professional communication network, created support from local school districts for future NEOTA/Orff Schulwerk sessions, and provided extra financial support for the chapter by having clinician fees paid for jointly.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, April 7, 1984, 2. The Honorary Memberships bestowed upon Ruth Hamm and Grace Benes for their years of service to the Greater Cleveland Chapter were announced to the membership at the October 13, 1984 Richard Gill workshop.

<sup>2</sup> The Northeast Ohio Teachers Association (NEOTA) became the Northeast Ohio Educators Association (NEOEA).

<sup>3</sup> *Orff News*, (January, 1985): 3. The NEOEA/Greater Cleveland Chapter partnership continues to the present day.

<sup>4</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, February 19, 1985: 1. Additionally during this time, the chapter continued its long standing relationship with OMEA by co-sponsoring national clinician Konnie [Koonce] Saliba for the state conference in Cleveland on February 9, 1985. Also presenting at the conference were chapter members Betty Gold and Marjorie MacNeal. Financial support also came from the Northeast District of OMEA and continues to the present day. An area connection would also take place between the national AOSA and Case Western Reserve University, the institution chosen to house the Isabel McNeill Carley Library, AOSA's archive of organization

The partnership with NEOTA established by the Greater Cleveland Chapter continued into the 1985-1986 year with the return of clinician Phyllis Weikart for the October NEOTA workshop weekend. The success of the Richard Gill sessions prompted an invitation from Cleveland State University to serve as site host for these workshops. The chapter welcomed the invitation but graciously declined, opting to continue its “long-standing and unique relationship” with the Mayfield City Schools.<sup>5</sup>

Despite its growth and the establishment of many partnerships, the same grassroots spirit that launched the Cleveland Chapter remained vital during this time period, as indicated within the resignation letter of 1985-1986 president, Patricia Koerner-[Bailey]:

While I feel much joy and excitement in regard to my recent marriage and planned relocation in West Germany, it is with sadness that I withdraw from my responsibilities as chapter president. Several years ago, this chapter drew me into the circle of warmth and caring known as the Orff Schulwerk. . . . The chapter became a professional anchor for me, and personally fostered and intellectually guided the music-making process I was ‘discovering’ with my students in the classroom. . . . And then, suddenly, it was two Orff Certification Levels and a Masters Degree later, and the chapter honored me with the invitation of chapter president. I was honored then, I am honored now, and I will always be honored by that act.

It is a humbling experience to serve as president of this historic, “Number One” chapter. I am indebted to our members for the support and thoughtful involvement they have demonstrated during my term. As president I have enjoyed the luxury of being drawn even closer to the collective professionalism and dedication of our members, and I have been enriched and deeply touched by the many gestures of friendship.<sup>6</sup>

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documents and resources. Local Cleveland Chapter member Janet Zimmerman was appointed librarian of the collection. At the time of her appointment, Zimmerman was an area music educator and director of the gifted summer program at the Cleveland Music School Settlement.

<sup>5</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, September 18, 1985: 2.

<sup>6</sup> Patricia E. Koerner-Bailey, Letter to the Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Executive Board, September 18, 1985, Chapter Archives, The Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA, Cleveland, Ohio.

The 1985-1986 season also brought with it the announcement that an Orff Schulwerk Level I certification course taught by B.J. Lahman, Virginia Mead, and Margaret C. Dugard [Holman], would be held at Kent State, Ohio, University (KSU) during the summer of 1986.<sup>7</sup> The “lack of levels courses in the immediate area” was considered a problem just two years prior in the chapter president’s report.<sup>8</sup> The Level I course at KSU was the first national AOSA approved course offered in the northeast Ohio area since the inception of the chapter,<sup>9</sup> and was also a new source for obtaining future members.<sup>10</sup>

Membership actually declined during the succeeding 1986-1989 *Music in Mayfield* years, despite successful headliner workshops with Nancy Ferguson, Marion O’Connell, Jacobeth Postl, Alexis Zolczar, Mary Goetze, and Millie Burnett. This chapter membership decline appears insignificant when compared to the status of the Central Ohio, Columbus Chapter AOSA (Chapter #29) which dissolved in 1984. Growth of the Schulwerk approach at the statewide level began a renewal with the emergence of the

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<sup>7</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, November 16, 1985.

