

2023-2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARON DURHAM
President
Fort Smith Northside High School
Phone 479.651.6820
jdurham@fortsmithschools.org

LEIGHNORA (PRISSY) BUCHANAN
Administrative Advisor
8207 Williamsburg
Fort Smith, AR 72903
UA Fort Smith, Retired
Phone 479.459.3119
prissyret@gmail.com

RALPH BRODY, JR
Immediate Past President
Fort Smith Southside High School
rbrody@fortsmithschools.org

JULIA REYNOLDS
Executive Advisor
ASBOA Executive Secretary Emeritus
jlynreynolds@gmail.com

HOPE BRUNER
Vice President
Highland Public Schools
hope.bruner@highlandrebels.org

CARL L. MCCRANEY, JR
Treasurer
Lakeside Junior High School
carl_mccraney@lakesidesd.org

JOHN PRATER
Secretary
Cabot Freshman Academy
john.prater@cabotschools.org

VALERIE LANEY
Member at Large
Magnolia Middle School
valerielaney@me.com

LIAISON MEMBER
HAL COOPER, JR
Cooper Music
hal@coopermusic.com

HONORARY PRESIDENTS
J. RAYMOND BRANDON (*deceased*)
ELDON JANZEN (*deceased*)

LIFETIME MEMBERS
RUTH BRANDON (*deceased*)
W. FRANCIS MCBETH (*deceased*)
WENDELL O. EVANSON (*deceased*)

PAST PRESIDENTS
PEGGY JEFFRIES
MARK POUNDS
JANNA LANE
BRIAN PEARSON
JOE TRUSTY
KAREN DISMUKE
JEFF KEE
BRADY MASSEY
RICK SOWELL
JEFFREY MARLOW
SISSY PIERCE
JAN CUNNINGHAM
CHUCK BOOKER
STAN HALL
JOHN COMBS
DUANE WALKER
RICO BELOTTI
RICKY BROOKS
STEVE WARNER
CATHY WILLIAMS
CINDY BARRINGTON
WESLEY BRANSTINE
TOM O'NEAL
JULIA REYNOLDS
SUSAN ANTONETTI
KEN WILLIAMS (*deceased*)
CLAUDE SMITH
GEOFF CARLTON
ROBERT HESSE
PATRICIA ELLISON (*deceased*)
JOHN WEBB
WENDELL EVANSON (*deceased*)
LEIGHNORA BUCHANAN
TRAVIS BEARD
ED ABBOTT (*deceased*)
EDDIE EPPERSON (*deceased*)
ROBIN NIX
ROBERT NELSON (*deceased*)
RUSSELL LANGSTON
ANDREW TOLBERT
HAL COOPER
JIM BURGETT (*deceased*)
BILL TUCKER (*deceased*)
RONALD BRAMMER
GARY WELLS
FRANKLIN WASHBURN
ELDON JANZEN (*deceased*)



ARKANSAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all are doing well while in the “heat of battle” with state concert contest, guard camps, drum major tryouts, spring concerts, beginning sign-ups, etc! In the midst of all the work you’re doing, we hope you are making plans to attend this year’s **50th Arkansas Bandmasters Association Convention** in Fort Smith. The dates are Wednesday July 31 through Saturday, August 3.

Our 50th Arkansas Bandmaster Association Convention will kick off with a performance from the River Valley Community Band, featuring a commissioned piece by Charles L. Booker commemorating our 50th anniversary.

Renowned educator, author, and motivational speaker Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser will deliver our keynote address. Our Friday night performance will be the Lone Star Wind Orchestra from Dallas, TX, under the baton of Eugene Corporon.

Some of our sessions at a glance include....

- Two conducting symposium sessions with Dr. Albert Nguyen, Director of Bands- University of Memphis, and Dr. Michael Hancock, Director of Bands - University of Central Arkansas.
- Recruiting and Retention for middle school programs - Angela Clark - Darby Middle School
- Preparing Your Ensemble for Concert Assessment - Joe Trusty, Cabot High School (retired)
- Improving Sight-reading Skills for Younger Ensembles - Nikki Cook, Conway High School
- Starting an Indoor Percussion Ensemble - Carlos Serna, Paragould High School, and Sean Lane - Lake Hamilton High School
- 1% Better - Creating Small Habits for Big Results - Tim Hendrix - Bentonville High School
- Round Table Discussions from master educators, Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser - Conn-Selmer, Bands of America, and Dr. Richard Crain - Bands of America, Spring High School (retired)
- Trombone and Trumpet Pedagogy - Dr. Justin Cook - University of Central Arkansas, and Dr. Ross Ahlhorn – Louisiana State University
- Navigating the Set II Senior High All-Region/All-State Jazz Material, presented by Trent Warner and Kaleb Knight
- Navigating the Set II Senior High All-Region/All-State Drum Set Etudes and Beat Patterns, presented by Trent Warner and Ben White
- Beginning Percussion presented by Christopher Ha, Beginning Trombone presented by Dewayne Dove, Beginning Saxophone presented by Trent Warner

.....And MUCH more!

Our 50th Anniversary ABA 2024 will be a great time of music, learning, fellowship, and looking back on **fifty years of our conference!!** We look forward to seeing YOU in Fort Smith July 31 - August 3. See you soon!

Sincerely,

Aaron Durham
2024 President, Arkansas Bandmasters Association