



Dear Wisconsin School Administrators,

June 2024

As we forward to the 2024-25 school year, Wisconsin School Music Association is excited to see you and your music educators at the 2024 Wisconsin State Music Conference!

Our conference will be held this year from October 23–26, 2024 at the beautiful Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison and will feature comprehensive music education professional development for teachers in all stages of their career. This conference, presented by Wisconsin Music Educators Association (WMEA) in collaboration with Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA), joins Wisconsin educators, students, parents and music business industry professionals together around key educational issues and pedagogy. The main goal of the conference is for attendees to share and learn through high-quality professional learning opportunities that positively impact music education for all students, schools, and communities.

This year, we are excited to welcome over **95 presenters and performances** with featured sessions by Julie Duty - United Sound Founder/CEO, Franklin Willis - CMA Teacher of Excellence, Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, Dr. James Weaver - NFHS Director of Performing Arts, and National Association for Music Education (NAfME) President Dr. Deb Confredo. WSMA and PBS Wisconsin will also launch two more installments in our [Re/sound: Songs of Wisconsin series](#).

This year’s conference theme is “Music Moves Us Forward” – working with students demands moving forward into new territory, sometimes by our lead, sometimes with students leading the way. We don’t discard the past, we honor it as the foundation for how we got to today. We use knowledge of the past to help us move forward into the unknown with confidence and anticipation. **2024 Wisconsin State Music Conference is designed to provide the next steps in our journey together.**

BACK THIS YEAR! In a partnership with Technology in Music Education (TI:ME), Wisconsin will offer our second annual Technology Pre-Conference. For all conference registrants, an additional opportunity is available on Wednesday, October 23 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. with state and national leader presenters. This opportunity is included in the cost of the conference.

In addition to what has already been shared, our Wisconsin State Music Conference offers comprehensive professional learning tailored to match the needs of Wisconsin school districts as they address the many facets of current educational needs. Sessions will focus on the following topics:

- Standards Based Teaching
- Inclusion and Access
- Literacy Connections
- Composition & Creativity
- Engagement Strategies
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Social-Emotional Learning
- State Networking...and more!

On behalf of WSMA, I strongly encourage you to consider permitting attendance for your music educators at the 2024 Wisconsin State Music Conference.

In an effort to honor different school calendars and budgets, full-conference and Friday-only registrations are available. **We will also again extend an invitation to any Wisconsin principal or superintendent for one free day of conference attendance – contact Laurie Fellenz, Executive Director, for more information and a discount code (lfellenz@wsmamusic.org).**

THANK YOU in advance for including the Wisconsin State Music Conference in the professional learning options available to your music educators in October 2024.

Sincerely,

Stephen Plank
President - Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA)
Principal, Wauwatosa East High School

Laurie N. Fellenz
Executive Director - WSMA, WMEA, WFSM