Michael D. Stone Equity Statement

Music education is an essential right for all American students! As a music program leader for a large, urban school district, I work daily to ensure that our students have access to educational opportunities in music according to their unique needs. NAfME speaks as a leader in the field of music education. The Association must strive to provide music educators with valuable connections to culturally-relevant curriculum that will connect learning to students' lives. Our approach must extend beyond the classroom door, with all adults in the school community seeking to understand and support equitable treatment of students, adults, and one another. Equity is at the core of NAfME's work. If we are not reaching all music educators, then what can we do as an association to provide relevance and support for these colleagues? Equity, as a value, must extend into our family or music education associations. Collaboration is essential, as we must not remain an island unto ourselves. One must ask: how does NAfME help extend opportunity in my school community? The answer is in all that we do through our association with NAfME. Our students deserve a fair playing field. NAfME will helps us get there