

# 2024 FMEA HALL OF FAME

This prestigious award honors individuals for outstanding contributions over an extended period of time to music and education in Florida, as well as throughout the nation.

## *J. Mark Scott*

2024 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

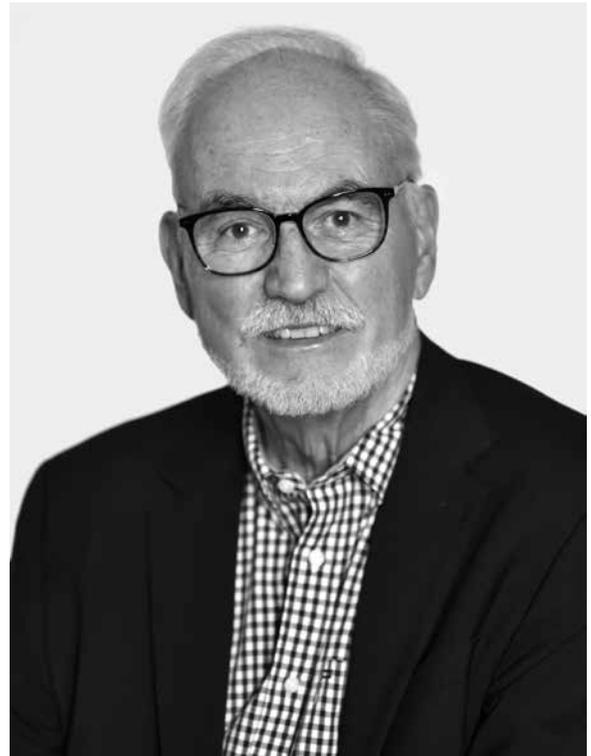
J. Mark Scott graduated with his bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Jacksonville University. He began his teaching career at Highlands Junior High School in Jacksonville. While there, Mr. Scott built the choral program and had more than 300 chorus students by the end of his 13-year tenure. His next assignment was Forrest High School, where the choral program had been shut down for three years. By the end of his 15-year tenure, there were more than 250 students in the program. A highlight of his career was working with profoundly physically and mentally challenged students at Mt. Heman Exceptional Student Center. Mr. Scott completed his career at Fleming Island High School in Clay County. During his 38-year teaching career, Mr. Scott worked with 19 student teachers from four Florida universities.

Mr. Scott was on the Florida Vocal Association's Executive Board for 23 years, serving as a district chairman, junior high/middle school chairman, and president. He was the chairman of the Past Presidents Council and the Adjudication Committee. He also served both the FVA and FMEA as chairman of the Awards Committee. In 2009, Mr. Scott became the executive director of the Florida Vocal Association and was named executive director emeritus upon his retirement in 2021.

In 1998, Mr. Scott was named Duval County Teacher of the Year. He was inducted into the FVA Hall of Fame in 2016 and received the FMEA Leadership Award in 2020. In 2023, Mr. Scott received the John Rose Mentorship Award.

A firm believer that the arts, and particularly music, are a vital part of a complete education, Mr. Scott continues to mentor new teachers and to advocate for the arts.

Mr. Scott is married to Brenda, a retired music educator. They have two sons, Adam and Matthew, and a daughter (in law) Tara.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 FMEA AWARD WINNERS!

### ELEMENTARY MUSIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

#### Cynthia Kohanek

**Pinecrest Elementary School  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools**  
*Nominated by Carlos Abril*



Cynthia Kohanek is a proud product of the Miami-Dade County Public School System and its community music organizations. She received the BM in music education from the University of Miami Frost School of Music and the MS in music education from Florida International University.

Ms. Kohanek began her teaching career in 1997 at Pinecrest Elementary School and has served as a music specialist there ever since. As a national board certified teacher, she has taught general music to students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Ms. Kohanek runs an after-school music program that consists of a beginning and advanced orchestra, chorus, and modern band. Her students have participated in both state and local ensembles including All-State Elementary Chorus and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) Superintendent's Honors Music Festival. Ms. Kohanek served as conductor of the MDCPS Superintendent's Honors Elementary Chorus in 2007 and 2014 and adjudicates these auditions annually. Ms. Kohanek has served as adjudicator for the Florida Vocal Association District 16 music performance assessment. Ms. Kohanek received her Level 1 Orff Certification and Level 1 Certification from Choral Music Experience (CME) Institute for Chorus Music Education.

Ms. Kohanek was named Teacher of the Year twice for her school and was awarded a Proclamation by the Village of Pinecrest for her musical contribution and service to the community.

Ms. Kohanek served as assistant director and conductor for the Miami Children's Chorus for 17 years. In this role she led the beginning and intermediate choruses. She prepared choristers for performances with the Florida Grand Opera. Ms. Kohanek was awarded the Educator of Note Award from the Young

Patronesses of the Opera. Ms. Kohanek prepared choristers to sing for the Super Bowl XLIV appearance with Queen Latifah.

Ms. Kohanek is passionate about supporting and mentoring educators. She resurrected the Dade County Music Educators Association and served as vice president, president, and past president. She served as an adjunct professor at Florida International University. She is a MINT (Mentoring and Induction for New Teachers) mentor and a supervising teacher, mentoring more than three dozen interns. She is an active clinician for her district providing annual in-services for professional development.

Students of Ms. Kohanek have gone on to have international professional careers in music. This has been noted through written articles and an aired NBC segment entitled "Pinecrest Elementary School Music Teacher Develops Talented Kids."

As Lynn M. Maceyras, administrative director of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, states, "Ms. Kohanek is an exemplary music educator who consistently goes above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of her students and fellow educators. Her extensive experience, mentoring endeavors, and dedication to the profession make her an exceptional candidate for the Music Educator of the Year award. Without a doubt, Ms. Cynthia Kohanek has earned my highest recommendation for this esteemed recognition. I wholeheartedly endorse her nomination and believe she embodies the essence of an exceptional music educator."

Analy Mendez, executive director of the Miami Children's Chorus, expounds, "Beyond her tremendous musical and teaching skills, and her unique ability to connect and inspire students, she's an all-around amazing human being—still a role model to so many of us. I cannot think of anyone more deserving than Cynthia Kohanek for this award."

And as Pinecrest Elementary School's principal, Suzette Fraginals, adds, "I want to express my sincere gratitude for Ms. Cynthia Kohanek's remarkable work as our elementary school music teacher. Her contributions have enriched the lives of our students, inspired fellow educators, and left an indelible mark on our school's musical landscape. Her passion, creativity, and dedication serve as an inspiration to us all."

