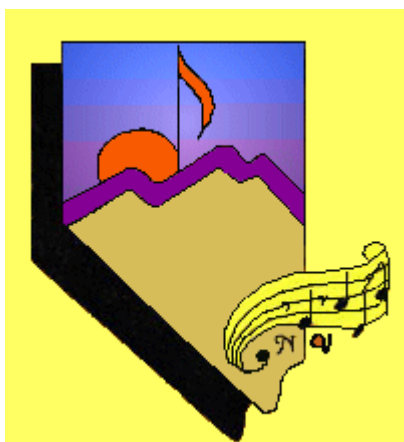


# Nevada's Desert-Valley Chapter American Orff-Schulwerk Association



Editor – Buddy Collier  
London Correspondent – Cheryl Baker  
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## 2007-2008 NDVC Calendar

Sept. 29; 9:00-1:30	Vivian Murray	Squires ES
Jan. 26; 9:00-1:30	Chapter Sharing	Ullom ES
Feb. 23, 9:00-1:30	Matt McCoy	Hollingsworth ES
April 19; 9:00-2:00	Jim Solomon	University United Methodist Church in conjunction with NMEA Conference
May, 5; 5:00 pm	Business meeting.	Moore ES

## Vivian Murray Workshop Information

Our first workshop is on Sept. 29 at Squires ES from 9:00 am until 1:30 pm. Our presenter is Vivian Murray. Vivian is a music specialist for grades 1-6 at Berkshire Country Day School in Lenox Massachusetts. She has earned a B.A. from Miami University and Levels, I, II, III and Master Class in Orff Schulwerk from the University of Memphis. She has received supplemental training from the “Teacher Training Institute” from IAJE as well as “Orchestration for Orff Instruments” (Konnie Saliba) and “Music for the Exceptional Child”

(Shirley McRae). Vivian has taught pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in both public and private schools and presents at many workshops. Additionally, Vivian trains teachers at the IAJE Teacher Training Institute and at Orff Level Classes, including the UNLV Orff Level courses. In her free time, Vivian enjoys singing with Big Band and small jazz combos.

Please plan to arrive early to fill out your membership forms and shop at the NDVC booth

## **From the President**

“Happiness; FREE to sing, laugh, dance... create!”

On my piano at home stands a Willow Tree figurine with her arms outstretched wide and her face looking up with happiness. She was a gift from a student and tucked inside the box when I received her was a card containing the “Happiness” quote. It expresses the essence of Orff-Schulwerk. As we begin a new school year, I would like to challenge you to explore ways to sing, laugh, dance, play and create with your students so that they made know what happiness is.

Veteran teachers and new teachers alike can be supported in this endeavor with the help of NDVC and AOSA. I would like to encourage all of you to join our local chapter and our national organization and take advantage of the workshops we have to offer this year. We have outstanding presenters this year including Vivian Murray, Matt McCoy, Jim Solomon and a chapter share. The theme for this year’s National Conference, which will be held in San Jose, is “The Art of Play.” It may be a while until an AOSA National Conference is this close to us again, so I encourage all to consider attending.

Finally, I want to wish all of you a successful year of teaching and making music.

Sue DeHart, President

## **NDVC mission statement**

The aims and objectives of this organization shall be:

1. To provide inspiration and techniques for those persons interested in using Orff-Schulwerk, Music for Children.
2. To promote awareness of the many and varied aspects of the Schulwerk being used successfully in American education which develop and promote these aspects in our classrooms.
3. To disseminate news and provide opportunities to examine creative and innovative ideas in regard to Schulwerk philosophy and activities.
4. To offer enthusiasm to all newcomers interested in the philosophy and techniques of the Schulwerk.

# Letters from the Sue Morrow Scholarship Recipients

July 27, 2007

Margaret Light  
10654 Corte Sierra St.  
Las Vegas, NV 89123

Dear Margaret and NDVC,

Thank you for awarding me a Sue H. Morrow Scholarship to complete my Orff Level I course at UNLV! I greatly enjoyed the course and learned a lot from the various instructors. I was able to network with other CCSD employees, as well as get to know teachers from outside Las Vegas. It was very interesting to hear about their job situations and “compare notes.”

The course was very rewarding for me in many aspects, and left me with many new ideas to try in the classroom! My Pedagogy classes solidified my knowledge of bordun and continued to broaden the orchestration skills that I had begun to explore throughout this year. I was amazed at how much I grew



as a recorder player through my recorder classes! It was extremely rewarding to play with other teachers, and I will probably begin rehearsing with two friends from the course. Perhaps our ensemble will be able to perform for others in the near future! Movement class was filled with great ideas for transition activities and ways to “get the wiggles out” besides freeze-dancing or doing folk dances. Special topics were covered that highlighted Jeff and Randy’s “Game Plan” curriculum, art integration ideas, and demonstrated folk dances. The staff was fabulous and the content was very appropriate, and I am so glad I had the opportunity to attend!

