

All-State: Integrating Chamber Music Into Your High School Orchestra Curriculum

presented by Steve Dunn

reported by Lynne Bulger and Cassandra Herold

Steve Dunn's Top 10 List for playing chamber music includes:

- Chamber music experiences are often the catalyst for young musicians who decide to make music their career
- Chamber music develops good musicianship skills
- Chamber music develops musical independence
- Chamber music introduces the musician to some of the greatest and most inspiring classical music ever written
- Chamber music develops leadership skills
- Chamber music provides students intimate form of music making
- Chamber music teaches students to teach themselves and others
- Chamber music teaches interpersonal skills

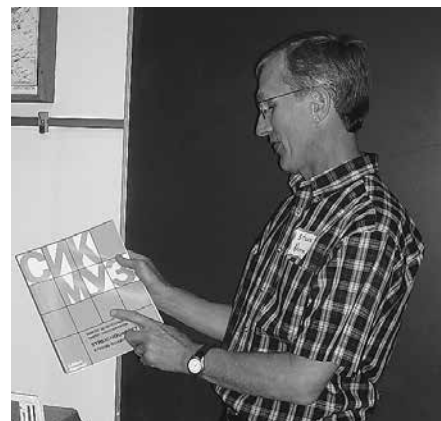
- Chamber music develops life skills
- Chamber music is *fun!*

Handouts provided included Karen Moon's recommended list of chamber music repertoire (MNSTA *Strings 'n Stuff*, Spring 1998), Karen Iglitzin's chamber music article (*American String Teacher* Winter 1992) and Steve Dunn's personal list. Suggested resources for more information included the ASTA String Syllabus, and Shar and Luck's catalogs.

Chamber music need not take up the entire school program, but can complement it in many ways. The chamber group can be a community outreach/recruiting tool, as it is more mobile than the whole ensemble. Chamber music is an important component of an orchestra program – it teaches such a wide array of playing, interpersonal, and leadership skills.

Funding for a chamber music program

could be available from several sources, both within and outside of the school commu-



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nity. Dunn suggested resources such as the NEA, CMA, CCMP or the State Arts Board as places to check for grants. †