



THE
NATIONAL ANTHEM
PROJECT 
Restoring America's Voice™
Sponsored by MENC: The National
Association for Music Education

Mayor Rhonda Shappert and Mrs. Ohio America 2005

www.MrsOhioAmerica2005.com

www.thenationalanthemproject.org

Dear fellow elected officials,

At the June 2005 meeting of the **U.S. Conference of Mayors**, a resolution was passed urging all mayors and towns to issue proclamations in support of The National Anthem Project, urging citizens to participate in the project, applauding the efforts of music teachers to teach our musical heritage, and to hold community events to reteach the National Anthem. As mayor of Commercial Point and Mrs. Ohio America 2005, I am an advocate for this campaign and encouraging all villages and cities to become an *All-Star City*.

MENC: The National Association for Music Education along with National Presenting Sponsor Jeep®, have launched *The National Anthem Project – Restoring America's Voice* in response to a survey showing that nearly two-thirds of Americans do not know the words to the National Anthem. This project re-teaches Americans to sing “The Star-Spangled Banner” and spotlights the important role of school music programs. The study of music provides increased opportunities for valuable educational experiences, engages students in individual and group activities, develops creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. A three-year national education campaign, the project will renew national awareness of America's musical heritage.

As an All-Star City, your city will be listed on the project Web site and in National Anthem Project marketing materials. Mayors are invited to participate in all National Anthem Project activities in Ohio and will receive updates of project activities. Furthermore, as part of your All-Star City recognition packet, Mayors will receive press materials, scripts for sporting events, event planning information, and a letter from Mrs. Laura Bush applauding your city's participation in the project. Finally, it is the hope of MENC that all All-Star Cities will take part in the project's grand finale in the summer of 2007 when we set the world record for the largest live performance of the National Anthem. All-Star Cities in central Ohio include Columbus, Commercial Point, Gahanna and Newark.

Requirements to become an All-Star City include proclaiming a “National Anthem Project Day” to coincide with a local school event; encouraging singing of the anthem; and generally supporting music education.

To ensure that your city is included in this exciting initiative, please sign the All-Star City application and fax it along with your proclamation by no later than December 7. A hard copy is also requested for our records. To receive a mayor's kit in email version send your request to annen@menc.org or call Anne Nicolas at 703-860-4000 ext. 331. The official recognition certificate and recognition packet will be mailed to you once the National Anthem Project All-Star Recognition Committee approves your application.

I graduated Cum Laude from The Ohio State University with a bachelors degree in Musical Theatre and acknowledge the key role my music educators had in my development. Through my performing talents, I have lived with over 150 families, performed community service and sung on stages around the world in Asia, North America and Europe. Those experiences have made me the well-rounded leader I am today. Join me in this campaign as we promote the international language of music to inspire the next generation of leaders.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Shappert