## SECONDARY MUSIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

### Michelle Tredway

Niceville Senior High School  
Okaloosa County School District  
*Nominated by Deborah Mar, on  
behalf of FVA*



Michelle Tredway is a dedicated and lifelong music educator. Mrs. Tredway earned the BM degree from the University of West Florida and the MM in music education from Florida State University. She continued post-graduate piano performance studies at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Currently in her 34th year of teaching, Mrs. Tredway has taught vocal and instrumental music at every level including elementary, middle school (band and chorus), and high school (AP Music Theory and chorus). Additionally, she spent three years as an adjunct music professor and five years as a full-time assistant music professor at Southeastern University in Lakeland.

Orff Level I certified (FSU) and Kodály trained, Mrs. Tredway is privileged to have worked in Liberty County, Georgia; Polk County, Florida; and most recently in the Florida Panhandle counties of Okaloosa and Walton. Mrs. Tredway worked as middle school choral director at Lewis School (K-8) and Ruckel Middle School for 10 years, feeding into the famed Niceville High School (Michael Dye, director). Post-COVID, she spent two years at Walton High School, where she reinvigorated the choral program, which continues to grow and thrive after her absence. Now in her final two years of public-school education, Mrs. Tredway currently co-teaches as an assistant in the choral program at Niceville High School.

Under her direction, Mrs. Tredway's middle school choirs consistently earned the highest rating of superior from adjudicators at the District 1 music performance assessments. Furthermore, while under her direction, her Ruckel Middle School choirs earned the Florida Vocal Association Choir of Distinction status all four years the middle school delineation was in existence (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020). Mrs. Tredway has been named Teacher of the Year by her peers, and she has been named Teacher of the Month by her students.

Also a collaborative pianist, she has worked with many vocal and instrumental ensembles and organizations over the course of her teaching years, including with the Imperial Symphony Orchestra (Lakeland), the Okaloosa Chamber Singers, the Northwest Florida Symphony Chorale, 19 Okaloosa all-county

choirs, six Florida all-state choirs, 19 honor choirs (Niceville), and many other solo/small ensemble collaborative performances over the years.

Wanting to further excellence in choral music in Okaloosa County, Mrs. Tredway is presently working with the FWB Community Chorus to begin the first-ever Emerald Coast Children's Chorus for area students in grades 3-5.

Mrs. Tredway has presented at FSMTA, Arts Councils, and FVA conventions. She has directed honor choirs as guest clinician for the Twin Cities Honor Choir, Junior All-County Choir (Okaloosa County), the Santa Rosa All-County Middle School Honor Choir, and the Polk County All-County Middle School Honor Choir. She has served as all-county middle school choir coordinator for several years. Mrs. Tredway remains an active board-certified adjudicator for FVA and for the Federation of Music in Okaloosa County. She has served the Florida Vocal Association as district chairperson. At present, Mrs. Tredway is privileged to serve the Florida Vocal Association in the elected position of middle school chairperson, a position she will hold for the next two years.

Among all the years and accolades earned, she considers her greatest achievement to be creating a loving, caring classroom atmosphere of musical excellence. It brings great joy to have present and former students reconnect to recount the many happy memories made on trips, at festivals, and in the classroom.

Mrs. Tredway considers it a huge honor to have been voted FVA nominee for the Secondary Music Educator Award by the Florida Vocal Association Executive Board, as well as awarded this distinction by the Florida Music Education Association.

As Elisabeth Olson states, "One of the greatest gifts Michelle Tredway has given to Okaloosa County, and the state of Florida, is through living the example of grace and gratitude as essential foundations for an effective music educator. Michelle has always viewed her position as an educator with incredible gratitude. This underpinning guides everything from communication, to pedagogical design, to literature choices, to the many responsibilities in the scope of a choral director's duties. It is this combination of gratitude, grace, love, and competence that leads parents to know their children are, in every way, safe in her classroom; colleagues and administrators know they can depend on her, and students know they can trust her. The FMEA is better for having Michelle Tredway's skill and influence."

Elizabeth Phillips, choral director at Escambia High School and FVA clinics chairperson, adds, "Mrs. Tredway has taught

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around the state of Florida, and her impact as a teacher extends beyond the walls of her classroom. Michelle motivates all students, new directors, and colleagues in a way that makes us strive to be better people.”

And as the executive director of the Florida Vocal Association, FMEA 2020 Secondary Music Educator of the Year, and this year’s FMEA Leadership awardee, Michael Dye, adds, “I taught for 44 years and now serve as the Florida Vocal Association executive director. During that entire time, I have known only a handful of vocal music educators with the talent and dedication that can equal what Michelle brings to her students. I highly recommend that you select Michelle Tredway as the next Secondary Music Educator of the Year. She is the type of educator who epitomizes what I believe is the best of Florida music education.”

## COLLEGE MUSIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

### Carlos R. Abril, PhD

**Professor of Music Education and  
Associate Dean of Research  
Frost School of Music,  
University of Miami**  
*Nominated by Alice-Ann Darrow,  
supported by FCMEA*



Dr. Carlos R. Abril is professor of music education and associate dean of research at the Frost School of Music, University of Miami. At Frost, he teaches courses in general music methods, cultural diversity in music, philosophy, and qualitative research methods. He also serves as the coordinator of student teaching. Prior to this appointment, he was associate professor and coordinator of music education at Northwestern University.

Through his research, Dr. Abril seeks to identify barriers to studying music in schools, as well as to illuminate ways to make the study of music more accessible and relevant to children. He has published his work in numerous research and professional journals including *Music Educators Journal*, *Journal of Research in Music Education*, *International Journal of Music Education*, and *Journal of General Music*. In addition, he has co-edited three books: *General Music: Dimensions of Practice*; *Teaching General Music: Approaches, Issues, and Viewpoints*; and *Musical Experiences in Our Lives*. Recently, he served as a contributor and co-editor of NAFME’s *Blueprint for Strengthening the Music Teaching Profession*.

Carlos has served as chair of NAFME’s Society for Research in Music Education and served as the 2020 program chair for the NAFME National Conference. He currently serves on the

NAfME Music Teacher Profession Initiative, a national effort to widen the music teacher pipeline and better support preservice and in-service music teachers in the early years of their development. He has also served on the Research Panel for the National Endowment for the Arts and the advisory committee of Save the Music.

As an educator, Dr. Abril is committed to inspiring, empowering, and supporting his students. He inspires them to find or draw upon their musical and intellectual curiosities about the discipline, pulling from life, musical, and professional experiences. He empowers them by challenging them to stretch their thinking, deconstruct their assumptions, and open themselves to new knowledge. Part of empowerment is affording them space to problem solve, reflect, and commit ideas to paper independently. He supports them, in part, through collaborations. Just this year he published a book chapter on marginalized communities in music with one student and worked with two others on curating an international webinar series on cultural diversity in music education.

