Carl Lipke’s love of music took root as a 5-year-old growing up in Faribault. It continued to flourish and bloom for more than eight decades after that. Now in his early 90’s, Lipke still feels the energetic passion that music stirs in his soul and the commitment to sharing it with others.

Lipke, the longtime state music clinician, is completing his 51st and final year of service to the member schools of the Minnesota State High School League. In his more than five decades of service, he has spread the joy of music to League participants as well as educated directors and administrators on the finer points of teaching, guiding and instilling the lifelong passion of singing and playing.

“Music has a truly special meaning to me,” said Lipke in a centerpiece story in the League’s Spring 2019 edition of the Bulletin. “I was totally influenced by my grandparents and parents. They not only exposed me to music, but also encouraged me along the way. They totally helped shape me to be involved in music for my entire life.”

Lipke, a music educator since 1951 when his first teaching stop was at Cleveland (Minn.) High School, was asked in 1971 by then Minnesota State High School League Executive Director Murrae Freng to serve the member schools as a music consultant. In what he calls one of his greatest professional rewards, he enthusiastically accepted the position. In the role, Lipke assigned contest judges, served on the League’s Music Advisory Committee, conducted adjudicator certification, chaired the music approval ad hoc committee and hosted contest manager’s workshops. In 2009, he was inducted in the MSHSL’s Hall of Fame for his distinguished service.

“I have great respect and admiration for the League,” Lipke said. “To be considered instrumental in molding and shaping the musical education of our young people is really rewarding, as well as humbling. Music has been and still is a vital part of my life.”

Continued on page 3
Revising the script: One Act Play virtual platform reinforces that all of the extra efforts are worth it

Late last summer, the One Act Play Advisory Committee, the League clinician and MSHSL Staff were discussing the potential of the 2020-21 One Act Play season looking like it typically does with an in-person event or if we would need to make adaptations and modification because of the pandemic. The section One Act Play competitions usually take place in late January and early February, and we knew that the COVID numbers may not look great at that time. There would be a high possibility of many in-person cancellations, and likely many schools operating in a virtual model. And yet, we really had no idea what might happen months down the road. The thought of seeing students work hard through the winter months rehearsing their play, only to have to pull the plug at the last minute on their one opportunity to perform – either by their own school’s rules, a positive COVID test or quarantine, or a section host school no longer being available to host – weighed heavily on us.

However, in order to create a virtual competition, directors would need plenty of advance notice. It would affect their play selection and all aspects of their rehearsals, so it could not be a last-minute decision. Preparing for in-person performance versus a virtual performance would be like basketball coaches preparing their team for one big, end-of-season game or preparing for a free-throw competition.

They are completely different concepts.

The One Act Play Advisory Committee decided unanimously by early October to propose running the section and state events in a virtual platform. It was decided that all schools would submit videos of their performances, and there would be no events bringing multiple casts together in one space. The video could be of an in-person performance – with significant safety protocols in place – or of a performance done completely in a videoconference setting.

This meant we needed to create a new tournament and activity format from the ground up within a couple of months, with new rules, suggestions and policies for both in-person performance and for videoconference performance. Not only did this affect what plays directors might select for their student performance, it affected all aspects of rehearsal and production. Directors with decades of experience creating live, in-person theater suddenly had to explore scripts created for videoconference formats or consider what in-person shows may lend themselves to social distancing and masks. People who have little to no experience or comfort with video technology suddenly had to learn about various videoconference platforms, or how cameras in a theater could best pick up sound from individual performers.

We needed to think through possibilities that had never occurred to us before, for both in-person recordings and videoconference recordings. Plenty of questions arose: What limitations to put on video editing, what types of masks were acceptable, where can schools perform if they do not have a theater, whether a student who is quarantined at the last minute can perform “virtually” in an in-person show (projecting that student onto a smartboard on the stage), and how to retrieve videos from 200 schools and share them with judges? The possibilities were endless. Nearly every day a great new question came in that needed to be discussed. We knew this would happen, but at times it seemed overwhelming. On one day in early January when inundated with questions, I had a passing thought of ‘Is this worth it?’

Within moments, I got the answer. I was chatting via email with St. Charles High School Activities Director Scott McCready, who is a friend of mine. The school had recently made the decision to create a videoconference performance. He wrote, “This way we don’t have to worry about dropping at the last minute. This is a huge part of my daughter’s high school life. Let’s just say that dinner conversations are MUCH better now that she’s started OAP!!”