<sup>8</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1984-1985, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>9</sup> National AOSA lists of formalized teacher training courses were not started until 1980. Prior to 1980, AOSA neither approved nor monitored the quality of national coursework offering Orff Schulwerk teacher training. A Schulwerk introductory course prior to 1980 was taught at KSU by Ruth Hamm during the spring quarter of 1976.

<sup>10</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1985-1986, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives. A second Level I certification course, taught by Bob DeFrece and Chapter One member Carol Huffman at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) in northwest Ohio, was held one month after the KSU class. Carol Huffman was concurrently working as AOSA national conference chairperson for the upcoming twenty-first AOSA national conference in Chicago, Illinois. Levels I and II certification returned to BGSU the following summer and included DeFrece, Huffman, Shirley Frank, and Donna Otto Spence as instructors. The University of Cincinnati subsequently offered Levels I-III during the summer of 1987 taught by Jacobeth Postl, Beth Miller, Judy Thomas, and Judy Thompson.

Northwest Ohio Chapter AOSA (Chapter #90), chartered at the twenty-first AOSA national conference in Chicago, Illinois, November 11-15, 1987.<sup>11</sup> By the end of the decade, enrollment numbers for the Greater Cleveland Chapter exceeded one hundred members for the first time in the organization's history.<sup>12</sup>

The expanding membership and growing numbers at workshops began to strain the facility agreements the chapter held with host schools.<sup>13</sup> Arranging the NEOTA day workshop became problematic, and chapter members began to think about developing a partnership with a secondary institution that could accommodate professional development sessions with large groups of people.<sup>14</sup> Cleveland State University's past offer paved the way for establishing this partnership. The chapter's growing numbers additionally paved the way for a second Level I teacher training course, absent in northeast Ohio during the previous 1987 and 1988 summer months.

The summer 1989 two-week Level I course included chapter members B.J. Lahman and Marjorie MacNeal as instructors, and was hosted this time at Cleveland State. Lahman had been teaching at CSU as an adjunct professor of music education prior to the course offering, and was instrumental in bringing the class to Cleveland.<sup>15</sup> Class participant and chapter member Tara Webb was prompted to write an article about this

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<sup>11</sup> Barbara Potter, "News and Views: Ohio," *The Orff Echo* 21, no. 3 (spring 1989): 39. The Northwest Ohio Chapter grew out of summer courses thanks to the endeavors of members Donna Moyers, Loma Muir, and Anita Kowalski of the Bowling Green City Schools.

<sup>12</sup> Membership at the end of the 1989-1990 year totaled 109 members.

<sup>13</sup> Patricia E. Koerner-Bailey, survey interview by author, November 10, 2004.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> In addition to her responsibilities as adjunct professor and Level I course instructor, B.J. Lahman also took on the role of national AOSA chairperson for the 1989-1990 membership campaign.

course, which was published in the newly redesigned and renamed chapter newsletter, aptly titled *Chapter One News*.<sup>16</sup>

This summer Cleveland State University offered an Orff Level I Course under the direction of B.J. Lahman and Marge MacNeal. Sixty hours of class work in two weeks that met from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. provided a terrific learning experience for all those who attended. It was a very special class of musicians that were bound and determined to learn as much as they could. B.J. and Marge were terrific teachers. We shall never forget one another.<sup>17</sup>

The December 1989 issue of *Chapter One News* paid homage to the twenty-year anniversary of the Greater Cleveland Chapter in a short article by editor B.J. Lahman:

CONGRATULATIONS to Chapter One! It was November, 1969 when Orffers in the Cleveland area started meeting somewhat regularly. It was important to keep in touch with others who were involved in this new concept. The support and “networking” was essential. Meeting first in living rooms, it then moved to Laurel School and Avonelle Webster’s music room once a month on Sunday afternoon.