His former students are educators and researchers in both K-12 schools and universities. Former graduate students teach at institutions such as University of Southern California, University of Wisconsin, Florida International University, DePaul University, Oakland University, University of Maryland, University of New Hampshire, and Universidad de la Americas. Many of these students have gone on to serve as journal editors and members of editorial boards. Former undergraduates serve as successful K-12 music educators, community program leaders, and arts/school administrators. Some have been recognized as Teachers of the Year while others have won teaching grants or been selected as FMEA Emerging Leaders.

Recognized for his exceptional teaching and scholarship, Dr. Abril has been honored with numerous awards during his time as both a university and public-school educator, including the Phillip Frost Award for Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship, the University of Miami Provost’s Research Award, the Cervantes Outstanding Music Educator Award for work in Hispanic communities, and the Miami-Dade County Public School Region V Teacher of the Year. At Northwestern University, he was named a Fellow of the Searle Center for Teaching Excellence and to the Student Government’s Faculty Honor Roll.

Throughout his career, Dr. Abril’s passion for music education and dedication to empowering the next generation of music educators have been evident in his work, research, and mentoring. He continues to inspire positive change in the field and equip his students to drive transformative progress in music education.

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And, as Scott R. Sheehan, president of the National Association for Music Education, states, "Personally, I feel aspirational best describes Carlos's personality. He inspires all who know him to be better educators, leaders, scholars, musicians, and advocates. He does this through his incredibly thoughtful, respectful, and collaborative demeanor and by genuinely valuing the diverse opinions of others. I have always been personally moved by Carlos's willingness to have critical conversations and his openness to discuss challenging issues in an authentic and sincere way. Carlos's professionalism, expertise, and leadership are of the highest caliber, and his service to the profession and NAFME is appreciated beyond words."

And president-elect of NAFME as well as professor of music education at Temple University, Dr. Deborah A. Confredo, adds, "It should be obvious that I could go on extolling the tremendous attributes of Dr. Carlos Abril as a leader in music education. He is a strong and unapologetic advocate. He is tireless in his approach to leading our profession forward. His commitment to our collective cause is indefatigable, and I foresee his work and influence being a compass for good in all that we do for a long time to come."

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## ELEMENTARY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

### Lauren Limoncelli Watson

Principal, Lake George Elementary  
School  
Orange County Public Schools  
*Nominated by Katie Grace Miller*



Lauren Limoncelli Watson has spent her entire career in Orange County Public Schools, supporting students and their arts education. Ms. Watson was a teacher at three different elementary schools and then spent time as an assistant principal for five years before becoming the proud principal of Lake George Elementary School, where she has also been for five years.

She received her undergraduate degree from Rollins College and her master's degree from Nova Southeastern University. Her love of music started when she was just three years old learning piano. As she grew older, the experience in concert piano, chorus, and theater increased her passion for the arts. As a teacher, it was always a passion to ensure cross-curricular activities were evident when you walked through Lauren's elementary class-

room. As a principal, making sure the opportunity is available to all students to be able to express themselves in any form of art they desire, from vocal, instrumental, visual, etc., is crucial to her success.

During her first year as a principal, Ms. Watson led her school through the pandemic while ensuring that a full musical production, outdoor concerts, and art shows were still possible, following CDC regulations. For Ms. Watson, music education is part of the core curriculum and should be fully supported and encouraged.

Lauren's goal as an administrator is to always support. She sees her role as a leader as not a shining spotlight role, but as support to lift others up for success! She knows that if her students and teachers are succeeding, then she is doing the best at her job as an administrator. This support includes the support of her students' arts education. Students are NEVER pulled from arts classes since they only get music and art one time a week. The entire leadership team is instructed to make sure that students do not lose this incredibly important part of their education, and we have only seen positive outcomes from this.

What is most obvious as an administrator is not only her support of her entire staff, but her support of the arts. When she arrived at Lake George, the arts programs had room to grow and blossom, and she provided the means and support for that to happen. Under her leadership, Lake George Elementary began an amazing musical program for second through fifth graders, a full school art show, and an extra alto recorder group for advanced players, and Lake George has had the most students attend all-state ensembles in the school's history. She ensures that her school's students are participating in OCPS all-county groups every single year, without fail. Ms. Watson ensures that the music and art teacher do not have morning or afternoon duties so they can have rehearsals/practices/clubs on any morning or afternoon of the week. She supports any fundraising opportunities the arts can find, and she is always on the lookout for ones she can get started so their programs have a robust budget to pull from to enhance their students' arts education.

Lauren Watson gives advice in her own words for any new principal: "If you have a music teacher who has passion and is willing to do the work to provide students with the opportunity to express themselves through the arts, support them as much as you can! Lake George is blessed with one of the best music educators, which makes my job as her principal amazing!"

As superintendent of Orange County Public Schools, Dr. Maria Vazquez, states, "Ms. Watson's commitment and unwavering support of the performing arts have provided Lake George

# FMEA Awards

Elementary students with access to remarkable opportunities, including participating at Florida Elementary Music Educators Association regional and all-state competitions. Ms. Watson has demonstrated a commitment to build a thriving music program at Lake George Elementary. Last year, she ensured the Advanced Lake George Jammers could perform at the FMEA conference in Tampa by paying for their charter bus. Ms. Watson also supports her students by cheering them on at their performances, ensuring music teacher Katie Miller has time in her schedule to conduct rehearsals before and after school, and providing dollars for other staffers who assist in performing-arts programming at her school. Not only does Ms. Watson value the arts, she helps ensure that every student can be successful. She supports her teachers and staff and helps make Lake George a family. Ms. Watson's contributions truly affirm that she is worthy of the Administrator of the Year award."

And as Matthew Neveras, Lake George Elementary third grade teacher and assistant director of Lake George Musicals, adds, "While many principals are solely focused on test scores and data, Ms. Watson treats our music program like it is just as important. For a lot of our students, that spark will lead them to a passion or even a career in music that begins at the elementary level. And that spark couldn't have been lit without the support of our amazing principal, Lauren Watson."

## SECONDARY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

### James Harris

Principal, Alonzo High School  
Hillsborough County Public Schools  
*Nominated by Amanda Griffis*



James Harris has been leading schools in Hillsborough County Public Schools for the past 18 years. Mr. Harris is the principal of Alonzo High School in Tampa, Florida, where he brought Alonzo High School to an "A" rating in 2022, for the first time since 2013. Mr. Harris also facilitated Alonzo High's transition to becoming an official International Baccalaureate School in 2021.

