



## Music for All Welcomes Newest Board Members

INDIANAPOLIS — Three new members have been elected to the Music for All Board of Directors: Jeremy Earnhart, Bedford, Texas; Barry Morgan, Acworth, Georgia; and Ayatey Shabazz, Biloxi, Mississippi; all with extensive experience within the music community. Music for All's vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child across America has access and opportunity to participate in active music making in his or her scholastic environment.

"These three individuals bring a wealth of expertise and knowledge in the areas of education and development to the Music for All Board of Directors. The diversity of their experiences and geographic locations represents the breadth of the constituency of this national organization," says Gayl Doster, Chairman of the Music for All Board of Directors. "Each director displays business and fiscal acumen as well as a love of music. Together they will help us expand opportunities for Music for All as we serve young musicians and their teachers and advocate for the inclusion of music education as part of a complete education for our young people."

**Dr. Jeremy Earnhart** currently serves as the Director of Fine Arts for the Arlington, TX Independent School District where he helps educate a student body of 63,500 students in several world-class programs through the musical, visual, and kinesthetic arts. From the years 2009-2013, he was Director of Fine Arts for Irving ISD, TX where student participation in secondary fine arts increased by over 40%. He was also the director of UIL State and Bands of America National Champion L.D. Bell High School Band from 1998-2009.

Dr. Earnhart earned his Bachelor of Music and Masters of Music degrees from the University of North Texas, and holds certification in International Baccalaureate Music, MFA Boas as well as a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Dallas Baptist University. He is an active clinician/conductor, adjudicator (including for Bands of America) a published author, and presenter for several staff developments/conferences throughout Texas and the Midwest.

He lives in the DFW Mid-Cities with his wife Gwen, named an elementary music teacher of the year, and daughter Kierstyn.

**Barry Morgan J.D.** is currently serving his sixth term as Solicitor General of the State Court of Cobb County. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Georgia State University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the John Marshall Law School in Atlanta, Georgia where he graduated Summa Cum Laude. Before becoming a prosecutor, Barry served 12 years as a high school, middle school, and elementary school band director with the Cobb County Georgia School District. Morgan continues to remain active in the drum corps community as both an instructor and fan.

Mr. Morgan continues to serve the music community as a lecturer on Legal Responsibilities of Music Teachers for Music for All Summer Symposium, many state conventions, and the 59th and 63rd Annual Midwest Clinic for bands and orchestras in Chicago.

**Ayatey Shabazz** is a native of Biloxi, Mississippi where he currently works and resides. Shabazz has taught elementary, middle school, and high school band in the Mississippi Gulf Coast region and he has written custom arrangements and field shows performed by high school and college marching ensembles throughout the country, as well as drum corps in Europe. He has also composed a number of original works in the concert idiom.

Mr. Shabazz received his formal training in Music Education from the University of Southern Mississippi where he also studied composition and jazz arranging under the direction of Dr. Albert Gower. In addition to his published concert works, he has been commissioned to write multiple works for ensembles in the United States and abroad, as well as music for film and television. Mr. Shabazz is also the Founder, President, and CEO of The Devmusic Company. The Devmusic Company is a global music publishing company with worldwide distribution, that focuses on quality print music for marching bands, concert bands, jazz bands, and percussion ensembles.

He is a member of multiple professional and industry organizations including American Society of Composers Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) and National Association of music Merchants (NAMM).

### **About Music for All**

Music for All (MFA) is one of the nation's largest and most influential organizations in support of active music making. Since 1975, MFA, through its Band of America and Orchestra America programs, has been a destination and set the standard for scholastic music ensemble performance and music education advocacy. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization MFA's mission is to create, provide, and expand positively life-changing experiences through music for all. MFA's vision is to be a catalyst to ensure that every child in America has access and opportunity for active music-making in their scholastic environment. MFA's programs include 20+ annual events, including the Bands of America Grand national Championships for marching band, the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for students and teachers, the Music for All National Festival for concert bands, orchestra, jazz and percussion ensembles and national honor bands and orchestras.

### **Sponsorship Information**

Music for All's efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor, Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor, Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Student Travel Partner, Music Travel Consultants; Official Performance Equipment Sponsor, Wenger Corporation; Corporate Sponsors: Visit Indy and the City of Indianapolis, Vic Firth Company, Zildjian and United State Marine Drum & Bugle Corps; Strategic Advocacy Partner, NAMM; Associate Sponsors: DANSR, Delivra, Remo, Woodwind & Brasswind, Director's Showcase International and Tresona Multimedia. Music for All is also supported by the Indiana Arts Commission, Arts Council of Indianapolis, Ball Brothers Foundation, George and Frances Ball Foundation, Arthur Jordan Foundation, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation and Lilly Endowment Inc.

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