With the new decade, Chapter One looks to the future with a solid core of music educators and leaders, dedicated to preparing students for understanding, joy and music that ORFF provides.<sup>18</sup>

The redesigned *Chapter One News* proved timely, as regular communication from the executive board to the growing membership became more essential. After twenty years, a new decade and era for the chapter was beginning.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Past chapter newsletters had been sporadic and unnumbered up to this time. The redesigned *Chapter One News* would begin at volume 1, number 1, and remains consistent to the present day.

<sup>17</sup> Tara Webb, “Course Work at CSU,” *Chapter One News* 1, no. 1 (September, 1989): 4.

<sup>18</sup> “The New Decade,” *Chapter One News* 1, no. 2 (December, 1989): 9.

<sup>19</sup> The final *Music in Mayfield* workshop featuring headlining clinician Lois Birkenshaw-Fleming was held on April 28, 1990.

## 1990-2004: Celebrations, Collaborations and Cleveland State University

Chapter One welcomed the 1990-1991 year with the October 12-13 NEOTA weekend workshops held in the new CSU Music and Communications Building. NEOTA over time became the Northeast Ohio Educators Association (NEOEA). Workshops were held at CSU at no cost to the chapter, which continues to serve as site host for all current workshops.<sup>20</sup> Also for the first time, a Level II Orff Schulwerk teacher training course was held at CSU during the summer of 1991, continuing the CSU/Chapter One relationship and representing the need for more advanced training amongst the growing number of individuals exposed to the approach. The new CSU partnership prompted the chapter to thank and acknowledge past and present associations, such as that with the Mayfield City Schools and with local music retailer Motter's Music House, Inc.<sup>21</sup> Hoping to increase student workshop attendance, the chapter continued its efforts to develop good relations with area colleges and universities beyond CSU.<sup>22</sup> The new position of college liaison committee chairperson was created on the chapter board, and a "Meeting

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<sup>20</sup> The new CSU/Chapter One partnership was not initially welcomed by all of the chapter members. Morning traffic, construction, building refreshments, exhibit space, and "normal weekday students and business people" were cited as difficulties in a *Chapter One News* letter to the editor published in May, 1991.

<sup>21</sup> "Recapitulation," *Chapter One News* 2, no. 2 (December, 1990): 3. Representatives from Motter's Music House, Inc., publishers of the *Music Is Elementary* mail order catalog since 1988, came to chapter workshops with resources and materials for display and sale. William (Bill) Johnson, proprietor of Motter's Music, began his career in the printing industry in 1966 and became the school service representative for Motter's in 1972. He purchased Motter's Music in 1978, and in 1986 he founded Golden Bridge U.S.A., Inc. and began importing instruments and accessories used in the teaching of Orff Schulwerk. Johnson, an industry member of national AOSA and a member of the Greater Cleveland Chapter, is a continued supporter of Chapter One to the present day.

<sup>22</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, March 23, 1991: 1.

of the Minds” workshop/panel discussion with local college and university educators programmed for the following year.

A new student scholarship program was initiated by the chapter at the start of the 1991-1992 season. The scholarship program designated full-time undergraduate/graduate applicants as associate chapter members, and provided recipients the opportunity to attend all meetings and workshops at no cost.<sup>23</sup> Eleven students representing Hiram College, the University of Akron, and Bowling Green, Cleveland State, Kent State, and Case Western Reserve Universities took advantage of the program; nine students from CSU, Hiram, and Baldwin-Wallace College were awarded scholarships the following year.<sup>24</sup> After two years, workshop scholarships were being offered to every student applying for chapter membership.<sup>25</sup>

In addition to workshop scholarships for students, during the winter of 1993 a Chapter One Assistance Fund for members was proposed. Initially intended to provide Orff level coursework scholarships to membership applicants, the Assistance Fund’s purpose was ultimately expanded to include professional development of applicants that would “be of value to the recipient, the chapter and/or community.”<sup>26</sup> The Assistance Fund proposal, prepared by chapter members Linda Hill, B.J. Lahman, Marjorie MacNeal, and Alan Purdum, was approved and activated on September 19, 1994, and has

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<sup>23</sup> “Student Scholarships for Workshop Attendance,” *Chapter One News* 3, no. 1 (September, 1991): 4. The scholarship program later evolved into the current Student Grant membership rate which permits full-time college students to attend all yearly workshops at a cost of \$5.00 for the year.