The band program at Alonzo High School serves more than 200 members and is the largest band program in Hillsborough County. Under Mr. Harris's leadership, the Alonzo administration, IB program, and guidance department have created a school culture that prioritizes student commitment in music and

arts education. Mr. Harris maintains the importance of music programs, ensuring that remedial, CTE, and ELL students are still able to take band, chorus, orchestra, and/or theater. Alonzo High School is in the large minority of IB schools in the state whose students can attend their music elective every day, rather than every other day, throughout their entire time in high school. Under Mr. Harris's leadership, Alonzo High prioritizes music electives during the master scheduling process and works with students and parents to encourage commitment and dedication. Mr. Harris supported the expansion of the jazz program from one class period to two, as well as prioritized expansion of the orchestra classes in an effort to better serve student proficiency levels.

Mr. Harris is also a supporter of invaluable music and professional development opportunities, even during arduous state testing windows, such as the Midwest Clinic in Chicago (takes place during schoolwide end-of-course testing), the Alonzo Jazz Ensemble performance in New Orleans in April 2021, the Alonzo Theater performance in Edinburgh Festival, Scotland in August 2023, and the Alonzo Band performance at the Smokey Mountain Music Festival in April 2024, to name a few. He is a regular emcee at music concerts and is an attendee at evaluations and competitions for band, chorus, orchestra, and theater.

Prior to Mr. Harris's tenure at Alonzo, he served as an administrator at Sickles High School, another local school that is well known across the state for their flourishing music programs. It is no coincidence that both schools where Mr. Harris has served as administrator boast high student enrollment, high community engagement through music, and a school culture that recognizes and prioritizes the invaluable experience that music brings to students' lives.

Mr. Harris earned the MAEd in educational leadership from Argosy University in Tampa and the BS in social science education from the University of South Florida. He was named Assistant Principal of the Year by the AP1 Council for the 2009-10 school year.

As the retired supervisor of music of Hillsborough County Public Schools, Ted Hope, states, "James believes deeply that the music program is the heart of the school. He gives the art teachers autonomy to make decisions in the best interests of the program. He prioritized the school's master schedule and took great care to ensure that electives would not conflict with other academic classes, including IB. As principal, when there are conflicts, he would hand schedule each student to ensure all students were able to take their performing art classes, which

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has encouraged the programs he oversees to flourish. As you can see, James Harris is a huge supporter of the music program in his school. His determination to maintain and expand the performing arts coupled with his desire for their success makes him a candidate worth considering.”

And as Kenneth Hart, the deputy director of the Chief of Schools Office in Hillsborough County Public Schools, adds, “I am certain there are many very qualified candidates being nominated for this prestigious award. In my humble opinion, however, FMEA will find none more dedicated, none more humble, and none more qualified to represent the high standards of excellence FMEA expects of its recipients than James Harris. I recommend him with no reservations and am certain he will represent the organization extremely well.”

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## SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR

### Nadia T. Combs

**School Board Chair**  
**Hillsborough County School Board**  
*Nominated by Tracy Lisi*



Chair Nadia T. Combs has always had a passion for providing children with the education they deserve. Chair Combs is a proud graduate of the University of South Florida where she earned a bachelor’s degree in social studies education and a master’s degree in educational leadership. She began her teaching career working at the Japanese Ministry of Education. She then excelled in Hillsborough County Public Schools, winning Teacher of the Year at Franklin Middle School as well as Middle School Social Studies Teacher of the Year for the entire county.

Chair Combs was elected to the Hillsborough County School Board, representing District 1, in 2020. She is one of seven members responsible for making policy decisions and overseeing a total budget of \$3.3 billion for the seventh largest school district in the nation, which is also the county’s largest employer. Chair Combs knows the complex school district well because she wore many hats prior to becoming a school board member. She was a teacher, team leader, department head, and district teacher trainer, and even taught at-risk students through the Drop Out Prevention Program.

Nadia Combs is also an entrepreneur who founded a company to provide tutoring services to thousands of students in

Title I schools in Hillsborough County and throughout Florida. She currently owns and operates Brighton Learning Consulting, which she founded in 2014, continuing to provide educational support to students in public, private, magnet, and charter schools throughout Hillsborough County.

Nadia Combs has served as a member of the Children’s Cancer Center Panera’s Knead for Knowledge Scholarship Committee from 2012 to the present. She is currently serving on the board of the Glazer Children’s Museum and is co-chair for its Education Board. Recently she also became a member of the USF College of Education Dean’s Advisory Board. She has actively served as a judge for Hillsborough County School events including the History Fair and the World of Wisdom Tournament. She also served as a member of the Children’s Cancer Center Knead for Knowledge Scholarship Committee from 2012 through 2020.

An advocate for arts in the schools, Chair Combs played violin in elementary and middle school, and although she admits to not being the best karaoke singer, she knows that music education is often the key to reaching and motivating students. Chair Combs continually supports and approves the Music in Our Schools Month proclamation every March. She initiated, by specific request, “Performances on the Plaza” prior to each school board meeting throughout the year that feature musical ensembles, theatre troupes, and dancers from Hillsborough County Public Schools’ elementary and secondary schools. She attends these performances and then invites student performers from these performances to introduce themselves at the beginning of the school board meeting. She also supports and approved the purchase of Quaver Music as elementary music education curriculum, as well as educational partnerships between Hillsborough County Public Schools and the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, Recycled Tunes of the Gasparilla Music Foundation, the Florida Orchestra, the University of South Florida School of Music, and Music Will. She also continually supports and actively seeks a millage referendum to support music education in Hillsborough County Public Schools.

As Caroll Vick, program manager of Arts in Education for Hillsborough County Public Schools, states, “[Nadia] Combs shows her support of arts education by showing up for our students! Her support of a quality, comprehensive arts education is apparent through her actions. Hillsborough County Public Schools is one of the 2023-24 NAMM Best Communities for Music Education. This is in part due to the staunch support of music education by Chairperson Combs. Nadia Combs truly demonstrates the leadership that is necessary to maintain,

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sustain, and increase access to high-quality arts experiences for all students.”

And the supervisor of middle/secondary music education in Hillsborough County Public Schools, Jon W. Sever, adds, “In this day and age, the business of education is tough. However, when you have unconditional and unwavering support of music education, like we have from [Chair] Combs, we are assured that our district has the correct focus for all subjects and the students of Hillsborough County Public Schools will continue to thrive, as our music programs have!”

