

GRSA Board Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2017, 5pm

Present: Aaron Boudreaux, Karen Campbell, Janice Cowan, Cheryl Hudson, Pam Moore, Patty Sandoz, Kathy Thimmes, Alice Trindle, and Zeke Fetrow.

Guests: Denise Hattan and Julie Pettit.

Our conductor, Zeke, led a discussion of the possibilities that the Board could take about the design of the concerto-aria festival competition for the final concert of this school year.

- **Option 1**

Keep the concerto-aria concert the way that it's been done for years.

- **Option 2**

Make it a true competition and have an Open Bracket and a Student Bracket. The winner of the Open Bracket would commit to 5 rehearsals, while the winner of the Student Bracket would commit to 3 rehearsals. The Open Bracket would be open to anyone who wanted to compete and the Student Bracket would be limited to students attending a college. This was later modified to allow high school seniors, who were going to attend college the next year.

Zeke said the winner of the Open Bracket would receive \$1,000 or \$1,500 and a lunch with him, where he can mentor the winner on career possibilities. Mileage might be given and housing in an orchestra member's home could be offered. The Open Bracket should be willing to present a full length concerto of 30 to 40 minutes.

Zeke suggested that the Student Bracket could have 3 winners: the first place winner would receive a \$500 scholarship, a 1 hour voice or coaching lesson from Zeke and a 1 hour career counseling lunch session. The second and third place winners wouldn't receive any money, but they would receive the 1 hour voice or coaching lesson and the 1 hour career counseling lunch session. The first place winner would sing or play with the orchestra, but the second and third place winners would not. This winner would perform a much shorter concerto or aria.

It was suggested that a third category be made. This would be an open category for people who live in Eastern Oregon (Baker, Grant, Malheur, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties.) This was approved by general consensus.

- **Option 3**

Zeke would appoint soloists, without any competitions.

- **Option 4**

Not have a concerto/aria concert. Have a Pops Concert, instead.

- **Option 5**

A fifth option was suggested. The fifth option was to have a blend of ideas #2 and #4, described above.

Patty wrote the options on the blackboard and took a vote. One person liked any of the options and everyone else said they liked the 5th option.

It was decided to offer a \$1,000 prize to the Open Bracket winner and \$500 each to the winners of the Eastern Oregon Regional Bracket and the Student Bracket. The student prize would be a scholarship that is paid directly to a college after receiving proof that the student is registered at the institution. This will give the Board a \$2,000 commitment. The winners will be selected by a panel of 3--Zeke Fetrow and our Concertmaster Julie Pettit agreed to be two of the panel members.

The auditions would start with tapes of 3 or 4 minutes being sent to the panel. The GRISO manager, Hayley Buckley, would be asked to keep track of who went with each audition, but the panel members wouldn't know. Only a few contestants would be asked to come to La Grande to compete, in person.

There are two line items in the budget that can be used to cover these costs. They are **E-3.4 Guest Artist, Travel, Honorarium** and **E-4.6 GRISO Scholarships & Tuition Reimbursement**.

Janice moved and Pam seconded that we accept the fifth option of having a competition with open, regional and student brackets. The winner of the open bracket would win \$1,000 and the other two winners will win \$500 each. The winner of the open bracket would perform an aria or a concerto that lasts around 20 minutes and the other two winners would perform around 4 minutes each.

This passed unanimously. The funding will be taken out of the budget, as noted above, with the winners of the two open categories funded by E-3.4 and the winner of the student category funded by E-4.6.

This competition needs to be publicized immediately, because the audition tapes need to be in before the end of the month.

Next on the agenda was a training opportunity. Denise would like to be trained in the "Kaleidoscope" method of violin teaching. The training would take place in June 22-24, 2017, in Austin, Texas. She would like to have the plane fare and housing paid for by GRISA. Also, Kathy Thimmes has agreed to be her assistant. They hope to teach class lessons at Island City School next year.

Janice suggested that Denise's class could perform at the Petting Zoo at the end of next year's Children's Concert.

Karen moved that we send both Denise and Kathy to the training. Alice seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Patty moved that we support this training for Denise and Kathy for the initial purpose of setting up a program at Island City Elementary similar to the program run by Carla Arnold at Central Elementary. Alice seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Cheryl Hudson, GRISA secretary