<sup>24</sup> “Notes from the Board,” *Chapter One News* 4, no. 1 (September, 1992): 2.

<sup>25</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1992-1993, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>26</sup> Motion for Proposed Establishment of a Chapter Sponsored Assistance Fund, file 1994-1995, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

become a “living legacy” honoring and supporting the objectives of the Orff Schulwerk movement in music education in the Greater Cleveland area.<sup>27</sup>

In honor of outstanding service to the Orff Schulwerk movement, B.J. Lahman was awarded Honorary Membership in the Greater Cleveland Chapter during the 1992-1993 season.<sup>28</sup> Chapter president Rosalyn Payne, in the Annual Chapter Report to national AOSA, wrote:

I must mention that the ONE SUCCESS FACTOR our chapter has is B.J. Lahman! Without her guidance and sincere dedication to Orff Schulwerk in general and our chapter in particular, our chapter would flounder!<sup>29</sup>

Lahman responded to the honor by stating:

Your warm gesture was a surprise that touched me deeply. I am reminded of the many opportunities for professional growth and fine friendships that were possible through the chapter activities. You’ll always be number 1 with me. You have my deepest gratitude, appreciation, and love for your action and all that you do.”<sup>30</sup>

The chapter report honoring Lahman also listed a variety of new goals and objectives for the 1993-1994 year, including “increased minority participation,”

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<sup>27</sup> Ibid. Only the interest earned by the Assistance Fund is earmarked for monetary distribution to applicants. It took five years of donations and accrued interest before the first grant was awarded to chapter member Marilyn Freas during the spring of 1999. To date, proceeds from the chapter’s annual silent auction add to the principle of the fund. Freas later was a recipient of national AOSA’s Gunild Keetman Assistance Fund Grant in 2001. The long term value of the assistance fund for both the chapter as well as the membership is represented by Freas’ continued service to the chapter as national program chair and president-elect, term to begin fall, 2005.

<sup>28</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, February 20, 1993: 3. A motion made by secretary Linda Hill at the February 20, 1993 executive board meeting nominated B.J. Lahman in recognition of her dedication and many years of continuing valuable service to Chapter One. At the same board meeting, B.J. Lahman moved to make Peter Sidaway, an Orff Schulwerk specialist from Cardiff, Wales, an Honorary Chapter Member in addition to herself. Sidaway was the first Chairman of the Orff Society in England and had become fast friends with many Cleveland Chapter members during his frequent visits to the United States for AOSA national conferences.

<sup>29</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 1992-1993, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives.

<sup>30</sup> “Notes from the Board,” *Chapter One News* 5, no. 2 (winter, 1994): 3.



“reaching more inner-city teachers,” and “more multi-cultural emphasis at workshops.”<sup>31</sup>

Although the report listed these items as “goals” for the first time, they actually dated

back well before the season. Rosalyn Payne recalls:

One time we went to a conference and never saw one black child’s face the entire weekend. This caused the teachers to gather together and encourage the awareness of diversity to the National Board. Avon Gillespie attended, along with Rene Boyer-(White) Alexander, Judith Thompson, and other international presenters. I think the National Organization has maintained [a] balance [at] national conferences keeping diversity of music [and] presenters in mind.<sup>32</sup>

Reaching inner city and minority teachers became an even greater challenge due to cuts in the Cleveland Public Schools, resulting in the loss of the supervisory position that coordinated inner city music education programs.

Additional objectives cited in the 92-93 chapter report were ongoing, including diverse workshops for the collective membership and continued contact with area colleges and universities. A setback occurred with the announcement that Orff level courses at CSU would not be offered during the summer of 1993. Cutbacks in state support for CSU summer offerings was cited as the reason.<sup>33</sup> Past course instructors Linda Hill, Alan Purdum, and B.J. Lahman consequently presented the new season’s opening chapter workshop focusing on introducing Orff process to the uninitiated participant and recapping basic applications for the experienced.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Rosalyn Payne, survey interview by author, November 1, 2004: 2. Rene Boyer-(White) Alexander currently teaches at the University of Cincinnati and was past-president of the Greater Cincinnati Chapter AOSA (Chapter #7).