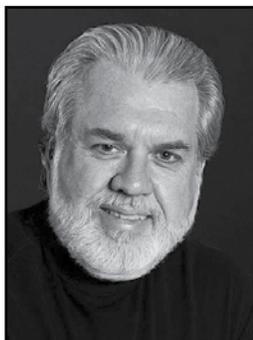
## LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Michael Dye

Executive Director

Florida Vocal Association

*Nominated by Jeannine Stemmer on behalf of FVA*



A native of Arkansas, Michael Dye was born and raised in Pine Bluff where he attended the Dollarway public schools before earning the BME from Henderson State University (Arkadelphia) and the MME from Arkansas State University (Jonesboro) where he worked as a graduate teaching assistant. He also did extensive graduate work in educational leadership through the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville).

Mike began his music education career at Southwest Junior High in the Hot Springs School District, Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, before returning to his alma mater where he conducted the choirs at Dollarway High School for 12 years. While in Pine Bluff, Mike was elected Arkansas Choral Directors Association’s Southeast Arkansas region chair and later the Arkansas Choral Directors Association’s state president. He was also elected state president of the Arkansas chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. During his Arkansas career, Mike also served a term as the ArkCDA’s state festival chair. During his last year in the state, Mike was chosen the ArkCDA’s Senior High School Director of the Year.

In 1990 Mike accepted the position of choral director at Niceville High School in Okaloosa County, Florida. During his 30-year Florida career at Niceville, which ended with his retirement in 2020, Mike was twice elected Florida Vocal Association’s District 1 chair, FVA president, and appointed to serve as music, clinics, all-state, MPA, and past-presidents chair. He was also appointed FVA’s representative to the Florida School Music

Association where he served continuously for a decade, including collaborating with other component representatives to establish standards for performance assessments and adjudication training. Later, Mike was elected president of FSMA, while also serving five years on that association’s executive committee. One of the most rewarding opportunities of leadership and service was serving FVA as an all-state choir coordinator for every FVA all-state senior high choir over a period of more than a decade.

In 2020 Mike was hired as the Florida Vocal Association’s executive director, a position in which he still serves. He is again serving on the FSMA board and its executive committee.

More important than any other leadership position in which Mike has served, he led the students of his choral music programs for well over 40 years. Many of his students and interns are now music educators themselves. Hundreds of his singers were selected to all-county and all-state choirs. The choirs he conducted consistently earned the highest ratings at district and state music performance assessments, including 18 FVA state MPA choirs of distinction. During his time as Niceville’s choral director, students performed three times in Carnegie Hall and toured internationally eight times over a 20-year period. The Niceville Singers performed in the Brucknerhaus Concert Hall in Linz, Austria; Coventry Cathedral in England for the World Church Music Festival; Beijing, China, for the Chinese Choral Directors Association and with the Little Swans Childrens Choir in Xian; San Marcos Basilica, Venice; Chiesa San Giovanni Battista, Monterosso, Cinque Terra, Italy; St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin; the unique concert venue Duetsches Jagd und Fishereimuseum in Munich, Germany; El Vendrell Cathedral (Pablo Casal’s home church) in El Vendrell, Spain; Schönbrunn Palace, Vienna; and dozens of other venues in 10 different countries.

Mike lives in Valparaiso with his wife, Wanda. They have two sons, Dr. Matthew Norton (Naomi), Pensacola, and Reverend Timothy Norton (Kendra), Fort Pierce, and six grandchildren, Lauren, Graham, Wesley, Caleb, and twins Lydia and Emmy.

As Deborah Wong Mar, retired music educator and 2023 FMEA Secondary Music Educator of the Year, proclaims, “Michael Dye exemplifies the mindset of a servant leader in all that he does.”

FVA Immediate Past President Jeannine Stemmer, states, “Mike is a pillar of wisdom and experience for the organization. He serves with all his mind, soul, and body. I pray that his legacy will stay alive in FVA for many more years so that the next generation will learn what it is to work hard for what you love. He shows that there is much more to success than dialogue. I hope to be half the leader that Michael Dye is.”

And J. Mark Scott, executive director emeritus of the Florida

# FMEA Awards

Vocal Association and 2020 FMEA Leadership Award recipient adds, "I can think of no one better than Michael Dye to receive this award. His leadership in FVA, FMEA, and FSMA has been essential in keeping Florida at the forefront of music education. He is truly an outstanding leader."

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD OF AN INDIVIDUAL IN MUSIC EDUCATION**

### **Elizabeth Landrum LaJeunesse**

#### **Collaborative Pianist**

*Nominated by Tabitha Peck on behalf of FVA*

Elizabeth Landrum LaJeunesse is a collaborative pianist who is highly sought after in the Tallahassee area (and throughout the state of Florida). Elizabeth, a Tallahassee native and lifelong resident, holds degrees in choral music education (BMusEd, 1996) and organ performance (MM, 2008) from Florida State University. Elizabeth developed a love for collaborative piano at a very young age, and was nurtured in this love by her high school chorus teacher, Judy Arthur. She was fortunate to study piano with Carolyn Bridger during high school and throughout her time at FSU, as well as to serve as accompanist for University Singers for three years under the direction of André Thomas.

As a Leon High School alumna, Elizabeth is proud to serve as staff accompanist for Leon's choral and band programs alongside directors Tabitha Peck, Maggie Smith, and Lee Commander; in 2020, she had the privilege of accompanying Leon's Capital Singers at their Southern Division ACDA performance. In addition to her work with Leon, Elizabeth frequently collaborates with other band programs in the Panhandle to coach and accompany students. She has collaborated with



TSO Chorus, Tallahassee Civic Chorale, FSU Chamber Choir, University Singers, Collegians and Levana, Vocal Jazz ensemble, and FSU summer music camps, and frequently joins the Tallahassee Community Chorus and FSU choirs as a continuo harpsichordist.

Elizabeth maintains an active schedule as a freelance collaborative pianist and organist, coaching many undergraduate and graduate singers and instrumentalists. Over the past five years she has begun specializing in saxophone repertoire and enjoys her frequent collaborations with the studio at FSU.

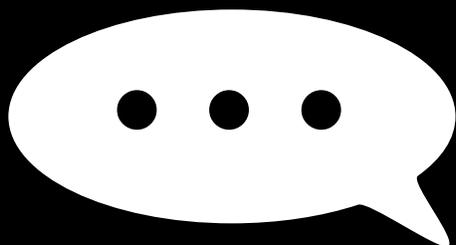
After serving several Tallahassee churches as organist over the past three decades, she was appointed organist last year at First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, a position most recently held by her organ teacher, Michael Corzine. She has appeared as a guest service organist and recitalist at several churches throughout the Southeast.