This was such a simple reminder that while we adults may be feeling stress about all the new rules and policies and questions and details, there were students statewide just enjoying the experience of participating in One Act Play after weeks or months of isolation. The students likely did not care about all these details; they were just happy to be gathering with friends in a shared activity. If adult challenges were able to improve even one family’s dinner conversation and lift the mood of even one teenager, then of course, it is all worth it. Scott was not likely trying to provide me motivation for the months ahead, but I thought of his brief comment that carried me through challenging moments.

We can then multiply this simple story by all of the activities that the MSHSL offers, by all the schools around the state, by all the adults who are involved in these challenging decisions, and by all the students who participate in activities and discuss those activities at dinner.

And yes, this is most definitely worth it.

Amy Doherty

Longtime St. Cloud Cathedral baseball coach Bob Karn last month won the 800th game of his career and is No. 1 on Minnesota’s all-time list of victories for high school baseball coaches. Who are at Nos. 2 and 3?

During the pauses of high school activities amid the global pandemic, what Minnesota media member kept his audience engaged by reading children’s stories and novels for young adults over the website?

True or False? There has never been a Minnesota boys tennis player to win four consecutive high school titles.

What was unique about the Clay Target state tournament in 2018?

What is the highest honor in Visual Arts?

Answers on page 5
Lipke became something of a folk hero in Cleveland, when in his only year there, he created a groundswell of support in the school and community for music programs. He had a handful of singers to begin the school year, and by Christmas, had 64 members. Athletes began singing in the choir and more and more girls joined as well.

After spending 22 months of active duty with the U.S. Navy, in 1954, he accepted a position at North St. Paul High School where he would remain for 39 years. To no one’s surprise, music programs blossomed to the point that he was directing five choirs per day.

Through the decades, Lipke remained committed to continuing his education and sharing the joys of music with those entrusting him to guide them. In 1976, he earned his Masters of Arts in Music Education from the University of Minnesota. He continued to take additional formal music classes and music education for an additional 76 credits. In addition to directing the North St. Paul choirs and spearheading European tours for the students, he also directed the Mount Olivet choir. From 1970-95, he directed the 3M Music Makers, a professional group of more than 30 3M employees. The group performed throughout the country. He also has led the North St. Paul High School Alumni Choir (1994-2014). After a four-year stint as the interim director of the church choir at Roseville Lutheran Church, he has had a 17-year tenure as the choir director at Salem Lutheran Church. “Carl leaves an incredible legacy of enriching lives through the gift of music,” said Tim Leighton, the League’s liaison to music programs.

Lipke instilled the love of music to thousands of students

Continued from Cover

Fine Arts Corner

- The virtual Speech State Tournament was held April 23-24. Students from 99 Class A schools and 65 Class AA schools participated, and more than 80 judges worked the two-day event. Many teams gathered at individual schools for the virtual competition, and some students participated from home. There were a few students who were quarantined at home, but still had the opportunity to participate via the virtual format of the event.

- The League looks forward to returning to in-person Fine Arts events. The NFHS has posted guidance to assist with the return to in-person Speech and Debate: https://www.nfhs.org/articles/return-to-speech-and-debate-guidance/

- The NFHS has created a FREE Theater Safety Course. It is not just for theater directors, but is designed for anyone who uses a theater: https://nfhslearn.com/courses/theater-safety

Hockey Documentary debuts

In 1996, Apple Valley and Duluth East played a boys hockey game that is forever embedded in Minnesota hockey folklore. To this day, many still call it the greatest game ever played. This documentary is about that game, highlights both schools and their towns, and is a celebration of the sport of Hockey in Minnesota.

See the film here: https://vimeo.com/ondemand/marathononice
With the 2020-21 school year nearing a completion, the Minnesota State High School League salutes the activities administrators that have retired during the school year or will do so at the end of June. The League, along with the Minnesota Interscholastic Activities Administrators Association, the more than 500 member schools, participants and communities thank you for your service and leadership. Best wishes to all in the next chapter of your journeys.
Kneepkens sets single-game scoring mark

Gianna Kneepkens, a senior at Marshall School, Duluth, left her name in the Minnesota State High School League's record book with a dazzling performance during the Class AA girls basketball quarterfinals in late March. She poured in 67 points in the Hilltoppers' 94-91 loss to Providence Academy at St. Cloud Tech that sent her to the top spot in the record book for single-game scoring.