<sup>33</sup> “No Orff Schulwerk Teacher Training Course Levels Offered at CSU This Summer,” *Chapter One News* 4, no. 4 (June, 1993): 5.

<sup>34</sup> “Patterns At All Ages,” *Chapter One News* 5, no. 1 (fall, 1993): 1.

The 1993 AOSA national conference in Indianapolis, Indiana was treated to the newly refurbished Chapter One banner commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the national organization.<sup>35</sup> The same conference paid homage to Ruth Hamm and other members of the original OSA steering committee. Plans for marking the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Greater Cleveland Chapter were still under discussion as of the May 21, 1994 chapter board meeting. The 25<sup>th</sup> season of the chapter would start appropriately with a workshop presented by Hamm who, herself, represented over thirty-five years of involvement with the Orff Schulwerk movement.<sup>36</sup> The chapter anniversary itself commemorated “more than twenty-five years of in-service training and professional exchanges in the Northeast Ohio area.”<sup>37</sup> Board minutes summarized in the 1995 summer issue of *Chapter One News* indicated that:

The success of [the] organization has come over the years from the many loyal and supportive music specialists, their administrators, family, friends, and colleagues. All have willingly volunteered contributions of time, effort and money that helped provide continuing education for self development, enrichment, and growth among those interested in the Orff Schulwerk philosophy of music education.<sup>38</sup>

The official celebration of the chapter’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary took place on September 16, 1995. Original charter members were invited and honored by colleagues, chapter friends, and the collective membership.

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<sup>35</sup> “Banner! Long May She Wave,” *Chapter One News* 5, no. 1 (fall, 1993): 8.

<sup>36</sup> During this period, Ruth Hamm, after a long retirement once more returned to the classroom at John W. Raper Elementary School, Cleveland Municipal School District, volunteering her time and coordinating Orff techniques within the language arts program.

<sup>37</sup> “Notes from the Board,” *Chapter One News* 6, no. 4 (summer, 1995): 3.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

During the course of the 1995-1996 year, a new partnership with the North Coast Kodály Association (NOCKA) was beginning to evolve under the leadership of chapter president Roger Sams. NOCKA, a midwestern divisional chapter affiliated with the Organization of American Kodály Educators, co-sponsored a workshop with Chapter One for the first time on January 18, 1997. The workshop featured national headlining clinician Jay Broeker who demonstrated similarities and differences between the Orff Schulwerk and Kodály approaches. The NOCKA/Chapter One partnership, like that with NEOEA, lightened the financial burden on both music education organizations.<sup>39</sup> Complementing the Orff/Kodály co-sponsored workshop were subsequent chapter sharing presentations that returned focus to the core elements of the Schulwerk.<sup>40</sup> Chapter president Roger Sams in his “President’s Message,” stated that:

I am very excited that our chapter is spending some time going back to our roots in this work and hope you will join us for these two workshops by local members who have cultivated a great deal of experience working with these materials.<sup>41</sup>

Another chapter collaboration, that with the Cleveland/San Jose Ballet, was established during the 1997-1998 year.<sup>42</sup> At the August 21, 1997 board meeting, member Dr. Beth Nelson, Coordinator of Educational Projects at the Cleveland Institute of Music,

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<sup>39</sup> The NOCKA/Chapter One partnership continued over the years with joint sponsored workshops featuring Arlene Jacobs, April, 1998; Dr. Angela Broeker, September, 1998; and Rita Klinger and Roger Sams, September, 2003.

<sup>40</sup> Presenters included Linda Hill, Dr. Nancy Lineburgh and Alan Purdum on February 22, 1997, and Sue Chmelik, Carol Huffman, and Roger Sams on April 26, 1997.

<sup>41</sup> Roger Sams, “President’s Message,” *Chapter One News* 8, no. 3 (spring, 1997): 3.