As a sophomore at Leon High School in 1990, Elizabeth auditioned for and was selected by the clinician to accompany her first Florida all-state chorus, the newly formed 9th/10th grade SATB ensemble. She was again selected as a student accompanist for the next two years, and upon entering college, she was hired by FVA. She has been accompanying Florida all-state choirs for over three decades (since she herself was in high school!) and has accompanied an all-state chorus every year since except for 2002, serving almost every ensemble and working with such notable clinicians as Paul Salamunovich, Judy Bowers, René Clausen, Jeffery Ames, and Sandra Snow, among many others.

Elizabeth has three adult children, Cassie, Alex, and Ellie, all of whom were members of Leon Performing Arts and participated in all-state reading and concert choirs, as well as all-state band; they continue to enjoy singing and playing in their free time.

Elizabeth frequently gives of her time and talents to make sure music educators in the greater Tallahassee area and the state of Florida are successful in their classrooms and

*Continued*



**Start thinking**  
**about who you would like to**  
**nominate for the 2025 Awards.**

**Learn more at: [fmea.org/programs/awards](https://fmea.org/programs/awards)**

Continued

performances, and cares deeply about music education in the state of Florida.

Lee Commander, director of bands at Leon High School, states, "It is easy to see the tremendous efforts that Elizabeth LaJeunesse has put forth to cultivating outstanding musicianship and fostering music education in the state of Florida. As a state, we are lucky to have a person whose quest to provide for young people continues well beyond their time in secondary schools."

And Dr. Kevin Fenton, professor of conducting and ensembles and director of the University Singers at Florida State University, adds, "Often, when one thinks of service, the volunteer spirit and dedication comes to mind. When I think of Elizabeth and her nomination for the Distinguished Service Award, I think of dedication and generosity, but I am most struck by the absolute artistry she shares each time she performs. I am inspired by Elizabeth's commitment to bring her best to each musical experience. I believe that Elizabeth enhances music education and the choral art each time she performs with a choir or collaborates with an instrumentalist or singer. She represents the best of the profession, and she is a beacon of what is possible. She would be perfect choice for the FMEA Distinguished Service Award."

## **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD OF AN ORGANIZATION IN MUSIC EDUCATION**

### **Cadence Music, Inc.**

**Business Manager Todd Handley**  
*Nominated by Harry "Skip" Pardee*

A native of Southwest Florida and a proud graduate from the School District of Lee County Public Schools (Lehigh Senior High School), Todd Handley has had an appreciation for education and those who teach firmly imprinted in his philosophy from literal birth. Both of his parents were educators, and both retired from teaching after 30-plus years in the profession.

Sports consumed most of his time in his early years. He was an incredible baseball and football player (at least that's how he remembers it!). Even as an elite athlete, music always seemed to find its way into what he was doing. He could be heard in the outfield of his baseball games whistling as loud as he could whatever song popped into his head at the time. His mom would get reports from his classroom teachers that other students

couldn't focus on their studies due to Todd's loud singing from the bathroom. He had a song in his heart and wanted everyone to hear it!

It was in sixth grade when Mr. Skip Perry at Lee Middle School introduced Todd to the trumpet. He was decent on the trumpet, despite not practicing, and was good enough to make all-county band and sit at the top of his school band program. His musical trajectory was changed in 1998 while auditioning for the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps. Because of his lack of practice, he did not make the soprano/trumpet line. The director, Dennis Lorenza, must have seen something in him and offered him a position on the contra/tuba line. Wanting to be a part of the organization, he gratefully accepted. It was in that summer and with that organization that he started thinking of music as a possible profession and had found his voice, the tuba.

When he came back from marching DCI that summer, he had a changed approach and work ethic regarding music. He got more involved in his school music program and was seeing real growth on the tuba. His time at Lehigh Senior High School with Jay Parales and Chris Bonner was no exception. Mr. P and Mr. Bonner encouraged him to participate in everything: S&E, all-state auditions, jazz band, indoor drumline, concert band, marching band, youth orchestra, and anything else they could think of.

It was three days after his high school graduation that his musical trajectory was altered again. A fellow bandmate from Lehigh told him that he should apply to work at Cadence Music in Fort Myers, Florida. Having worked a few other jobs growing up including golf course attendant, Taco Bell food service, and construction work, he was thankful to begin working in a field that he was really interested in—music. He was hired by Tom Kracmer to work in the repair shop, primarily cleaning instruments. At that time Cadence Music was a pretty small shop, having only a small wash tub for cleaning most instruments. Being a tuba player, Todd was responsible for ... you guessed it ... cleaning tubas (the only instrument that wouldn't fit in the wash tub). Subsequently, much of his time was spent scrubbing tubas on a piece of cardboard using a garden hose on the sidewalk behind the shop.

In 2003, Todd transferred from Edison Community College to Florida State University to pursue a degree in music education. While at FSU he continued to grow musically and continued to cultivate his love for education. He started a small business fixing instruments in a friend's garage. He was used to cleaning on a sidewalk, so a bathtub was a welcomed improvement. The



business continued to grow, and when he left FSU in August 2005, he was working on the faculty's instruments and had a profitable small business. He was sitting in Dr. Steve Kelly's "Teaching Music in American Society" when he decided that he could still be involved in music education, but instead of in the classroom he could be a support system and advocate for those in the trenches, also known as school music classrooms.

It was in August 2005 that Todd decided to go back home and work with Tom Kracmer at Cadence Music, where he still works today. Having developed into a decent tuba player and instrument repair technician, staying busy was not very difficult. He started finding professional playing opportunities and started building a pretty good private lesson studio. As he started building his career, supporting and encouraging ALL people through music education was ALWAYS his priority. Supporting sometimes meant talking a director off a cliff after a disappointing MPA performance. It sometimes meant fixing a student's saxophone that they dropped an hour before their performance. It sometimes meant encouraging a new music educator to never stop playing and to join their local community concert/jazz band, of which he plays with two (Bonita Springs Concert Band and Naples Concert Band). It sometimes meant helping a music director increase the size of their program with an instrument petting zoo. It sometimes meant moving a tuba from one school to another. It sometimes meant letting a local school borrow five tubas and four euphoniums so their musicians could have a combined concert. It sometimes meant helping to start a local New Horizons ensemble.

Music and education have been entrenched into Todd's life. He is where he is and does what he does because of the teachers that have molded him into the person he is. Just as his teachers did for him, he will continue to express kindness and understanding, and will be generous with encouragement through music education. There is one thing that continues to motivate Todd: MUSIC IS FOR ALL!

Todd Handley serves as the business manager for Cadence Music, Inc., out of Fort Myers, Florida. He is an active freelance musician, educator, and business leader in music education in Southwest Florida. Todd's mission to support music education for all children in our community is realized through the many students and teachers who benefit from his professionalism, timely work, and servant leadership in schools.