Here is the progression of single-game state tournament scorers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pts</th>
<th>1 Game - State Tournament Scoring Record Progression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Isabella Ceplecha, Redwood Falls vs. Southwest MN Christian, 2/20/76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Janet Karvonen, New York Mills vs. Buhl, 3/24/77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Karen Swanson, Mountain Iron vs. Albany, 3/17/78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Janet Karvonen, New York Mills vs. Albany, 3/24/79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Kelly Skalicky, Albany vs. Bagley, 3/20/81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Brittany Chambers, Jordan vs. Crookston, 3/14/08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Taylor Hill, Minneapolis South vs. Centennial, 3/21/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Carlie Wagner, NRHEG vs. Pequot Lakes, 3/17/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Carlie Wagner, NRHEG vs. Braham, 3/16/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Carlie Wagner, NRHEG vs. Pequot Lakes, 3/19/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Gianna Kneepkens, Duluth Marshall vs. Providence Academy, 3/30/21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kneepkens, who has committed to play collegiately at Utah, finished her prep career with 3,704 points to rank fourth all-time among Minnesota girls basketball players. She was a six-year varsity player for Marshall School. Kneepkens qualifies for the national record book in career points scored in grades 9-12.

Dave Lee signs off the WCCO airwaves

Longtime WCCO-AM morning radio host Dave Lee retired last week after 32 years at the station. He announced in early January that he would be retiring on April 30, ending one of the longest-running radio runs in Minnesota history.

Lee, 66, is a longtime supporter of League activities and was known for weaving in high school scores, highlights and previews of state tournament activities into his morning sports reports. He plans to continue broadcasting Prep Bowl football games and the girls and boys basketball tournaments for 4STV, the League's broadcast partner.

Lee is a six-time recipient of Minnesota's Sportscaster of the Year award and has also won three Emmy awards. In 2020, he was the recipient of the League's prestigious Outstanding Media Service Award presented to a media member that displays commitment and dedication to the coverage of high school participants, the member schools and their communities.

“The League salutes Dave Lee on an incredible career and a legacy of service to listeners throughout Minnesota and the Upper Midwest,” said Tim Leighton, the League’s Communications Coordinator. “What a thrill it was for participants, member schools and communities to hear Dave chatting about their games, their accomplishments and their high school journeys.”

We're counting on you to nominate students from your school for the following programs:

**Spotlight on Scholarship.** This year-round recognition program honors athletes and fine arts participants who have a “B” or better grade average. High school students of all levels of competition, of every age and grade are eligible for this program. For program information and certificate order form click here.

**Most Valuable Teammate Award.** Nominations for the Most Valuable Teammate Award will be accepted throughout the 2020-21 school year. High school coaches and directors of fine arts activities are encouraged to nominate students from their team who exemplify the qualities of a great teammate—respectful, reliable, and supportive of the others—putting the team before self. For nomination forms and program instructions click here.

**Quiz Answers**

Questions on page 2

1. Brainerd's Lowell Scearcy (765) and New Ulm's Jim Senske (707).
4. The individual competition finished in a five-way tie for the championship between: Garrett Mourning, St. Michael-Albertville; Woodrow Glazer, New Prague; Kyle Dupont, St. Michael-Albertville; Jake Mader, Annandale and Benjamin Sladek, Tri-City United.
5. The Judge's Choice Award. Winners at the section festivals have the opportunity to display their work, discuss their artistic process, and celebrate their achievement in the Perpich Center for Arts Education Exhibition.
ALPINE SKIING
GIRLS
Team --- Edina
Individual --- Ava Pihlstrom, Blake
BOYS
Team --- Lakeville South
Individual --- Zach Trotto, Forest Lake

NORDIC SKIING
GIRLS
Team --- Forest Lake
Individual --- Molly Moening, St. Paul Highland Park
BOYS
Team --- Minneapolis Southwest
Individual --- Roger Anderson, Robbinsdale Armstrong