<sup>42</sup> On September 7, 2000 the Cleveland Ballet Board of Trustees suspended operations and cancelled the 25th anniversary season. The next day the separate Cleveland/San Jose Ballet Board of Directors announced unanimous support to investigate a plan to create a new ballet company based solely in San Jose, Silicon Valley.

discussed the possibility of the chapter working on a project for the upcoming performance of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* to be performed by the Cleveland/San Jose Ballet.<sup>43</sup> Roger Sams and chapter member Ann Gore were placed in charge of coordinating the event, which featured student and adult pre-show performances of Schulwerk repertoire.<sup>44</sup> Over one hundred students from Hathaway Brown School, Laurel School, and Ruffing Montessori Middle School, under the direction of Roger Sams, Ann Gore, Barbara Lang, and Deborah Southard, were involved in the pre-show performances that took place November 14-15, 1997 in the lobby of the State Theatre, Playhouse Square Center, Cleveland, Ohio.<sup>45</sup>

A similar performance and chapter collaboration coordinated by then chapter president Alan Purdum took place less than three years later, on May 12, 2000. The Youngstown, Ohio, Symphony and Chorus, along with the Singers' Club of Cleveland and the Ohio Boychoir, presented another performance of *Carmina Burana* at Cleveland State University. A pre-concert honors ensemble consisting of twenty students from area schools and districts including Cleveland Public, Grand Valley Local, Parma City, Streetsboro City, and Laurel School in Shaker Heights, presented a demonstration titled "The Other Side of Carl Orff." The student ensemble, under the direction of chapter members Alan Purdum, Phyllis Graves, BethAnn Hepburn, Barbara Lang, Lynn Provance, and Linda Hill, performed works of Orff and Keetman and demonstrated the

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<sup>43</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, August 21, 1997: 1.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

<sup>45</sup> Ann Gore, "Carmina Burana Success With Local AOSA Teachers and Students," *Chapter One News* 9, no. 2 (winter, 1998): 8.

educational side of Orff's prolific career.<sup>46</sup> A second ensemble comprised of Greater Cleveland Chapter members was led by Lynn Provance along with an interactive audience presentation led by Roger Sams.<sup>47</sup> Recently elected national AOSA vice-president/president elect Carol Huffman welcomed the audience and presented a brief introduction to Carl Orff's *Music for Children* and the Schulwerk approach.<sup>48</sup>

In addition to collaborations with professional, educational, and community organizations, the end of the decade witnessed new developments by Chapter One including a silent auction fundraiser for the growing Assistance Fund. Started in 1999 under the leadership of BethAnn Hepburn, the NEOEA day weekend fundraiser raised \$994.00 its first year towards the principal of the fund. The following year, forty-four regional and national companies and industry representatives were contacted. Donations by many of these organizations, along with contributions by chapter members, led to the success of the fundraiser for the second straight year. The chapter silent auction has continued successfully through to the present day. The Cleveland Chapter began with a budget totaling \$8.00. After thirty years of service and countless programming and

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<sup>46</sup> Alan Purdum, "From the President," *Chapter One News* 11, no. 3 (spring, 2000): 3.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid.

<sup>48</sup> Past Cleveland Chapter president Carol Huffman served national AOSA as acting treasurer (1996-1997), vice-president (1999-2001), and AOSA president (2001-2003). In addition to Ruth Pollock Hamm, Huffman is the only Cleveland Chapter member to serve national AOSA as president and vice-president. Past Cleveland Chapter president Alan Purdum similarly was elected to the AOSA Board of Trustees as region VI representative (1995-1997), recording secretary (2000-2004), and treasurer (2004-Present). Past Cleveland Chapter president Roger Sams was recently elected as national AOSA region VI representative (2004-Present).

fundraising efforts, Chapter One ended the millennium with an account balance of just over four thousand dollars.<sup>49</sup>