As Skip Pardee, district coordinator of fine arts in Collier County Public Schools and FMEA board member at large, expounds, "Just recently, Florida Music Education Association

and the Hurricane Relief Committee's executive leadership received a hearty donation of instruments and equipment to address learning gaps caused by Hurricane Ian. Without hesitation, Cadence Music agreed to take possession of the equipment, work with music supervisors in the three impacted communities to assign instruments and equipment to receiving schools, and facilitated delivery. This type of servant leadership is part of what we hold dear as members of FMEA, and is indicative of a career of service to the profession."

And Scott Evans, Orange County Public Schools' senior director of visual and performing arts and FMEA president-elect, adds, "His selfless actions and tireless advocacy for music education have made an immeasurable impact on our community. The lasting legacy he has created through his efforts will continue to resonate with students and teachers for years to come."

## EXEMPLARY MODEL MUSIC PROGRAM AWARD

### Miami Jam Sessions and the Donna E. Shalala MusicReach Program, Frost School of Music, University of Miami

Director Nerissa Rebagay

Miami Jam Sessions, in partnership with the Donna E. Shalala MusicReach program at the Frost School of Music, provides free music therapy socialization and mentorship programming to neurodiverse adolescents and young adults, facilitated by board-certified music therapists. Participants work alongside volunteer mentors to sing, play instruments, and build relationships in success-oriented music-making experiences with peers. Miami Jam Sessions embraces the diversity of their group members and designs sessions to provide the opportunity for both participants and volunteers to socialize and build inclusive relationships regardless of neurotype.

Miami Jam Sessions envisions a world where individuals of all abilities and backgrounds have access to build confidence and relationships through music-making with others. The Jam



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# FMEA Awards

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Sessions program seeks to provide opportunities for participants to learn, practice, and reinforce social skills; equip volunteer mentors with the confidence to interact with and mentor neurodiverse individuals; and create lasting friendships and memories through shared music-making. A program of the San Diego-based nonprofit Banding Together, Miami Jam Sessions is a partner with the Donna E. Shalala MusicReach Program at the Frost School of Music and takes place on the University of Miami campus. Miami Jam Sessions is proudly funded by grant partners, which in the past have included The Kirk Foundation and Music Access Miami at The Miami Foundation. Additionally, the support of their participants, volunteers, and community through donations and fundraisers allows them to provide all sessions at no cost to their participants.

Miami Jam Sessions maintains a high quality of programming because of the training and continuing education of the organizing and leading board-certified music therapists. Specialized training allows sessions to be personalized to the unique needs and strengths of group members, fostering a positive environment for socialization and music-making. The volunteer mentorship aspect is unique to Miami Jam Sessions, and many mentors have mentioned through reflective journaling and surveys that volunteering has proven to be a valuable experience in pursuit of careers in music education and music therapy. In the Miami Jam Sessions program, everyone participates in inclusive music-making environments, where all are welcomed, appreciated, and supported without personal or musical judgment. Miami Jam Sessions also provides access to training and resources for volunteer mentors and community musicians to be successful in interacting with individuals with varying needs. Likewise, neurodivergent individuals need access to settings where they can make music. Success-oriented music-making settings open the door to opportunity through a lens of acceptance and celebration.

Throughout its six years in providing services, Miami Jam Sessions has tracked and reported data using standardized assessments to measure the impact of the music therapy socialization group and mentoring program on program participants. Additionally, volunteer mentors complete qualitative and quantitative assessments of the participants at each session, as well as engage in discussion and reflective journaling to identify the impact of volunteering with the program. Data collection over the last six years has resulted in strategic facilitation of music therapy interventions to practice and enhance social skills, as well as provide opportunities for success-oriented music-making for an increasing number of group members. Ongoing

networking has resulted in collaborations with music education groups and nonprofits such as the Greater Miami Youth Symphony, South Florida Center for Percussive Arts, Pinecrest North Preparatory Modern Band, and Children's Voice Chorus.

Nerissa Rebagay, director of Miami Jam Sessions, is a doctoral student in music education at the Frost School of Music. She has experience teaching chorus, strings, and modern band instruments to students of all abilities in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. She conducts the Young Mozart's Orchestra and serves as education coordinator with the Greater Miami Youth Symphony. Nerissa's research interests include neurodiversity, creativity, and music teacher training. A life-long learner, Nerissa is a Kodály certified teacher. She was recognized by the Florida Music Education Association as a 2020 Emerging Leader and was the 2021 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Rookie Teacher of the Year. Nerissa holds the BM degree in music education and music therapy from the University of Miami and the MPhil in arts, creativity, education, and culture from the University of Cambridge (UK).

David Cote, a former volunteer and music therapy master's student, states, "Miami Jam Sessions is extraordinarily special and fills a unique place in our South Florida community that brings people with differing backgrounds together to make music and friends. It truly makes a positive impact on everyone involved and is an invaluable resource to the community."

And as Kunya Rowley, former director of arts and culture with The Miami Foundation, adds, "What is particularly magical about attending a Miami Jam Sessions program is to witness the care with which they imbue for the young people with whom they're working, the dignity and thoughtfulness woven throughout every process, and the fun and joy that ensues (because, truly, isn't that the most important part?!). We are grateful to have them as a partner in this work. Our community and our young people are better for it."

# FMEA Awards

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## 2024 FMEA MUSIC EDUCATION SERVICE AWARDS

*The Music Education Service designation is awarded to music educators who have been active in music education for 25 years or more. This award recognizes the outstanding service of our members who have committed themselves to this profession for most of their adult lives.*

**Matthew Flenner**

25 years  
Eustis High School  
*Lake County Schools*

**Vivian Gonzalez**

25 years  
Miami Arts Studio 6-12 @ Zelda Glazer  
*Miami-Dade County Public Schools*

**Kenneth Boyd**

26 years  
West Orange High School  
*Orange County Public Schools*

**Brian Dell**

26 years  
H. B. Plant High School  
*Hillsborough County Public Schools*

**Missie Westerman**

26 years  
SunRidge Middle School  
*Orange County Public Schools*

**Justin Chase**

26.5 years  
Lake Nona High School  
*Orange County Public Schools*

**Ramona Lane**

27 years  
Hunter's Creek Elementary School  
*Orange County Public Schools*

**Pamela Richardson**

27 years  
Sandy Lane Elementary  
Conservatory for the Arts  
*Pinellas County Schools*

