

Gretta Sandberg

Gretta Sandberg was an orchestra director for 42 years at all levels in the Arlington and Fairfax County School Systems. She retired 2009 from McLean High School and Haycock Elementary School, where her orchestras consistently received “Superior” ratings at festivals and adjudications. At McLean she built a unique exchange program between The Chamber Soloists of McLean HS, the top orchestra at the school, and the award-winning youth orchestra (Detmolder Jugend Orchester) at the Grabbe Gymnasium in Detmold, Germany (1995 – present). After moving to Highland County, VA in 2009 she established the Highland County String Program, providing string instruction to residents of Highland County, VA. In 2010 she became the first conductor of the Allegheny Mountain String Project Orchestra, a youth orchestra sponsored by the Garth Newel Music Center in Warm Springs, VA.

Ms. Sandberg is currently the President of VASTA (Virginia Chapter of the American String Teachers Association) and was named in 2007 that organization’s Orchestra Director of the Year. Ms. Sandberg is a member of NAFME and ASTA, serves on the board of directors of Prelude – The Arlington Youth Orchestral Program and the Highland County Arts Council, and is a member of the Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee for 2012 – 2013 for the Highland County School System.

During her years in the Arlington system, Ms. Sandberg was Founder and Director of The Arlington Honors Orchestra, Co-Founder and Director of Arlington All-County High School Orchestra and Artistic Director of Chamber Music of Arlington (1990 – 1998), a summer string camp program. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, Duluth, with a B.S. Degree in Music Education and received a Masters of Education from George Mason University.