The financial stability of Chapter One continued to grow as the organization ushered in the new millennium, a new decade, and a national conference in Ohio for the third time in AOSA's history. The Greater Cleveland Chapter did not play host this time, but instead played the role of "good neighbor" by aiding the Greater Cincinnati Chapter (#7) with committee volunteers and a sales boutique in which all proceeds went directly to the Cincinnati group and the national AOSA assistance and scholarship funds.<sup>50</sup> Moreover, the 35<sup>th</sup> AOSA national conference, held November 14-18, 2001, represented a significant moment in Chapter One's history with the presentation of AOSA's Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to Cleveland's own B.J. Lahman. The DSA nomination marked Lahman as the first and only Cleveland Chapter member to receive national AOSA's highest honor. In his nomination letter to the AOSA National Board of Trustees, past chapter president Alan Purdum writes:

I consider B.J. Lahman to be my teacher, my guide, and my friend. I also consider her to be a teacher, guide, and friend to AOSA and its members. She gives unselfishly of her time and money to support AOSA and its objectives. She is truly deserving of recognition as one who has given "distinguished service."<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> Cleveland Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association Board Minutes, August 26, 2000: 5. The general operating account balance on June 30, 2000 totaled \$4,032.12.

<sup>50</sup> BethAnn Hepburn, "From the President," *Chapter One News* 13, no. 1 (fall, 2001): 4.

<sup>51</sup> Alan Purdum, letter to the AOSA National Board of Trustees, July 30, 2001, Chapter Archives, The Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA, Cleveland, Ohio. Purdum, along with chapter member Linda Hill and ASOA member Deborah Szajnberg, presented the *Introduction to Schulwerk (IS)* session at the Cincinnati conference. The *IS* session, started under B.J. Lahman's leadership at the 1983 Cleveland conference, was once again coordinated by her at the Cincinnati conference.

Purdum's sentiments are echoed in letters written by past chapter president and AOSA executive director Cindi Wobig, Greater Cincinnati Chapter member Rosemary Koepfle, and past national AOSA president Linda Ahlstedt. In addition to her many accomplishments already cited, B.J. Lahman served as AOSA national conference chairperson for the 1998 conference held in Tampa, Florida. Just prior to these duties, Lahman served as chair of the ad hoc national AOSA membership drive campaign. B.J. would subsequently spearhead a drive to make sure that the national AOSA scholarship funds were invested safely so that they can grow and live on in perpetuity.<sup>52</sup> This intensive work led to the establishment of the national AOSA Endowment Fund, created to ensure the "perpetuity" of AOSA itself.<sup>53</sup> In her DSA acceptance speech, Lahman graciously shared her motivation: "When you love children, and you love music, how can you not be a part of all of this?"

As the new millennium began, other chapter members were recognized and honored, and the chapter itself achieved new goals. Past chapter president Carol Huffman ushered in 2001 as the newly elected national AOSA president, and soon after, Past chapter president Marjorie MacNeal was presented with Honorary Chapter Membership (October 12, 2001). This honor was later bestowed upon past chapter president and AOSA director Cindi Wobig (April 24, 2004). Also helping ring in the 21<sup>st</sup> century were the establishment of a chapter website and E-mail News Alert (ENA). Both new media outlets, created under the leadership of member Mark Francis and vice-president Chris

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<sup>52</sup> Cindi Wobig, letter to the AOSA National Board of Trustees, July 30, 2001, Chapter Archives, The Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA, Cleveland, Ohio.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid. By November, 2002, the national AOSA Endowment Fund totaled over \$22,000.

Folsom, advanced the communication and membership service of the Greater Cleveland Chapter.<sup>54</sup> As the 2001-2002 Annual Chapter Report indicates:

Communication and outreach to members made a big impact on us this year. The e-mail news alerts were helpful, and having our chapter website has reached a few new members for us. There are direct links to the chapter president, and several new workshop attendees came by way of that contact!<sup>55</sup>

After thirty years of service, Chapter One continues to support Orff Schulwerk in Ohio with full vigor. In 2002, the chapter co-sponsored a focus group to review the initial draft of Ohio's K-12 Arts and Music Academic Content Standards. Chapter One coordinated and co-sponsored the first All-Ohio Orff Conference under the leadership of co-chairs Jane Frontone and BethAnn Hepburn. Frontone, during this time, had been a Cleveland Chapter member for years who had gone on to help build a new regional interest in the Orff Schulwerk approach. The subsequent All-Ohio conference, held October 15-16, 2004, was officially hosted by the provisional Central Ohio, Columbus Chapter (#113P).<sup>56</sup> Hepburn initiated the event idea as a way to bring an Orff conference closer to Cleveland during the 2004 year, and to help those initiating the new Columbus area chapter get off the ground financially.

