WHAT WE BELIEVE
The Music Achievement Council (MAC) believes that a quality first performance experience for band and orchestra students, their parents, the school community and the community-at-large serves as the springboard for fulfilling, life-long experiences through active music-making. The Music Achievement Council has thus established the First Performance National Day of Celebration to honor and celebrate all beginning instrumental music-makers who, as a result of their participation, will “graduate” to become a full-fledged band or orchestra musician.

VISION
The Music Achievement Council envisions a performance for beginning level instrumentalists that results in the students and their parents becoming aware of the musical achievements and gratifying, collaborative experiences that come about as a direct result of active music-making.

MISSION
The mission of the First Performance National Day of Celebration is to provide a singular opportunity for students, parents, administrators and the community to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of beginning instrumental students.

DESCRIPTION
The First Performance National Day of Celebration is a day that has been set aside to recognize the achievements of beginning instrumental music students. It is celebrated through the presentation of a demonstration concert that allows these young musicians to showcase their newly-acquired musical skills for the very first time in a successful public setting. This scripted event provides parents with the opportunity to hear their child’s progress in a fun and entertaining setting that requires little or no extra work for the teacher as all materials are complimentary and available to download at www.musicachievementcouncil.org. The ultimate goal is to reduce beginner dropouts, encourage positive communication with parents, strengthen administrative support for the program and create a memorable experience for the students. The sound of applause early in a musician’s life can encourage continued growth and eventually lead to a lifetime of music-making and this turn-key program will serve to provide an exciting first step in that musical journey.

DOWNLOAD YOUR COMPLIMENTARY FIRST PERFORMANCE NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRATION MATERIALS AT:

www.musicachievementcouncil.org

@MusicAchCouncil on Twitter
Special Thanks to our Participating Directors and Panel Members from the Peachtree Ridge Cluster

**Victoria Enloe** is in her 17th year of teaching orchestra and is currently one of the directors at Peachtree Ridge High School (PRHS). Mrs. Enloe holds Bachelor and Master of Music Education degrees from the University of Georgia, where her primary instrument was violin. She has served as the PRHS Performing Arts Collaboration Course Lead and has worked as a sectional coach, judge, and clinician at area schools. Mrs. Enloe has also judged at Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) Large Group Performance Evaluation and Solo and Ensemble events. She has hosted numerous LGPE events at PRHS and presented sessions at the annual GMEA In-Service conferences. Mrs. Enloe is also editor for the GMEA journal, Georgia Music News.

**Amanda McClellan** is a director of the orchestra program at Hull Middle School in Gwinnett County, Georgia, which, at one point, was the largest string ensemble in Gwinnett, peaking at nearly 800 orchestra students. Mrs. McClellan has held this position since 2003. While at Hull Middle School, she established a thriving fiddle club and was their 2011 Teacher of the Year. After graduating Summa Cum Laude as class Valedictorian from Shenandoah University, she received her M.Med in String Pedagogy under the mentorship of Dr. Michael Allen at FSU. She also holds an EDs in Administration from Lincoln Memorial University. In addition to being a string educator for 15 years, she is also a cellist and enjoys performing with local orchestras and with her husband, professional violinist, Kenny Lambert.

**Bernadette Scruggs** is co-director of orchestras at Peachtree Ridge High School. She received both her Bachelor and Master of Music in Education degrees from Columbus State University and her Ed.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Music Education from Georgia State University. Prior to teaching in the Gwinnett County School System, she taught for the Floyd County and Clayton County School Systems. During this time, seven of Dr. Scruggs’s orchestras performed at state or regional music conferences. She has been recognized as the 1995 Pointe South Teacher of the Year, the 1999 Hull Middle School Teacher of the Year and the 2017 While at PRHS, the orchestra program has grown from 130 to over 350 students. She has served as a director of the Gwinnett County Kendall Honor Orchestra and is now one of the directors of the Gwinnett County Youth Symphony. She served as state secretary for the Georgia chapter of the American String Teachers Association and as both a Vice President and President for the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA). Dr. Scruggs currently holds the position of GMEA State Orchestra Division Chair.
**Bill Scruggs** is in his 3rd year as an Orchestra Teacher at Northbrook Middle School in Suwanee, GA. He is a product of the Gwinnett County Public School System and graduated from the same cluster in which he now teaches. In his time at Northbrook, a 6-8 school with an enrollment of 1,000 students, the orchestra has grown from 340 to 493 students. He is active in the Gwinnett Orchestra community as he helps facilitate numerous sectionals with schools, the Kendall Honor Orchestra, and Gwinnett County Youth Symphony. He is a regular performer with both Piedmont Strings and the Idalia String Quartet. Prior to teaching at Northbrook, Mr. Scruggs taught at both Ola and Union Grove High Schools in McDonough, GA. Mr. Scruggs is a graduate of Georgia Southern University where he was the principal cellist of the school symphony and the Presser Scholar for his senior year.

**Janice Yoon**, co-orchestra teacher of Northbrook Middle School has been teaching orchestra for 12 years. From her previous school, Hull Middle School, to her current school, her days have been more than an adventure interacting with about 486-750 orchestra students each year. Ms. Yoon holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Eastman School of Music and a Master of Music Education and Education Specialist Degree at University of Georgia. Ms. Yoon studied under wonderful teachers: Kang-il Lee, Lynn Baughman, Butch Sievers, Marilyn Seelman, Kirk Moss, Perry Holbrook, Sonja Foster, Timothy Ying, Louis Bergonzi, Neil Varon, and Mary Leglar. During her teaching years, Janice has coached and judged for various Gwinnett County school events and Gwinnett County Honor Orchestras. Her private students are members of Kendall Honor Orchestra, Gwinnett County Youth Symphony, and the Georgia All-State Orchestra.

**Marcia Neel** served as a public school music educator for 36 years—14 of those as the Secondary Fine Arts Coordinator for the Clark County School District, the nation’s fifth largest, headquartered in Las Vegas, NV. She is now president of Music Education Consultants, Inc., a consortium of music education professionals working with a variety of educational organizations, arts associations, and school districts to foster the growth and breadth of standards-based, music education programs. She also serves as Education Advisor to the Music Achievement Council, a 501(c)(6) organization whose purpose is to enable more students to begin and continue in instrumental music programs through effective professional development programs for educators. In 2016, Neel was named Senior Director of Education for the Band and Orchestral Division of Yamaha Corporation of America and recently accepted a position on the Board of Directors of the Percussive Arts Society.
Dr. Keith Thompson received his Bachelor’s degree in Middle Grades Education at Augusta State University and his Master’s degree in Educational Leadership at Cambridge College. He was awarded his Doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Argosy University. He has taught mathematics and even served as both a basketball and football coach. A member of the 2011 Quality-Plus Leader Academy, Aspiring Principal Program, Dr. Thompson was selected to open Northbrook Middle in the fall of 2014. The school was the second middle school in the Peachtree Ridge Cluster relieving Hull Middle School by approximately 900 students.

Recognize the Achievements of Your Beginning Instrumental Music Students! Participate in the Launching of the Inaugural First Performance National Day of Celebration

November 15, 2018