**Farryn Weiss**

27 years  
Millennium 6-12 Collegiate Academy  
*Broward County Public Schools*

**Heston Curry**

28 years  
Tequesta Trace Middle School  
*Broward County Public Schools*

**Holly Noordhoek**

29 years  
Curtis Fundamental Elementary School  
*Pinellas County Schools*

**Thomas Silliman, Jr., DMA**

31 years  
Southwest Middle School  
*Brevard Public Schools*

**Walter Busse, PhD**

32 years  
Miami Beach Senior High School  
*Miami-Dade County Public Schools*

**Debi Savage**

32 years  
The First Academy  
*Orange County*

**Tina Gill**

33 years  
Cypress Bay High School  
*Broward County Public Schools*

**Nicole Greggs**

33 years  
Plantation Park Elementary School  
*Broward County Public Schools*

**Larry Shane**

33 years  
West Boca Raton Community  
High School  
*The School District of Palm Beach County*

**Darren Dailey**

34 years  
The Jacksonville Children's Chorus  
*Duval County*

**John Wayne Weatherspoon**

34 years  
Lake Worth High School  
*The School District of Palm Beach County*

**William Bauer, PhD**

36.5 years  
University of Florida School of Music  
*Alachua County*

**George Rahming, Jr.**

42 years  
Lincoln Park Academy  
*St. Lucie Public Schools*

**Edward Stiles, Jr.**

43 years  
The Out-of-Door Academy  
*Sarasota County*

**Russell Bertles**

43 years  
A. K. Suter Elementary School  
*Escambia County Public Schools*

**Blair Clawson**

50 years  
Sealey Elementary School  
*Leon County Schools*

# FMEA Awards

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## 2024 FMEA MUSIC ENROLLMENT AWARDS

The Middle and High School Music Enrollment Award is presented to music programs demonstrating high enrollment in music courses. This award recognizes the effectiveness of programs that offer attractive music curricula as well as those that excel in the recruitment and retention of students. Schools hold the award for three years. They may be looked to as models of quality programming, scheduling, and recruitment and retention of students. In order to qualify for this award, at least 30% at the high school level and 45% at the middle school level of the entire student body must be enrolled in a music course.

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### MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

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#### **AOPKA MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL – 45%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Lisa James**

**Music Educators: Carol Kelly, Robb Ross**

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#### **ROBERTO CLEMENTE MIDDLE SCHOOL – 45%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Andrew Agudo**

**Music Educators: Luis Esquilin, Madison Ickes**

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#### **MANATEE MIDDLE SCHOOL – 47%**

*Collier County Public Schools*

**Principal: Matthew Dyer**

**Music Educators: Stephen Detjen, Elizabeth LoGiudice**

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#### **CHAIN OF LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL – 48%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Dr. Bob Walker**

**Music Educators: Simone Sharrieff, Kevin Strang,  
Nathan West**

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#### **R. DAN NOLAN MIDDLE SCHOOL – 49%**

*The School District of Manatee County*

**Principal: Scott Cooper**

**Music Educators: Payton Liebe, Mike Reynolds, Jade Willitt**

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#### **CLEARWATER FUNDAMENTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL – 50%**

*Pinellas County Schools*

**Principal: Stephanie Joyner**

**Music Educators: Abbey Duncan, Calista Zebley**

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#### **WOLF LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL – 52%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Cynthia Haupt**

**Music Educators: Halle Hoskins, Charles Kelly,  
David Laniewski**

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#### **SUNRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL – 53%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Amy McHale**

**Music Educators: Lisa Loucks, Rhea Parks-Smith,  
Missie Westerman**

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#### **FLORIDA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL – 54%**

*Miami-Dade County*

**Principal: Patricia Perez**

**Music Educators: Mitchell Curry, Austin Tindall,  
Jeannine Stemmer**

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#### **LAKELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL – 55%**

*Polk County*

**Principal: Bryant Black**

**Music Educators: Wendy Carl, Kathy Johnson,  
Michelle Manzi, Mindi Mulligan**

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#### **SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL – 57%**

*Brevard Public Schools*

**Principal: Jasmine DeLaughter**

**Music Educators: Crystal Golinello, Ashley Hart,  
Thomas Silliman, Ashley Tavarez**

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#### **BENITO MIDDLE SCHOOL – 59%**

*Hillsborough County Public Schools*

**Principal: Brent Williams**

**Music Educators: Brandi Dean, Elise Prather, Eric Scharf**

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#### **BRIDGEWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL – 61%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Amy Klaber**

**Music Educators: Daniel Cortolillo, Christiane Lynch,  
Kyle Sargent, Aaron Wiggins**

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#### **SOUTH CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL – 62%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal: Lovely Tinsley**

**Music Educators: Earnest LaBee, Marisa Ledbetter,  
Daniel Maldonado**

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**MARTINEZ MIDDLE SCHOOL – 63%**

*Hillsborough County Public Schools*

**Principal:** Toby R. Johnson

**Music Educators:** Robert DeLoach, Rene Escamilla, Christopher Johns-Klein

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**CREATIVE LEARNING ACADEMY – 64%**

*Escambia County*

**Principal:** Kim Stafford

**Music Educators:** Abigail Walker

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**MARINER MIDDLE SCHOOL – 70%**

*The School District of Lee County*

**Principal:** Mason Clark

**Music Educators:** Jasmine Batista, Darren Nolf

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**CLASSICAL PREPARATORY SCHOOL – 74%**

*Pasco County*

**Principal:** Jasmine Brightman

**Music Educators:** Brent Lamkin, Trevor Lloyd

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**LARGO MIDDLE IB WORLD SCHOOL – 88%**

*Pinellas County Schools*

**Principal:** Alec Liem

**Music Educators:** Anthony Ruffin, Jillian Savia, Amy Worst

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**HIGH SCHOOLS:**

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**LAKELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL – 32%**

*Polk County*

**Principal:** Bryant Black

**Music Educators:** Jordan Burks, Wendy Carl, Kathy Johnson, Jill Jones, Lorraine Latham, Michelle Manzi, Mindi Mulligan

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**UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL – 32%**

*Orange County Public Schools*

**Principal:** Thomas Ott

**Music Educators:** Carmen Aquino, Jonathan Brown, Lisa Coyne, John Dunn, Yelitza Greene, Jeffrey Willis

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**SAMUEL W. WOLFSON SCHOOL FOR  
ADVANCED STUDIES – 36%**

*Duval County Public Schools*

**Principal:** Christopher Begley

**Music Educators:** Cyriac Adjevi-Neglokpe, Cristina Ledford

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**BLIND HIGH SCHOOL – 81%**

*Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind*

**Principal:** Carol Bogue

**Music Educators:** Leslie Costello, Laurie Wohl

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