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<sup>54</sup> The Chapter website was created by Mark Francis and jointly designed by both Francis and president BethAnn Hepburn during the summer of 2001. The Chapter officially registered the *clevelandorff.org* website domain on October 3, 2004. The website and E-mail News Alerts additionally serve to promote employment opportunities both regionally and nationally.

<sup>55</sup> Annual Chapter Report, file 2001-2002, Greater Cleveland Chapter AOSA Archives. Also helping ring in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Chris Folsom, along with then current vice-president Brenda Mikota, combined nearly twenty years of chapter membership lists into one database making the chapter more efficient with mailings, workshop registration and general record keeping.

<sup>56</sup> The dissolved Central Ohio, Columbus Chapter #29 (1974-1984) has emerged as a newly organized group under the leadership of Jane Frontone and Dr. David Frego from Ohio State University. A request for charter was submitted in 2001 according to national AOSA guidelines, yet no official chapter name appears on the application as of this writing. Columbus area educators hold provisional status and anticipate being chartered at the November 9-13, 2005 AOSA national conference in Birmingham, Alabama.



The 2004 season witnessed the establishment of the “Lahman Loaner” instrument program. The program, created to honor Betty Jane Lahman, provides selected applicants with classroom instruments for a full year with the condition that they be brought to all chapter workshops.<sup>57</sup> The program serves dual roles, helping chapter members in need as well as providing assurance that all chapter workshops will be well equipped.<sup>58</sup> Chapter One’s grassroots beginnings were fueled by a need to share resources and materials with those involved in learning and advancing the Orff Schulwerk approach to music education. Thirty-four years later, it seems entirely fitting that the Lahman Loaner program would embody that same spirit as the organization continues to serve Orff Schulwerk, AOSA, and the northeast Ohio region.

#### Summary

The establishment of numerous professional and community partnerships on the part of the Greater Cleveland Chapter led to many noteworthy accomplishments and accolades for the organization as it continued to progress. National AOSA-approved teacher training courses played a vital role in the continued growth of Chapter One, and became an important vehicle for the promotion and spread of the Orff Schulwerk approach in northeast Ohio. Moreover, regional teacher training courses were taught over the years by local chapter members including B.J. Lahman, Marjorie MacNeal, Linda Hill, Carol Huffman, Alan Purdum, and Roger Sams. These nationally regarded educators at the same time encouraged and promoted the Greater Cleveland Chapter and

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<sup>57</sup> Bill Johnson, proprietor of the Cleveland based Motter’s Music House, Inc., generously supplied and donated instruments, helping get the Lahman Loaner program underway. Johnson, nominated by local Chapter One officers and members, was the recipient of AOSA’s 2004 Industry Service Award.

<sup>58</sup> BethAnn Hepburn, survey interview by author, October 25, 2004.

the Schulwerk approach locally, regionally and nationwide.<sup>59</sup> Greater exposure of the Orff approach to college professors and university students continued over the years with encouraging results, due in part to chapter scholarships/grants for students and a new college liaison chairperson amongst the chapter leadership. Communicating chapter news to the collective membership and community at large was improved through advances in media communications and 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. Chapter One entered the new century organized, prepared, and devoted to a cause that has a rich history globally, nationally, regionally and locally. This researcher (and chapter member) has faith and confidence that the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association (Chapter #1) will continue to thrive for many years to come.

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<sup>59</sup> During the summer of 2004, Orff Schulwerk teacher training levels at CSU were temporarily replaced with an “Introduction to Orff” course coordinated by Roger Sams and taught in part by Chapter president BethAnn Hepburn among other instructors.