

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC SRIG
in collaboration with
THE MUSIC EDUCATION RESEARCH COUNCIL, MENC

#5
1984

NEWSLETTER, NO. 5
January, 1984
Mary R. Tolbert, National Chair

Issued at the School of Music
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Greetings to each of you for the New Year! Have you made plans to attend the MENC Chicago Conference scheduled for March 21-24?

The purpose of NEWSLETTER NO. 5 is to encourage you to attend our SRIG session on Saturday, March 24, 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 P.M. We requested this hour on the last day instead of the first SRIG meeting early Thursday morning to enable more of our members to participate.

A second purpose is to bring you a ballot to vote by mail for one of the two nominees for National Chair of this SRIG. The nominees were chosen by the Nominating Committee comprised of Task Group Leaders and Divisional Chairmen with Dorothy McDonald, University of Iowa, serving as chairperson.

The nominees are Gene Simon, University of Georgia and Jonny Ramsey, San Antonio, Texas. A resume of each nominee is enclosed with the ballot.

THE CONFERENCE POSTER SESSION

The poster session will be open to the public from 12:00 noon until 2:00 P.M. on Friday, March 23, the hotel and room to be announced in the program. From the 92 papers submitted, the MERC judges selected 67 for presentation. Of this number, 16 papers relate to studies of early childhood music. This number indicates an increased emphasis among researchers upon the level of young children and our concerns. Abstracts of the research will be available.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC SRIG SESSION

The SRIG session, limited to 75 minutes, begins at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 24, the meeting room to be announced in the program. Two papers will be presented by members of Task Group II. A curriculum proposal entitled "Combined Arts Curriculum For Early Childhood Education" will be presented by Bernard W. Busse, Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, The University of Virginia, Charlottesville. A response to the proposal will be given by Glenn Fifield, Department of Music, Utah State University, Logan.

The second paper is a research report entitled, "A Study of Musical Loudness Discrimination of Three to Five-Year Old Children," to be presented by Darhyl S. Ramsey, University of Texas at San Antonio, and Jonny H. Ramsey, Northside Independent School District, San Antonio, Texas. A response to the study will be given by Peter Webster, Music Department, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Other research by members of Task Group III will be discussed as time permits. These studies are listed under Research in Progress.

SRIG SELF STUDY

Another part of the SRIG session will deal with the Self Study which each SRIG has been asked to complete this year. Each Task Group Leader will present a summary of objectives, activities, and achievements during the past four years.

In addition to submitting this review to the SRIG Coordinator, we would like to have a written hand out for members who attend the SRIG sessions.

Let me repeat the request that each Task Group Leader send a summary using the outline provided in the Newsletter No. 4 no later than February 1. An excellent report from Task Group III has been received. Appreciation is expressed to Shirley Shelley and members of that group who cooperated with her in providing the information.

The newly elected National Chair will present ideas for the continued development of research in Early Childhood Music.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Shirley Shelley and Judith Theiss have completed a study at the University of Maryland's Center for Young Children entitled, "Bodily Rhythmic Movements of Young Children in Response to Selected Expressive Qualities in Music."

Shirley Shelley is engaged in a survey of research, pedagogical writing, and instructional materials in preschool music education (1965-1982). A final report will summarize the survey and determine the degree of relationship between the findings of research in preschool music education and subsequent pedagogical writings and classroom materials.

Peter Webster has continued work on a measure of musical creativity for children in the first-third grade group. The results of the first study, originally presented at the Miami MENC Convention in 1980, is soon to be published as a paper submitted to the 1983 Bowling Green Research Symposium. The new version of his measure has been administered to a group of children in the Autumn of 1983, and the results can be reported at our Chicago meeting. Requests for additional information about the measure should be addressed to Peter Webster, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Rosemary Forsythe, a student of Peter Webster at CWR University, is adapting the Gordon Primary Measures of Music Audiation for administration to preschool children, using the "different" items programmed into an audiator with colored buttons. Her address is 322 Garfield Avenue, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701.

Glen Fifield, Utah State University Music Faculty at Logan, has worked directly with the children of the university's Early Childhood Laboratory. The Music Department sponsors a Music Conservatory Program for children four years of age and up. Children in the program have private piano lessons and regular activities in music theory and history. Last year he involved the children in musical ensemble experiences, using mallet instruments, non-pitch percussion instruments, Kodaly vocal principles and body movement. He is collecting data through notes and tape recordings of what these young children are capable of doing with their bodies, voices, and instruments in group settings.

INFORMAL GET-TOGETHER AT MENC
CHICAGO, FRIDAY, MARCH 23

The suggestion has been made by several members that we plan an informal meeting to socialize during the Chicago conference. After looking over the research meetings scheduled, the best time seems to be Friday, late afternoon or evening for dinner.

Let's meet in the Lobby of the Conrad Hilton Hotel near the registration desk at 5:30 P.M. for coffee, and those who wish to stay on for dinner together may do so.

We shall look forward to seeing you then and again at our SRIG session on Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

INVITATION TO SRIG MEMBERS
SEND INFORMATION ABOUT RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

You are invited to send information about your research, an abstract, or about noteworthy literature that you recommend to other SRIG members for inclusion in the next NEWSLETTER and possibly in the hand-out at our SRIG session in Chicago. The deadline is February 10, 1984. Please send to the National Chair

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUMMER CONFERENCE
FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC

Barbara Andress, Arizona State University, Tempe, announces that she is organizing a conference, "Music in Early Childhood," which is co-sponsored by the Music Educators National Conference and the Association for Childhood Education to be held at Brigham Young University Conference Center in Provo, Utah, June 28-30, 1984.