GIRLS HOCKEY
CLASS A --- Proctor/Hermantown
CLASS AA --- Eden Prairie

BOYS HOCKEY
CLASS A --- Gentry Academy
CLASS AA --- Eden Prairie

GIRLS BASKETBALL
CLASS A --- Albany
CLASS AA --- Becker
CLASS AAAA --- Chaska
BOYS BASKETBALL
CLASS A --- Hayfield
CLASS AA --- Waseca
CLASS AAA --- Minnehaha Academy
CLASS AAAAA --- Wayzata

DANCE
JAZZ
CLASS A --- Lac qui Parle Valley/Dawson-Boyd
CLASS AA --- Sartell
CLASS AAA --- Eastview

BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING
CLASS A
Team --- Breck/Blake
Individual ---
200 freestyle relay: Breck/Blake
200 freestyle: Logan Kelly, Austin
200 IM: James Pan, Breck/Blake
50 freestyle: Charlie Crosby, Breck/Blake
One-meter diving: Storm Opdahl, Chisago Lakes
100 butterfly: William Stenson, Hibbing
100 freestyle: Garrett Maras, Sartell-St. Stephen
500 freestyle: Nico Losinski, Simley
200 freestyle relay: Breck/Blake
100 backstroke: Charlie Crosby, Breck/Blake
100 breaststroke: James Pan, Breck/Blake
400 freestyle relay: Sartell-St. Stephen

CLASS AA
Team --- Edina
Individual ---
200 freestyle relay: Eden Prairie
200 freestyle: Chris Morris, St. Cloud Tech
200 IM: Hayden Zheng, St. Louis Park
50 freestyle: Will Whittington, Stillwater
One-meter diving: Tyler Barrett, St. Michael-Albertville
100 butterfly: Chris Morris, St. Cloud Tech
100 freestyle: Will Whittington, Stillwater
50 freestyle: Jackson Brown, Maple Grove
200 freestyle relay: Chanhassen-Chaska
100 backstroke: Luke Logue, Eden Prairie
100 breaststroke: Hayden Zheng, St. Louis Park
400 freestyle relay: Chanhassen-Chaska

CLASS AAA
Team --- Shakopee
Individual ---

WRESTLING
CLASS A
Team --- Kimball
Individual ---
106: Nolan Ambrose, Jackson County Central
113: Hudson Burnett, Pipestone
120: Brandon Ross, Caledonia-Houston
126: Derek Steele, Sibley East
132: Drayden Morton, Sibley East
138: Kade Sammons, Windom-Mountain Lake
145: Blaine Fischer, Belgrade-Brookston-Eliota
152: Payton Handevitd, Jackson County Central
160: Mason Gode, LPGE-Browerville
170: Seth Goetzinger, Chatfield
182: Tyson Meyer, Minnewaska
195: Thomas Dineen, Benson
220: Dominik Vacura, Badger/Greenbush-Middle River

CLASS AA
Team --- Simley
Individual ---
106: Jack Nelson, Mound Westonka
113: Tyler Wells, Princeton
120: Christian Noble, Big Lake
126: Jaxon Rohman, Fairmont/Martin County West
132: Austin Gabbett, Watertown Mayer-Mayer Lutheran
138: Chase DeBlaere, Simley
145: Brady Kasprick, Thief River Falls
152: Ryan Sokol, Simley
160: Cael Berg, Simley
171: Adam Sylvester, Totino-Grace
182: Bennett Berge, Kasson-Mantorville
195: Quayin Short, Simley
220: Gavion Nelson, Simley

Heavyweight: Bennett Tabor, Simley

CLASS AAA
Team --- Shakopee
Individual ---
106: Alan Koehler, Prior Lake
113: Blake West, Shakopee
120: Jore Volk, Lakeville North
126: Kay Buesgens, New Prague
132: Derrick Cardinal, Forest Lake
138: Cole Becker, St. Michael-Albertville
145: Nick Novak, New Prague
152: Cole Swensen, Wayzata
160: Landen Johnson, Owatonna
170: Hunter Lyden, Stillwater
182: Max McEnelly, Owatonna
195: Roman Rogotzke, Stillwater
220: Jacob Meissner, Osseo

Heavyweight: Gavin Layton, Coon Rapids
THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE IS GRATEFUL TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS THAT CONTINUE TO INVEST IN HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY PROGRAMS.