Enclosed is a copy of my grade slip and course certificate. Please let me know if you need any more information. I look forward to seeing you all at this year’s workshops!

Sincerely,

Nicole W. Yorty  
Music Specialist  
Twitchell Elementary School

July 31, 2007

Nevada Desert Valley Chapter of  
AOSA  
C/O Margaret Light  
10654 Corte Sierra St.  
Las Vegas, NV 89123

Dear Chapter Members:

I am writing to thank you for awarding me a Sue H. Morrow Scholarship to help me begin my Orff Level training. Without your generous support I would have been unable to complete my Level One training.

My school is currently on a year round schedule and to be able to attend this class I gave up ten of my vacation days. There were times when I thought that I had made a bad decision, but after taking this course I realized that it was one of the most worthwhile courses I have ever attended. I completely forgot about the vacation time I had given up to be there. I truly enjoyed every element of the class and I came away with many new ideas and teaching techniques. The most valuable part of the class for me was the pedagogy. Before I came to Clark County last year all of my training and prior experience focused on middle school band. Now that I have been through this

course I have a much better understanding of the Orff techniques and teaching methods. I now know why everyone speaks so highly of this method and why the music teachers in Clark County have embraced it. I have already begun to use many of the ideas and techniques I learned in my Level One training with my students. I can already see what a difference this method makes in just a short time. My students and I are both enjoying music class more than ever before.

I am so happy to have completed Level One training and I am excited to begin the 2007/2008 school year now that I have a better understanding of the Orff method. Thanks you again for helping to provide me with the opportunity to go to this amazing class.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kribble

# Scholarships Available!

## Deadlines Approaching

Looking to further your Orff Schulwerk education, but need a little financial help? Well, there are several opportunities through AOSA and NDVC. Applications will be available at the Sept. 29 chapter meeting. Here are the details – presented in deadline order:

### Gunild Keetman Assistance Fund (through AOSA)

- Funds may be used for training or special creative projects associated with Orff Schulwerk and that will benefit music education.
- Applicant must demonstrate personal need for financial aid.
- Applicant must be a current member of AOSA and must have been a member in good standing for one year prior to making the application for grant.
- Applicant must be a citizen of the U.S. or have resided in America for the past five years.
- Applicants for the training in AOSA approved courses or the Orff Institute in Salzburg will be given priority over applications for training in other courses.
- DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION (to AOSA) IS JANUARY 15!

### Shields – Gillesie Scholarship (through AOSA)

- Funds may be used for training, instruments and other special creative projects that are associated with Orff Schulwerk and that will benefit the music education of children.
- Applicant must be actively involved in teaching preschool and/or kindergarten students of low-income populations.

- Applicant must demonstrate strong motivation to study and use music, particularly the Orff Schulwerk approach, in early music education.
- Applicant must demonstrate personal financial need, if the funds are to be used for training.
- Applicant must present evidence that the proposed training, instruments, or project will benefit a low-income population.
- Applicant must be a current member of AOSA and must have been an AOSA member in good standing for one year prior to making application for the grant.
- Applicant MUST be a citizen of the U.S. or have resided in America for the past five years.
- DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION (to AOSA) IS JANUARY 15!

### Sue H. Morrow Memorial Scholarship (through NDVD)

- Funds are to be used for furthering their education through Orff-Schulwerk levels, in Las Vegas or elsewhere.
- Scholarship is a supplement and not to be used for the full tuition. Please request up to 20% of the total cost – so that we can award funds to more than one applicant.
- Applicant must be a current member and active participant in the local NDVC chapter. Members must be regular or first year members (sorry, not student members) and listed in the 2007-2008 chapter directory.
- DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MARCH 14, 2008 – Submit applications to Rhonda Greeson at Cartwright Elementary.

# Thoughts from the Past – A reprint (modified) from a newsletter from March 1988

## Music as Science

It is exact, specific and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody and harmony all at once with the most exact control of time.

## Music as Math

It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

## Music as Language

Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French although the notation is not in English. Rather, a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complex and universal language.

## Music as History

Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the identity of a specific group and or national feeling.

## Music as Physical Education

It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek and facial muscles in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, chest muscles which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

## Music as Art

It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring and difficult techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

## **Current Board Members**

Sue DeHart, president  
Doug Bowser, secretary  
Sue Loser, treasurer  
Buddy Collier, Publishing Chair  
Armando Campos, program chair  
Rhonda Greeson, Sue Morrow Scholarship Chair  
Barb Good, member-at-large  
Carly Goodman, member-a--large  
Christy Speas, member-at-large