The topic will focus on "Application of Principles of Child Development to the Teaching of Music to Young Children," and will highlight papers, presentations and workshops by nationally and internationally known experts in child development and in music education. The conference is designed to meet the needs of early childhood and music educators, caregivers and interested parents. Details will be published in the MEJ, ACEI Exchange, SGM Soundings and other professional publications. Keynote speakers represent outstanding people in Psychology, Child Development and Music: David Elkind (Psychology), David Weikart (Child Development), Joe Frost (Play Theory), Lyle Davidson (Project Zero), Marilyn Zimmerman (Music), and Barbara Andress (Music).

The dates were selected to enable those who are planning to attend the ISME Conference in Oregon to attend this conference enroute.

Schedule of Sessions Sponsored by the Music Education Research Council at the
1984 National Convention

Wednesday, March 21

1. 1:00 - 2:15 PM MERC Executive Committee
2. 4:00 - 5:15 PM MERC Executive Committee

Thursday, March 22

3. 8:30 - 9:45 AM Organizing meeting for Creativity SRIG
4. 8:30 - 9:45 AM Learning and Development SRIG
5. 10:00 - 11:15 AM General Research SRIG
6. 10:00 - 11:15 AM Measurement and Evaluation SRIG
7. 1:00 - 2:15 PM Invited MERC Address on Philosophical Research: Bennett Reimer
- * 8. 4:00 - 5:15 PM Meeting of SRIG National Chairpersons

Friday, March 23

9. 8:30 - 9:45 AM Joint Meeting of MERC Executive Committee and JRME
Editorial Board
10. 12:00 - 2:00 PM Research Poster Presentations (The room will be available
for presenters to set up beginning at 11:30 AM. Presenters
will have from 2:00 to 2:15 to take their displays down.)
11. 4:00 - 5:15 PM Affective Response SRIG
12. 4:00 - 5:15 PM History SRIG
13. 4:00 - 5:15 PM Instructional Strategies SRIG

Saturday, March 24

14. 8:30 - 9:45 AM Invited MERC Presentation on Historical Research: Panel
organized by Allen P. Britton
15. 11:30 - 12:45 PM Perception SRIG
16. 11:30 - 12:45 PM Early Childhood SRIG
17. 1:30 - 2:45 PM MERC Executive Committee
18. 3:00 - 4:15 PM General Membership Meeting of the Society for Research in
Music Education
19. 3:00 - 4:15 PM Sociology, Social Psychology, and Anthropology SRIG

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE NOMINEES FOR NATIONAL CHAIR
EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC SRIG

GENE SIMONS

Dr. Gene Simons currently is chairman of the Music Education Area at the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. His Ph.D. degree is from Florida State University.

Dr. Simons is well known as a clinician and teacher in the field of early childhood music. He has published extensively for the past two decades. His MENC publication, Bibliographical Abstracts, is a major contribution to the area. He also has authored a test of music ability for young children, the Simons Measure of Music Listening Skills, published by Stoelting.

During the past four years, he has been an active leader and participant in ECM-SRIG, making presentations, generating ideas, and adding vitality to the organization. He has served as Southern Division chairman and Task Group I leader for Needs Assessment.

His long and continuing interest in early childhood music, and his experiences in administration and organization enhance his qualifications as a nominee for the national chairmanship of ECM-SRIG.

JONNY RAMSEY

Dr. Jonny H. Ramsey is currently an elementary school music specialist in the public schools of San Antonio, Texas. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Iowa.

Her professional experience includes three years as a music specialist in the Virginia public schools, two years as a graduate assistant at the University of Iowa, and six years as Coordinator, Arts in Education Program of Pennsylvania Central Intermediate Unit #10. While working with this program, Jonny was the administrator of three title IV-C Arts Projects: The Arts in Elementary Education Project, the Comprehensive ARTs Project, and the Programs in the Arts for Special Education.

Dr. Ramsey has published several articles in national journals dealing with melodic perception of young children. She has written extensively about the various aspects of the Arts in Education Program. She also has presented papers at the Atlantic City and the San Antonio MENC research sessions.

She is an active researcher, understands children, and has the interest and vitality to assume the responsibilities of the National Chair.

(The description of the Nominees' qualifications was submitted by Dr. Dorothy McDonald, Nominating Committee Chair.)

BALLOT
NATIONAL CHAIR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC SRIG
1984-86

Vote for one of the following nominees:

_____ Dr. Gene Simons, University of Georgia, Athens.

_____ Dr. Jonny H. Ramsey, San Antonio, Texas.

Please return your ballot no later than February 1, 1984, to:

Dr. Dorothy McDonald
1011 Music Building
College of Education
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

ADDRESSES OF CURRENT LEADERSHIP, 1983-84

- National Chair: Mary R. Tolbert
The Ohio State University
School of Music
1899 College Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210
- Task Group I: Needs Assessment Study, Music in Kindergarten
Dr. Gene M. Simons, Leader
Dept. of Music
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
- Task Group II: Teacher Education for Early Childhood Music
Dr. Dorothy McDonald, Leader
2097 Music Bldg.
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
- Task Group III: Musical Capabilities of Children Ages 3-5
Dr. Shirley Shelley, Leader
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742
- Task Group IV: Music in Infancy
(New Leader to be appointed)
- Task Group V: A Developmental Framework for Music in Early Childhood
Marilyn P. Zimmerman, Leader
11 Carriage Way
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Divisional Leaders

- Southwestern: John W. Flohr
Texas Woman's University
Denton, Texas 76201
- Western: Glenn Fifield
Utah State University
Logan, Utah 94322
- Northwestern: Open. Recommendations are requested.
- Eastern: Shirley Shelley
- Southern: Gene Simons
- North Central: Dorothy McDonald